HENRY DARGER –

"THE REALMS OF THE UNREAL"

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UNBOUND

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CHAPTER ONE....."..""

AN INTUITIES DURING THE BATTLE. AND THE BATTLES PROGRESS. SPIKING THE GUNS... A FIERCE ASSAULT AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.."..."

During the time of the awful massacre at the spot near Ventura the zeal and bravery of all the child scouts, dead or surviving had not escaped the notice of the brave leaders, themselves, and Angeline Jennings had named them in her official report as girl and boyscout heroies and heroines who had distinguished themselves with unusual courage. During a slight lull in the mornin mornings battle, she turned to Gertrude and radcliffe as she dismounted and said ;;;;

"Will you come to my tent in two minutes time????!"

"yes"answered Gertrude..

"My brave friends"she said when they finally presented themselves, and had at her request seated themselves on two boxes which served as chairs"what I am going to say to you mind, I express no wish even of the slightest.I simply state that general Vivian requires two men officers for a service of extreme danger, but no on e is compelled, and therefore because of the peril of the adventure no one yeilds for it.He wants to send a message to general gladerlinia, and he's about ten miles from us.None of the officers whom I had wished to select can disguise properly, and those who could disguise decline to go, saying they're not afraid of any adventure, but don't believe in suicide.Therefore it seems to be among some of us that I must try, including even myself, for I ask no one to go, where I won't go myself. The reason this is requested is not to see how it comes that the enemy is progressing or losing, it is because general Vivian has recieved a message, that Violet, and her sisters have failed to get within fifty miles of Maximilian, as dreadful forest fires of incomprehensible size and fury bar their way and th they have returned, and are in Hansons army now. I have not the slightest doubts that there are many among us who would chance the dangers of such a service, but there are reasons why I request you whether you will volunteer to accompany me for the communications we wish to estabblished with them to warn them not to come here during this dreadful battle. In the first place you and I have very often passed, while in disguise as all sorts of enemy scouts, and in the second our figures in disguises being decidedly Glandelinian somewhat slight, and still a good deal under the weight, and under the height you will attain, render your disguises far less easy to be detected than that of a full grown man or woman would be. The general often has said, "us children scouts are the head of the army, as we can do anything that not the bravest soldier spy or agent or police or detective can accomplish... If you accompany me, we will have Angeline ichee as a guide,.Ome one passed through the enemys lines last night, and brought a message concerning Violet, and her sisters to general vivian..You understand Gertrude and Radcliff e the service ..service is one of great honor and credit for us if accomplished, but it is also one of the greatest peril. I cannot so well intrust intrust the mission to any simple boy or girlscout alone, because they may not be so distinguished , and because too I dare not put on paper the warnings to Violet, and her sisters I wish conveyed and it is possible however faithful he or she may be, that he or she might if arrested and threatened with death, be compelled to reveal the message with which he is charged because there could be no help tobit..I see by your faces what your answer is about to be, but I will not hear it now.Go first to General Vivian.Tell him exactly what I have told you, and then send me the answer if he declines to part with you---bring it to me if her consents to your going.Remember though that in yeilding what I see is your own inclination, to his natural anxiety, you will not fall in the very least from the high position you and all your surviving followers stand in my regard . In about half an hour I shall expect to see or hear from you. Good bye for the present or for the day if I do not see you again."""""

"Of course General will will have to let us go."Radcliffe"said when they got outside the tent."Violet, and her sisters has given us the day."

Radcliffe did not reply.. immediately and then he said since no one was within hearing;

"Well ,isn don't you think if I'd go it alone it would be better.I'm a terror to the enemy you know, it was I even who you now saved poor little Jannie in the face of the greatest difficulties. It would be an awful blow to general Vivian, or to Violet, and her sisters to lose both of us."

"No Radcliff e"Gertrude said warmly."He will not decided that and besides Miss Jennings means of our whole surviving force to go.I know I can't go through the country the way you and Miss Ichee can, and yet a number can add to the danger, still sometimes in danger we can help each other, and we ha ve gone through so much together--and oh Radcliffe don't propose that you should go alone.I've lost one sister and can't affo afford e to lose you.???????no....."

General V ivian heard Gertrude and Radcliffe in silence, while they repeat repeated as nearly as possible word for word,,,,,, the words of Angeline Jennings.. For some time he was silent, and sat with his face in his hands.

"I don't desire any of you to going my voluntary."he said hastily. "I can ask her change that, and make some of my men go under penalty for refusal."

"No Uncle "Radcliffe said;;; "I feared that was what you would say, but although in some respects I should be a hinderance to Gertrude, from the fact that I might be well known by the enemy by now, in others I might help her Two are always better than one in [illegible] with the enemy,,, and if she

. . . . . .

got ill or wounded or anything I could nurse her well, and two people together retains each others spirits. You know Uncle we have got through many bad scraps together successfully all right, even in our adventures with the Princesses, and I do not see why we could not get through this... We shall be well disguised, and no end of Glandelinians, and refugees fr from St Ethelreda must be making their way in that direction so that very few questions are likely to be requested of us. It does not seem to be any such a dangerous business as those we have gone through for the last thing they would look for is Christian refugees making their way from St Ethelreda toward Lebanon at present. Angeline Jenings went through many experiences and got through them all, and I'm sure the Glandelinians are looking out ten times as sharp to prevent people getting out, as to prevent any one getting in. To reach general Glan Sladerlinias army would seem easily enough."

"Well how about you Gertude?"

"I reallly do not believe Uncle"she answered,"That the danger of detection is reallly great----certainly nothing like what it was before.. Angela and I will of course with Angelinia Jennings go as Glandelinian girlscouts and Radcliffe can bind up her face and mouth as if she had been wounded and was unable to say anything. There must be countless thousands of Glandel Glandelinian wounded going toward the rear of general Tamerlines lines, and I'm sure we'll excite no attention whatever. Thi The distance is not ten miles, and Tamerlines Glandelinians are different from Sladers. They wouldn't be able to recognize us so well..."

"Very well my Neices, so be it, I'm resigned to God's will on that that subject."General Vivian said."And besides there is very much in what you say, and unwilling as I am to let you go or part with you both or any of the others, yet seem show the thought that you are together, and can help each other, will be a comfort for me and I'll have masses said for your safty. God Bless you My Neices.Go return to Angelinian Jennings and say I consent freely to your doing the duty for which she has been compelled to select you to. I expect you will have to start at once, but you may return have to change..."

They returned in one half an hour, or rather a little sooner. Angeline Angeline Jennings expressed her earnest satisfaction when they told her of general Vivians consent to their going through the adventure..

"I understand from general vivian"she said addressing Radcliffe, "That you are one of our best and most famous girl and boyscout spies ever recorded for all believe you are a boy.I have deferred telling you that on the day of my first acquantance with you I sent your name home beginning that the Princesses would put you in a higher commission.Yet they notified me your commission is as high as one could ever be given you for your age.You are supposed to be the highest in superiorship than any of us, and never said a word or never exercized any authority whatever.Your name has often appeared as such and I wondered.There are only two ensigns in our regiment of boyscouts, and you need to fill one of them vacancies.I will do the same for you Mildred"she said turning to the girlscout who had remained in her headquarters, now off duty because of her wounds" if you desire to give up your spying qualities, and take to us in general."

"I'm afraid I couldn't do that."said Mildred laughing."I can't accept anything without the permission of Jennie Vivian as I really am under her standard, and go like Miss Turner from one army to the other as a long distanced scout.. So you see it cannot be done unless Jennie desires to release me, and I'm sure she will refuse to part with me."

"You've got a higher commission than I thought.Nevertheless I have already sent down a report by wireless to Emperor Vivian of your brave conduct and of your good guardianship of little "Calamity Jane"as we call her"And as the army of Hansons may come up to us before long you will be with Violet, and her sisters again before long... Now for your instructions. You are to inform general Sladerlinia, who is incommand since the death of general Rolander of the Vivian Girls intending to come here, and have him signal with his secret wireless to them not to go ahead untill all is quiet all.Even though now general Halsted is on the point of endeavoring to push forward other troops to general Julio Benligans Rescue, he has no hope whatever of any success.Across his front large reinforcing columns of the Glandelin ians are said to me concentrating, and every step of the way will be most desperately contested. Too general Halsted must leave a fore force to hold Vantura, and he had only one million one hundred and eleven eleven thousand men to hold that while he must go forward with the rest.With such a force it will be impossible if the enemy resits later onas stubbornly as may be expected for him to fight his way to St Ethelreda, still more for him to force his way through the city held by some ten or fifteen million Omarians, to the position beyond.General Vivian needs the rest of his army to maintain his own positions. I may say that I have no hope of seeing general Halsted doing this till he is largely reinforced.Still by starting the march and standing constantly on the offensive will force the enemy to retain a large force on the road and other points to oppose him and will so far relieve the remaining assaults assailing lines from some of the pressure from the resistance of its foes.But here's the importance of your message.Did the enemy know the nearnes of Hansons army, they would not have dared engage general Vivian, for Hanson has moved against the enemy near Lebanon and though there had been a report of a battle there it was so far false and Manley had retreated, trying to get away from Hanson to join Tamerline before it is too late.Have general Sladerlinia warn the Vivian Girls of the danger of their trying to get here through the battle territory.The man guide who goes with you bears word only that general Vivian himself is on the point of advancing to the relief of St Ethelreda.So if the worst happens and the battle gets too severe, and you are all captured his message if he betrays it will only help to decieve the enemy.You will start this very hour if possible I leave it to you to arrange your disguises I will done mine, and have ordered the guide to be at your Uncles headquarters at ten this morning so that you can be ready by that time you can get well away before the battle spreads too much along the whole christian line.

There is a small boat four miles up the Vantura river, that the guide said he had crossed the river in, he hid it in some bushes, so you some can cross with re without any difficulty, and even if Glandelinians do catch us on crossing, our story or our manners and acts showing we are Glandelinians will lose master.... Now good bye girls, and May God and His Blessed Mother andall the Saints and your Guardian Angels watch over and keep you.""""

Uponthen their return to their own tent, th they found their friends and comrades, Minnie and Jane , and two or three other scouts most accustomed to the habits of glandelinian boy and girlscouts, and all appliances for disguise..First the two ate a hearty morning meal, then they stripped, and were sponged withiodine from head to foot, both were then dressed in bloodt stained Glandelinian girlscout uniforms of which there had been found thousands lying about for the greater portion of the enemy scouts had thrown off their uniforms before fleeing when it was apparent the christians were going to win so gallantly. Gertrudes right arm was bandaged up with bloody rags, and put ina sling, and Radcliffes head and face were simel similarly tied up, though he could not resist a motion of repugnance as the foul rags were applied to "him" Both had a quanity of Glandelinian plaster and bandages placed next to the skin in case suspicion should fall upon them and the outside bandages be removed by a Glandelinian doctor to see if wounds reallly existed, and Radcliffe was given a quantity of tow, with which to fill her mouth and swell out her cheeks and lips to give the appearance which would naturally arise from a severe wound in thewjaw. Caste forms were painted on their foreheads ,and their disguise was pronounced to be absolutey perfect to the eye.Both were barefooted, as Glandelinian boy and girlscouts never travel in the uniterial boots if they can avoid it, and only then they would in winter.

ThThen they went to Angeline Jennings tent, and were surprised to see a beggar girl standing there.Forgetting for the moment it was she and believing she was a refugee escaped from the enemy Gertrude said;

"How in the world child did you get here. Come.You must be hungry."she glanced at her watch, and then said "sh sh I've no time.Then turning to a boy he said;

"Take this poor girl, and see that she is properly clothed, and give her something to eat.She's a refugee."

"You are sure not trying to jo e are you."said the boy with a smile. "My sister helped her disguise herself just a moment ago.Don't you remember your proposition with her.That's Angeline Jennings waiting for you to start with her."

"Good gosh"said Radcliffe."You sure fooled us Miss Jennings.But let's start.We're a little late already."

At the appointed time the guide arrived with Angeline Jenings... and he was a an intelligent looking man in a country dressing of Glandelinia. He examined the four girl travelers and pronounced himself perfectly satisfied with with their appearance.Outside the tent six horses were in readiness.

General Vivian and his two chief staff generals mounted on three, the others were for the travelers and with a hearty good bye to their other friends in the secret, the party started.Less than a quarter of an hours fast riding brought them to the place where the boat was concealed in the bushes, and with a tender farewell from general Vivian their Uncle, and a hearty good bye from all their surviving girl and boyscout companions the four adventurers with their guide took their places in the boat and started. Noiselessly they paddled across the stream.They however had a narrow escape in crossing the stream.Either they had been seen by a enemy cannoneer, or else it were stray or random shots for three times by the narrowest margin highexplosives narrow narrowly demolished their boat, and gave them such clouds of spray from the river water mingled with river moss, mud and sand and fishes together with clay and stones that they'll never forget in a live time, and their boat was so demolished by the ~~cloudbtst~~ cloud burst of all this, that they had to swim for it untill they reached shallow water on the other side, and then started across country toward the direction of general Sladerlinia's position. They no sooner had left and turned off the main road, and were about twenty yards, away when it seemed as if the road they had just left, just did not else but merely go into a "Volcanic eruption,"and they were literally flung back into the river by the very concussion.They nevertheless keeping under cover for several minutes swam to shore, and followed it along for a time under cover of bushes for they believed they were seen, for with their in hiding the shelling seemed to stop. They were now off the main road, on which they felt sure the main main Glandelinian divisions may be in mobolization to oppose the advance of general Greatheart and Halsted.They soon got out of the range of fire, and passed farm house after farm house unchallenged and unquestioned, and another twenty minutes found them some few miles on the road toward the christian lines under general Sladerlinia.Seeing a big squadron of Glandelinian cavarly approaching at full gallop, they went into a wood to hide hide under cover for besides if any one should enter accidentally and discover them they had no fear of suspicion arising here, while they would be detained under suspicion should they be spotted in the open.They were now near the main road again, but they dreaded to chance it as they heard the main road was guarded by the enemy batteries, but there was no help for it, and they therefore started.They feared to meet various parties of horsemen, but non not soul was encountered though once in a while far, distant or near shells would burst with terrific vibrations. It was evident now the explosions were really from random shells.

They sometimes too did meet some parties of christian soldiers, but from these they too had to hide, for they would be suspected as the enemy and de ated and their mission would not be accomplished. One party in passing another requested from the leader how things went along some portions of the christian lines. The subject evidently was a sore one, for they declared the Glandelinians were as obstinate as devils, and though it might be a victory in the end the battle would be a matter of long endurance. Three miles of travel, and suddenly about four hundred yards away a great wall of smoke rose up in from of them followed by a cloud of debris from the earth. The detonat ion and concussion threw them off their feet, but they rose again.

"This is one part of the dangerous travel" declared Angeline Jennings."H Heaven only knows whether big enemy mines are placed under us or not. That was a mine explosion. Somewhere beyond the Glandelinians will show a terrific fight soon. Over yonder is a Glandelinian position, near a Calverinian summer home. Once past this we'll have to leave the road or we'll be under shell fire as if we were in a popcorn shaker / Two miles off is a canal, and we must not go ward the christian lines in that location---nor that I fear discovery, far from that, but there is no possibility of entering the christ ian lines on this side as we'll be under fire from both. Our only chance is on the side I left the main road, that is by recrossing the dangerous spot of the river. We must also travel round Ventura Junction, and it's danger ous there too."

"How far are we from general Slafe Sladerlinia's position now?I can hear a prolonged firing of volleys of cann on now very clearly, it sounds as if it was world gone crazy with thunderstorms"and at least for the last two hours of their travel which would bring it ward noon, the insane booming of so many guns could be distinctly heard.

"It is about two miles in a straight line, but it will be double by the route we have to take...."

Turning to the right after crouching low for fear a concealed battery may open upon them with grape and canister for Glandelinians may fire on anyone here inthein own fear, the party went their way through a small wood. Then to their right, another Volcanic eruption of explosions boomed forth, and a great hurricane of splintered trees flew in all directions. There stood neat near by in the open on the road, a great building, and they saw at the same thi time this great structure disappear into a cloud, and when the cloud lifted there was not a trace of it standing, while how the four ever escaped with their lives with showers of stones and bric s and all other debris falling about them absolutely must have been miraculous though the explosion was a great distance away..

"Those are either mines of Gang-Gang-shells"the guide said. "It's either from random fire or we have been spotted and the enemy is trying to get us. Now to avoid disaster, though we'd rather be slain by the explosions than be captured and share a worst fate we will go half a mile further and then halt to find out bearings;for we cannot go ahead too much in this direction. I'd chance climbing a tree to see whether we're fired on or not, but it would delay our expedition."

"They sat down on a bank at a short distance from any road, and looked at th the great smoke rising from great fires which were raging because of the battle.

"What an extraordinary view."Gertrude said."What fantastic puffs of smoke clouds rolling up from great rows of cannons. What an immense variety of smoke clouds and overhanging wreaths from big conflagrations, and especially from St Ethelreda. What is that strange column of smoke nearest to us?"she requested of the guide..

"That is a conflagration in some distant big forest started by the enemy to cover his retreat when ousted from a position yesterday..All the christian troops are in position, and the enemy has today counter charged several times against the position and are fighting like demons to retake it. Beyond between us and that position is general sladerlinia's main line. That is the explosion of a volley of high explosive shells,do you not see the huge wall of suddenly rising rolled up smoke. That's where his headquarters is that house far away with atower and an Angelinian flag flying over it, standing alone on that rising ground by the river."

"And that is general Sladerlinia's position"The girlscout leaders exclaimed glancing at the smalltower."

"That sure is his position"their guide said,"and do you not see the overhanging wall of white cloud which rises above it, and pours forth all along its front and from other sections?Listen I can hear the steady sound of countless thousands of rifles firing in volleys and fusilades quite dis tinctly..."

"And with allthat firing going on, how in the world are we going to get there.!"Gertrude demanded, impatient to be there and getting in the message before it would be too late, and violet, and her sisters would come forth from Hansons army and run into the great perils that would comfort them."

"We will continue on here to the right, the river is close by.We will swim across, make a wide sweep round, and then come down to the river again opposite the christian position, swim across and then we are safe ."

General sladerlinia's position had for a long time during this four days of battle already remain tranquil after fierce battle and massac e were raging along other portions of the christian lines.General sladerlinia well acquainted with by the reader, and a man of great decision and firmness, and a fighter much dreaded by the enemy, had when at times during the battle along his front had exhibited signs of moving forward against him, telegraphed to general Vivian full for full power to act, and having obtained the required permission he had awaited with calmness the first move of the enemy..

This was exhibited by the Glandelinian troops of the Seventh Omarian Irregular Corps, who at three in the morning, morning of the fourth day of the enduring conflict endeavored to move against the rear of sladerlinia's army, and broke forward into some desultry action.General Sladerlinia the same time marched the Thirty Second corps of Abbieanrians to the scene and put into action a battery of Machine gun artillery, with some Angelinian corps to their lines, and in the small action that occured, surrounded and captured the whole of this Glandelinian column, and forced the surrender of the whole.After this action of decision and energy general Sladerlinia had no further activity.The Glandelinians not strongly entrenched against him were somewhat awed and subdued, and there fore remained tranquil, and ward eve seven the enemy still remained quiet whereas at nearly every other section of the christian line the battle was raging with a mightiness which no one could describe.Yet General sladerlinia was not to be caught napping by this appearance of tranquility.

Every preparation before this had been made for the desperate struggle which all his staff officers including himself regarded to be coming.The positions were strong and connected with powerful earth and walled up trenches and a line of high breastworks beyond composed of sandbags and fascines. Stores and all sorts of provisions had ben collected, and every preparation made for a desperate defense.The main cantonments were some distance from the position and were occupied by the Fourtheenth and Fifteenth, Fourty Eight, and Seventy First divisions of Native Calverinian Infantry, and Seventh Calverinian cavarly divisions.General Majesty's division the Twenty Second, a battery of calibre cannons were in position a little beyond so that in order to carry Sladerlinias army before it, the enemy would have to dislodge them from one strongly manned position to another, and be dreadfully exposed, while the defenders were not. At noon the real storm broke out. The assault came upon the position held by the Seventy First Winkie corps, and spread at once to all the Native Calverinian Brigades and regiments.The assault had first started more like a skirmish line advance, gradual and sure, and then turned into a general onset of such man maddened fury that nothing could pen it.The defenders to try and confuse the wild assailants fired the bulgalows blew up a magazine and let go with volleys of grape and canister.The Glandelinians came upon the first line of psitions and leaped them in a wave, only to finally recoil in what was even left of one third of a wave, and all the Glandelinian officers of any commission were killed. It was sheer madness to assail Sladerlinias position, yet the second glandelinian wave pushed forward, rallied and sheltered the survivors and opened a terrific fire. Happily for general Bruno Angels christian line all was in readiness, and though the assault of this second wave of Kangaboos almost carried all before it, the Division of Concentinian troops, with two hundred guns deployed into position on the cross road leading ward the position so as to bar the insane in onrush of the Glandelinians in that direction.The assault however was dreadful on magnitude, it pushed back the christian troops along a line of battle five miles, though of course the Glandelinians fearfull exposed fell in immense droves and twenty generals were killed in their mad efforts to drive on their half crazed yelling demons. Nothing could therefore be done by Bruno Engle till general Blain Night Linger could arive, and he sent an appeal to general Ben Logan for assistance.Ben Logan with a portion of general Robert Bowens Ninth Corps, and a battery of machine guns and heavy cannons came up into position.These were joined by seven hundred thousand men of the various Corps under general Turner Mic-Hollester Jennings, then up came general Walter Jennings, and Walter John Hamilson with their Thirty Second, and Fourty Ninth Divisions, and these moved forward to the counter charge.The counter charge was met with the most dogged courage and desperate fury by the enemy, with such fury as seemed that the Glandelinians could never be beaten, under any conditions, but nevertheless the counter charge was irresistible, and the Glandelinians though fighting bravely were borne along to the rear by the pressure unable to stand before it, and the Glandelinians lost the position they had sacrified such a terrible number of lives to capture. At the commencement of the fra general Walter Jennings was wounded.

Not even then the battle did not rage along the whole of Sladerlinias army, but the presence now of every available officer was needed as there was much excitement in the whole army because of the sound of terrible con flict at the crossroads.General sladerlinia was away at the time, this discord started but he came in time to restore order and send general Blain Night Linger to the assistance of those who were in such dire need of he, help. Later a fierce assault on the rear was attempted, and so violent was the struggle that all the native christian officers were called into service, while general Hatchee was sent forward to guard the rear, and these fought most horrically through the whole action on the rear and the Glandelinians under general Hedda was repulsed and put put to flight with too man in slain and wounded that horrified even the victors. Thus one a source of anxiety for general Bruno Engle was removed and safe too from other attacks from the left, and receiving reinforcements were prepared to resist even a greater assault should it come.The assault did come and so determined was the front shown by general Wyles line against the unruly wildly raging assailants that the Glandelinians could not penetrate. They let loose a terrible artillery fire upon the christian position at about three in the afternoon but in the af ancracing fire, the chief Glandelinian artillery commander was mortally wounded and his son killed . Then the storm burst in all its fury, by a general and overwhelming assault.

Gthis time a large wave of Zimmermanians and the dogged Ouvrians under general Handon some seven or eight hundred thousand strong having approached to the wood in front of the christian position, moved to the attack with ind mindescribable fury under cover of the Glandelinian artillery of long range gang-gang-shell guns which barraged the christian christian position with devastating effect.General Sir St Henry with two divisions of the Thirty second Corps was mortally wounded, and his troops became panic stricken and recoiled in confusion. Seizing the advantage the Calverinians under general Entrabrook rushed forward in a strong wedge to make a counter charge. The affair was disasterous in the extreme, in the hand to hand conflict that occured, the main Gla glandelinian general fell dead from his horse, the artillery brought forward by the fierce Calverinians tore the monsterous Glandelinian column to pieces, the survivors horrifed and terror stricken, bolted, the christians pushed on and the Glandelinian batteries, the gunners after discharging them once more fled, and after only a loss of one hundred and sixty thousand in men and officers, the christians were among the guns, in possession of the Glandelinian position. Two hundred cannons were captured many prisoners and great rounds of ammunition and twenty battle flags, and among the prisoners was the famous glandelinian general Carl Staley. The rest of the Glandelinians almost caught in another position fought their way savagely to the rear and escaped to their stronger line of defense.The Gland Calverinians entered the position in triumph, and prepared to overwhelm the other trench.

go far in battle probably this was the greatest disaster to a strong Glandelinian army.Immediately upon the recoilment of the badly depleted and defeated troops leaderless, having no general or officer in command whatever because all officers were down it became evident that the depleted forces couldn't hold hold the stronger position to which they had retreated.Accord ing it was evacuated before the dreaded Calverinians renewed the charge, its great magazine containing two hundred and forty tons of explosives and six hundred thousand rounds of shell ammunition, a million rounds of ammunition for rifles and pistols, and eight hundred and fourty two barrels of powder was blown up, and the Glandelinian force recoiled leaving a dangerous gap in general Tamerlines main line.

In all pr obabilities this was one of the most unusual and remarkable battles ever written. The Christians under plain Nightlinger began his own part of the advance and came upon the position near one of the headquarters formerly used by general Tamerlinos second lieutenant and its surroundings formed an irregular lozenge shaped enclosure having its acute angles nearly east and west, the southern extremity being on a most with the Ventura Road and the northern northern point approaching near to a large iron bridge over the rive river itself.Near the south part of the enclosure was the generals headquarters standing in the middle of a large garden or open court and surrounded by a high stone stone wall, the house was defended by strong barricades, and also loopholed for rifles and small machine guns while the garden which was a quarter of a mile large, across and twice as long was strengthed by a trench and a row of artillery.Next to the generals headquarters, and communicating with it by a tunnel like aperture in and through the wall was a newly constructed defense position called the "Headquarters battery" mounted with long range guns and intended to command the houses and fields adjacent to the big Ventura road.The house consisted of a concetre and granite wall six feet high and four feet and one half across built along in front of its veranda and this was continued to the road being raised to the height of nine feet or more and looped holed for rifles at shoulders high, and mounted with machine gun artillery on top which was formed into a sort of rampart .Who had ever owned this house once surely must have been well prepared though unfortunately for some greude he g held against the christian authorities, when the war came on he had cast his lot with glandelinia, and was now the general in possession possession.The barns which also were of stone was in possession of the Glande linian Regiments of Scoodliers and Turmerannians. It was also or rather these barns were defended by stockades and breastworks both of whom were conte continued for some distance across the road which divided these barns from the generals Headquarters which stood near the western angle and was also possessed with machine guns..The general's headquarters had a lofty and well possessed o or protected terrace commanding the barns outside the inclosure.In its rear were a number of smaller buildings occupied by the Glandelinian officers .From this point facing the river was a strong position and outside the sloping garden and field served as a glacis and rendered a an assault on this side very difficult.Near the eastern angel angle stood a sort of cliffe.The building itself was a handsome and spacious structure and it stood in the center of the inclosure surrounded by gardens.On its terraced roof ancveffective rifle fire and even a machine gun fire could be continued on an enemy approaching on its.Next to it came the fortifications defended by long range guns.It was on a le vated ground and from the terraced roof of the building a splendid view of the battlefield and the burning city of St Ethelred a and the so surrounding country could be obtained.The smaller buildings had been or was used as a commissariat store.Thus it will be seen that this headquarters is defended again t the christians seemed almost to comprise a little town grouped round the dwelling of the generals headquarters and seemed impossible to carry.All the barns were defended with stockades, and with batteries.Along the northwestern side were a number of avis and buildings and a gardhouse guarded by a deep and ditch and cactus hedge and defended with two lines of long distanced artillery. In this little circle of intrenchments were gathered during the time the enemy was in possessi was in position over 10, 000 child slaves.Ben ito the strength of all its defenses, though some cases not mentioned here(though it seemed an absolute impossibility to carry it be taken) it was in possession of the christian troops, and the place was full of lead and crowded of both sides

I it having to an a terrific death attempt to capture the place. The were in the war defending it was over 100,000.It had been captured by the christians since the beginning of the battle, and it had been counter attacked, and besieged by the enemy since then, who had taken to themselves the toll of ten thousand per hour of dead, every day up to now in their main efforts to recapture it and all those within. The enemy continued a heavy fire of concentrated artillery upon these buildings and positions in covering their many desperate assaults.. A shrapnell penetrated the small reception room in the headquarters in which general Christie Turns was sitting, and passed between him and his second lieutenant general Cowpen. His officers were scared of the regular and persistently begged him to change or change his room for his own safty but he refused to do so declaring that the enemy may not be able to aim at the same spot twice at such a distance.He however was sadly in the wrong, for the very next minute a shell of high explosive quilitity entered, burst in the room, and tore the upper section of the building into shattered splinters and the general and all who occupied that position were mangled into death.The loss was a heavy one indeed, both to the strong gen leon, to whom his great energy, calmness and authority were invaluble, and to the country of Abbiegania who lost him she had lost one of her noblest and most worthy sons.

On his death the command of the defense devolved upon Colonel Watsonia of the Thirty Second Brigade a most gallent and skillful officer. After this since the beginning of the seige, the fighting had continued, but only during the day the enemy ever gaining in numbers and strength, erecting fresh batteries and continuing by day a unceasing murderous fire of all guns and rifles upon the small villiage and hurling assault after assault by scores in which each time as many fell as fell at Wal Waterloo and Gettysburg together, but the assaults were in vain, and Sir Blain Night Linger finally coming up this day with his forces made a grand and terrific assault upon the besiegers and after dreadful fighting for over four hours closed in on the Glandelinians, whom were so threatened with annihilation, that the enemy general at once asked for conditions of surrender, and were forced to surrender all most unconditionally.

Because of the battle raging so ttttttly insanely along portions of Gladerlinia's front, though even greatly victorious for the christians Contessa Angeline, her threeee friends with their guide experienced the great difficulties which this increased activity of the battle of St Ethelreda caused to emissaries trying to enter or leave the christian lines...? After they waited a while to be sure they were not under fire from either side, they swam the Ventura,,, and to avoid being seen by either side, for their uniforms would cause over christian patrol scouts to fire upon them, they made a wide circuit and then tried to approach the river again opposite the captured enemy position general the generals Headquarters. Several batteries however of a hundred guns each had been erected on this side since the christians won the victory here, and these were no connected by a long strict chain of sentires so closely placed that it would ba have been madness to endeavor to pass them unseen in their disguise.Had they worn their own uniforms they would have made it easier.It was it seemed now more dangerous to face their own friends, than it was the enemy.

"It is clear"said Ang line Jennings that the christians are determined to cut off al communication to and from the main Glandelinian positions with this spot. If I had suspected this we needed not have disguised in Glandelinian girlscout uniforms.I might pass as an escaped child slave or refugee with this beggar outfit on a but you three couldn't and it's too bad we have't references to show.If we gave the counter c sign they'd suspect us of disguised enemies having learned it.so we'll have to try the enemy side. It may be easier to pass."

Therefore the little party s irted the line of se tsentries a line indicaed clearly enough by the bivouac fires on the side near them..... Round these large numbers of Angelinians were moving about cooking, smoking. cov conversing and laughing.

"We must have done wrong in disguising ourselves after all"said Gertrude.

"It is hopeless to attempt to get through here."said Radcliffe.

"We will go on to the road leading to the iron bridge."the guide replied."We can follow that at least to and across the river,, and then slip aside."

Here however they were foiled again as camp fires were lighted and there were many sentries on the road to forbid all except those having passes to get in.They were therefore in peril of their own side because of their uniforms.Presently a body of Angelinian horsemen came along, probably a patrol.Then came fresh artillery troops and gun caisions bearing shells and munitions.

"If there were any men we only were acquainted with we could get in." said Radcliffe.

"Yes, for wherever we go they're all Angelinians. I would worry if it had not been for these crazy disguises and all these soldiers are strangers and how could we explain if we were caught."?

"Whence are they fetching these?"Angeline Richeeu asked the guide..

"From the main christian munition line of wagons, a quarter of a mile away to the right.They are bringing ammition now, for the bridge is within four hundred yards of the main christian batteries and of the position of Gladerlinia's, and they must cross before they are under five from the Glandelinian guns."

"Here is a good sized party coming on the run."Radcliffe said"Let us fall in behind them, go to the wagons and get shell or rifle ammunition and then follow back again till we are close to the bridge and trust to luck in getting clear. and I can't be deceiving your comrades either for we'll really bring as much munition as we can carry."

The guide yeilded, andthey followed the G ard lifters down to the wagon train staying a littl behind the others, and being the last to enter the yards where the wagons stood loaded with shrapnell shell and cartridges for the machineguns and rifles.

Each took a long machine gun cartridge belt, and followed closely upon the heels of the party.. In the confusion of the distant roar of battle, no one seemed to have noticed the addition to their number, and they passed the sentive sentries on the road without question.Then they feel fell a little behind.Those carrying the shells passed just before they reached the bridge for the Glandelinians being sure absolutely that ammunition was nightly being carried over fired an occasional volley of grapeshot in that dired ito direction. The party of girls halted halted under shelter of a house untill a shot flew past, and th en hurried forward across the exposed spot.As they did so, and placed the cartridge belts around their bodies for safe keepin and turned off from the road and climbed a garden wall a shrapnell shell exploded overhead by the bridge and all the soldiers carrying the shells dropped dead or wounded to the last man and there were fourty of them.

In a minute the four girls and the guide were close to the river.

"Halt who goes there.!"cried a voice."Halt or I'll fire."

"Lie low.Don't answer"whispered the guide.

They obeyed and started forward on all fours.

"Corporal of the Guard No. Six"shouted the sentry, and he continue this with alarming frequency and with a very loud voice, though at the top of his lungs.

"Go silently"the sentry said"There are some more sentiries here.If we were now seen we were at least heard..I don't know whether they're foes or Angelinians."

Stealing quietly along, for they were alll shoeless, there was the sound sound of running men and soon one man cried who evidently was the guard who had shouted so loudly;

"I saw them pass by here a moment ago.Four girls and a man with them."

"What were they sentry?"

"I'm not sure..They were strangely dressed."

"Were they refugees.?"

"No sir.They were in gray.Glandelinian girlscouts maybe confound them."

"Damn these disguises "whispered ladcliffe."Pursuied by friends."

"We'll have to do something desperate"said the guide."They'll catch us sure.It's almost impossible to escape them you know."

They now could see crouching and moving figures between them and the water every ten yards or so apart, and they were beating the bush.

"They are searching for us."said Gertrude. "What shall we do Miss Jennings?"

"Our best and only chance will be to shove one or two of these fellows suddenly into the water, jump in and dive for it.We can dive across that river and we shall come up under the smoke cloud of that opposite bank. the smoke alone will hide us."

"Do you believe it is worth while to try it?" she demanded of Angeline Riches.

"Yes but's chancing with fate.The water is shallow for the first few yards but we can get across that into two feet which is deep enough for us before the sentries have recovered from their surprise.They however are sure to fire but we must try to be out of the water and in cover before they do for they are sharpshooters and never miss one aim.It's a dangerous move but if we're captured, we'll never send in the message to Violet and her sisters, as it'll be too late after we have been identified as of their side..If it had not been for these foolish disguises we would not have to go through this.I didn't believe there were christian soldiers there as this is the enemy's position instead.How in the world did they get over here so sudden.We have been ambushed and they won because we've seen lots of fallen lying round for many miles."

The plan agreed to, they stripped off their uniforms, and crept quietly along untill they were close to one of the men who was searching for them.They did not intend to injure him but just to follow their plan.Then with a bound they sprang upon him rolled him over the shove into the shallow water and dashed forward themselves at the top of their speed. So suddenly had come their appearance and rash that they were waste deep before one of of the pursuers fired his ball whizzing over their heads as they threw themselves face downward into the stream, and made lookout under water.

Even when full the Ventura here is not more than one hundred yards wide and from the point where they started to equally shallow water on the other side was now not more than fourty. The whole of them were good swimmers but their guide was not so good a diver, and had to come three times to the surface for breath.He escaped however without being hit for as they had expected the rejoyn of the rifle was followed by a general volley in the direction of the splashby many soldiers swarming to the shove for some distance on either side, while over a score had run into the shallow water to pursue.Yet when the party rose from the water and raced up the other bank, not a shot greeted them for they were hidden by the clouds of smoke from the fire. It was clear now in now only a hundred yards up a slope tward the main christian lines, to where they obe observed the flag flying which showed it to be general Sladerlinia's headquarters....

It was but a very short time that they were among their own friends who ever the ever recognized them

"We are friends" the girls and the guidecshouted as they continued to run and a cheer from the men on the watch greeted them.A few scattering shots flew after them from the other side of the river as several Glandelinians opened fire, but these were either fired at random or they didn't have the range, for no one was hit, and in another minute the party had scrambled over the earthwork and were among their friends. Indeed most hearty were the hand claps and congratulations bestowed upon them all, and as the news that the four famous girlscout lead ers and spies had arived as messengers flew li e wild fire men came running down in huge crowds, regardless of the bullets which now that the enemy were completely routed up sang overhead in all dire ctions.

"We understand we cannot request your message"was the cry"Till you have seen the general"But do you be able to tell us, how is general Vivian faring along his own part of the lines and whether help is arriving."

"General Vivian is making Tamerline see stars"the guide said.

"Yes "Gertrude aid said as delighted exclamations at the news arose"But the battle is far from over yet and is raging terribly.Do not excite false hopes among our refugees, some time must pass before the final decision is found out.I must not say more till I have seen general Sladerlinia-but I should be sorry if false hopes were raised.Tamerline has many scattered portions of his army and if they come p there'll be need of help from Hanson for us, and he too has to watch the movements of general Hanley."

New uniforms were loaned to the four girlscouts , while the guide was given one of his own fit, and they were led at once to the general the generals's headquarterand a long passages thronged with sleepers(day ones) conducted to the generals room. He had already heard that the guide had come with Gertrude Angeline and the three others in disguise, and he was in his own room ready to recieve them for during the night with the danger from so much battle all the army slept without undressing, and were ready for action at a moments call.

"Well doneJim"he exclaimed as the guide entered"You have nobly earned your higher commission in rank and the five thousand dollars promished you if you brought them here safely.What what is your message?"

"General Vivian himself bids me say that general Plain Night Lingers main force is coming to your support with alll speed. Ventura was captured yesterday before I left.The Glandelinian army there has fled from the city and all goes well.In front of your position a strong works of the enemy has been captured and a dangerous gap is in Tamerlines line.These girlscout officers have further news for you, especially concerning the Princesses."""""

"I am glad to see you good and famous girlscout heroines"The general said warmly clasping them by the hand."And you've got your great boyscout detective too I see ladcliffe. But whom have I the pleasure of seeing in you" indicating Angeline Jennings"for at presence your appearance is admirably correct as that of a little beggar girl escaping from a vagubond prison.."

"My name is Angeline Cecilia Jennings"she answered.

"Oh Heaven be praised"said the general."I didn't recognize you your disguise is so complete."There is your dearest sister Dolores and Jane Jennings."

"Why Dolores had been injured and has remained inactive untill she recovers. My other sister is among the Camp fire girls.We have a message for your private ear sir which we wish you to send forth to Hansons lines as you alone can do it, and if I might suggest it would be better to retain our guide close by for a few minutes lest his good news spreads too far You will see the reason when we have told it to you."

General Sladerlinia c gave the sign,, and the other officers retired with the guide.....

"Our message sir is, I regret to say far less favorale favorable than that transmitted by the guide, and it was not only for that reason that Angeline Jennings desired us to accompany us here. If he or us had been captured by the Glandelinians he would have told his message that way purposely to decieve the enemy for the general had advised us not to have him make no secret of his instructions if he did fall with us into the hands of the enemy as it was desirable that they should believe that he was about to advance and thus relieve the pressure upon you by retaining a large force on the road up to Ventura. But in fact sir general Vivian bids us tell you that he cannot do that if he needs must capture St Ethelreda, though he can send to Plain Nightlinger, Nero and Nemo to your help.He too must hold Ventura otherwise there'll be a serious bend in his lines which will result in disaster, and the force available for an advance upon St Ethelreda must be needed to be used to fight its way through Ventura and force a path through the city. The instant he can place his army into possession he will advance in general and will in the meantime continue to make feints so as to keep a large force of the enemy engaged with general Halsted.He fears that it may be a day or so before he can advance to your aid with a chance ofsuccess. The main thing necessary sit is that the battle is so extended, is so wold and furious that it would be sucide for Violet, and her sisters to come here now, and I want you to warn them not to leave Hansons army for the present.They had proposed to start by to night."

"A few days or so"the general said"That is indeed a long, long, time for such a desperate enemy we have to face, and we had hped hoped that already help was arriving in the main. Well we must done our best.I am not as yet yet as it is believed sorely pressed but may be at any time, but I have not the slightest doubts that we can hold out for a month if necessary.General Vivian cannot accomplish impossibilities and it is wonderful that he has been able to capture the town of Ventura in the face of such resistance."

"We thought it best to give you this news somewhat privately, general in order that you might shield you believe if necessary, retain the news from your army in case such a long time should elapse without aid. And

it is more necessary still to warn "Isle", and her sisters..."

"You were quite right Miss Aronburg"general Sladerlinia said"But the truth of the situation better be made public.Besides it is far better that all should be acquainted with the fact that we are depended upon our own exertions for another couple of days than they should be mainly hoping for assistance to arive and not find it.I will see to it that the report to Violet and her sisters is communicated to them right away.Here John "to his telegrapher. Send this message;

"Hansons army.Near Lebanon. who ever gets this telegraph communicate the report to the Vivian Girl Princesses not to leave the army untill further notice.General Vivians lines because of a big battle raging here is unapproachable. guice suc ide to come out.

General Sladerlinia "

"Then he turned to the four girls.

"I will call my matron in and you shall get some better uniforms.Unhappily I have heard that yesterday death had been so busy among your troop of boy and girlscouts that when you get to general Vivians again there will be no difficulty in providing yourself in that respect.You must a want food too,s and that such as even the situation is, is also pel plentiful."

The other officers were now called in, and general Sladerlinia told them the news that he had recieved from Gertrude and the others. They seemed badly disappointed for a f moment or two and then, cheering answers that they were as good as a full month of fighting were made/,

"I am positively sure of it gentlemen"general Sladerlinia said"Our thoughts are all the same.We are ready to fight the enemy for a ru full month if necessary but we dread the delay for the sa e of the women and children refugees in our own lines.However this is a dreadful battle, and God's will be done.All that men can do this army will, I know do at all costs and with the help of Goi and The Intercession of His Blessed Mother I believe that whether aid comes or not , a little sooner or later we shall hold these positions till help does arive.General Para Bruner will you get these four girlscout offcers officers something to eat, and some new uniforms. Then if they are not too tired they will perhaps not mind sitting up an hour or two and giving us the news from the outside world."

A renewed fury of the great battle was brea ing before Gertrude and her three girlscout companions who had at general Sladerlinias suggestion seperated, Radcliffe going to the generals room, while Gertrude and the others formed the center of a great gathering in the hall below in order that as many as possible might hear the news as far as they could tell it.brought to a concul conclusion the account of general Richardson Halsteds advance his desperate charge and capture of Vantura Junction, and then Gertrude told of the awful massacre of the refugees, and how her troop lost so many brave boys and girlscouts in their wild defense of these unfortunate refugees, of the fresh violence of the battle elsewhere, of the danger that Maximillian and big girlknool, still faces , of Hansons reported action at Lebanon and of battles that had occured in various parts of Calverinia, the progress of the seige of Vivian Wickey and the arival of reinforcements for the enemy from western Calverinia, and of the dreadful progress of the "Red Plague"in the east. While they were telling all this the Glandelinian batteries under general Rafenla opened suddenly like a tremendous earthquake upon general Sladerlinia's position, the uproar became incr incessant, fairly earsplitting, and the wild roar of exploding shells was bewildering and terrifying, and several shells crushed in the generals headquarters and an explosion tore the entire wall at, causing every one to run out for fear the building would cave in . There was terrible noise and confusion from the camp of the refugees for they were terrified and the children screamed.

"Is this sort of thing always going on since the battle started four days ago?"Adl Radcliffe demanded in astonishment as an eruption tore a big section of a rampart clear into the air as if it were clouds of smoke.

"Always since this morning"was the answer."But this was the worst yet. Before you came there was a few hours lull and we have had even then not such a quiet time except of hearing the noise of battle elsewhere.Now,I will go and request from the chief to which part you may be assigned unless you wish to return to general vivians/"

"No we had enough of i" of it"said Gertrude."We had to face danger from both the enemy and our own side.I'd rather wait untill things cool down again."

Gertrude Ange line and her followers were brought to the quarter master general, and the distance short as it was was so crowded with dangers and disagreeables that they were astonished how any human beings even insects could have supported them a month, as the various divisions of general Lonny's could have done. From all points from one direction shot and shell howled or burst overhead or admists the trenches or crushed into tt trees and caused eruptions in the woods.Many of the enemy's batteries were not above two or three hundred yards from general sladerlinias position and the whistling of rifle bullets was ing incessant.Here and there they ran along, gr great swarms of flies millions and millions in number rose from some spot where a horse slain by an enemy shot had been hastily but partly buried while horrible smells everywhere tainted the air.An explosion from a gang-gang shell tore a huge gap in the woods beyond sending a cloud of tree foliage foliage and wood debris high into the air with an earsplitting thunder that viberated the ground like an earthquake. Running across open spaces, and stooping along beneath low f alls as fearful thundering eruptions roared dangerously close, the four girls and Radcliffe, and their conductor General Para fin ally reached the quartermaster generals tent. The general himself

the military quarter master commissioner of the army-----a man of great courage and firmness, -----recieved them warmly...

"You will find we are closely packed with frightened refugees"he said"But you will I am sure try and make the best of it. I am glad to have you beautiful girlscouts as my comrades and cherish your precious company for every man and officer is of great value here, and after the bravery you have shown in coming through the enemy's lines, and then facing unseen peril from us because of your disguises you will be just the right sort of children for my company untill you see fit to go return to general Vivians.I believe you will find most room here,I lost twenty two thousand of my troops from this section last night when the enemy stormed my lines as if they were literally possessed with fo fiends, and when we counter attacked them."

The tent was a small and gloomy one and here including the girlscouts eight women and children refugees were and huddled in terror because of the din which raged around them. Gertrude worried about the whole situation requested for a military officer to report himself at this very tent, and Gertrude said;

"I am in command of this army here now while I and my friends remain.You may not be on regular duty till to night.Altogether there are fourty four men in your command that were recently on guard general Sladerlinia tells me.Eighty are always on duty and are relieved every two hours.If possible I and my friends will also go on guard duty so we can view thigs going on(Darn that noise of cannons)she muttered to herself as the officer couldn't hardly hear what she said"Then she continued"If we remain here long enough we'll be on turns and go on duty every twenty hours.Only half our set go on duty together.He told me twenty two came off duty at eight this morning now two more are on.You will be on with me at probably about m midnight.Besides the sentry duties of course every one must be in readiness to man any section of the positions at any moment in case of alarm and a good deal of your time can be at directing the various regiments picking off the enemy directly they come to the assault. I heard one of the cooks was shot and the men hardly can eat anything as no one is acquainted with coo ing.If necessary if I have time I'll do it. I have heard besides the fighting duty, there is any amount of fatigue duties, the re par repairing and strengthening of defenses, the fetching of rations and the drawing of water for the troops and cannons, the caring for the refug ees in which general Sladerlinia says there are over fifty four thousand women and children, the burying of the dead, and covering blood and filth from horrible wounds with earth.Besides defending our position we are of course ready to rush at any moment to assist any other line we which may be hard pressed.Altogether we all will believe ourselves lucky here if we can now get four hours slee p out of the twenty four."

"Are our losses heavy here too?"reque requested Radcliffe of the officer who was acolonel.

"Terrible heavy.Early during the first action of the battle we lost twenty thousand a minute shot in the positions or bayonetted by the onrushing assaill ants and by shell fire, but now that we have as far as possible blocked every approach to our positions we have not been losing so many as at first, the enemy hasn't been able to get close enough to close with us, but elsewhere the hourly total is also heavy, and at twenty minutes to ten this morning in a few minutes we had lost thirty thousand.The Glandelinians rushed to the onset from all points and we mowed them down with grape while the infantry tore them to pieces with their rifles, we believe we slew over four hundred thousand of them . Unfortunately along other portions of our battle line line every hour the losses are getting heavier, from shell fire, from heat prostration, and the enemy in assailing had sometimes over crowded them from the position and it had been all they could do with the most desperate fighting on record to regain it again, the women and children refugees suffer terribly.They came from St Ethelreda this army seeming to be their own refugee as outside was sure death everywhere."

"Well "Said Gertrude "If you are disposed to show yourself useful sir when not on general duty you will find abundant opportunity for kindness and goodness among them. Will you please take us round the safter parts of the camp and introduce us to some of the refugees out of danger zone."

"Yes "Miss Aronburg I can easily do that you may go among them even as you desire. First Gertrude and her followers,,,,,,, went to what had been in more happier timeshad been the main room of the generals headquarters, a very spacious and beautifully decorated apartment some eighty five feet square, with windows opening to the ground at each end, to allow a free passage of air.These on the side nearest the enemy positions or facing in that direction were c com letely closed by a wall off earth, while those on the other side were also built up to within six inches of the top, for shots and shell could equally either them.The girlscout leaders were introduced to such of the Generals as were in, the men themselves being outside the house repairing a bank which had been injured during the ea early morning battle.. Then the orderly went to one of the rooms leading off the min apartment where a curtain hung across it instead of a door, and this was now drawn aside to allow what air there was to circulate... or circulate.

"May I come in come in please?"he asked..

"Certainly James." a lady said, coming to the entrance.

"Mrs Hanson allow me to introduce four famous girlscouts and one boyscout all chief leaders of the who have so gallently come through the enemys lin s and faced danger from the fire of our own sentires because of their recent disguise with an important measure.They indeed are our superiors but do all the more dangerous service themselves..They are to command our part of the army during the time they remin and we'll all be under their direction...."

The lady held out her hand, but with a slight air of surprise.....

"I suppose dear Lady either you don't recognize us or our color strikes you as peculiar "Gertrude said."But it will wear off in a few days I hope; it is iodine and we are already a good many shades lighter than when we started.We are the ones who rescued your children Edie and Lorny Mason to you when they thought you perished in the flood.They were carried away on on the roof of your house.Don't you remember."

"O how silly of me not to remember that"Mrs Mason said"Of course I've heard of all your exploits, and heard of your coming here.But please come in. It is not much of a room to be recieved in but we surely are just thinking of that now.My little daughter Edie is still asleep, and my father though he's a refugee is helping the army fight the enemy and is on guard at present.These are my elder daughters, Edith, and Nelly, these five children here are my grandchildren and Edies Cousins too.They all escaped the flood by a miracle though they too were swept away on house tops. My dears these are the great Child Scout leaders who recently befriended you and found us for you.They've now brought news from general Vivian, and also came to send a message to the Princesses as only gladerlphia could do it safely so they'd get the message. Don't be bashful or timid children.Don't you remember them.Maybe it's because their faces are stained, but they will be white again in a very short time.."""

The children all girls and boys there being about five in all at present shook hands timidly with the girl and boyscout leaders, as who looked with surprise on the neatness which prevailed in this crowded little room. And on the ground by the walls were several rolls of bedding covered over with shawls and forming seats or long longes On top of one of the piles two little children were fast asleep, and these were the boy Lorny and Edie the little girl Edie. Another girl of six, a stranger but a refugee sat in a corner on the ground reading.There were quite a number of pleasant chairs, and these the mother Mrs Mason asked their visitors to take. Mrs Mason seemed to be about fourty years of age with a pretty pleasant face black hair Irish features yet marked by firmness and inteligence. The others all children were ranging from six to ten and eleven and nine, two being eight and their pale scared faces showed more than that of her their grandmother the act effects of the confinement a because of the dangerous battle.Edith and Nelly Mason were eleven and ten Edie who was asleep was eight and although pale the fury and horrors of the battle and the dreadful noises had not sufficed to mar their bright sunny little childish faces or to crush their Irish spirits....2.2. spirits.

"Dear me"Little Nell said"Why you"indicating Radcliffe you donSt seem to look to me like a boy, and yet neither of you here can be much older than I am are you?"

"My dear Nelly"her mother said slightly reprovingly but Richard Radcliffe laughed heartily.....

"How old are you?" he finally deminded of her.

"I am eleven."

"I've not yet reached your age"he said."I'm a year younger perhaps but not more..I am a boy scout and a spy of circumstances which I cannot dare reveal anywhere not even to you as who knows whether enemies may be within our own confines in disguise. My companion here"pointing to Gertrude is a year older than you, and she is a great leader, so you see if the times were different we should be the right age to be your devoted companions."

"Oh you can be that now"Nelly said."I am sure we want friends more than ever, especially good Abbiegania boy and girlscouts don't we mama. And how lucky it is we all learned their language."

"I believe you had more than your share of comrades now Nelly"replied her mother smiling" but if you were also scouts you would have no hundreds of companions."We are reallly most fortunate Master Radcliffe in having you come to be here with us.I do not know th tbyour great armies could have done without you girl and boyscouts for the conditions of the war, the devastation of the country is greatly discouraging.The news papers say that the great movement af all Abbiegania child scouts is a terror to the enemy.Thank God and is blessed Mother that's a fact.The heat and this confinement makes my poor children sadly fractious, and little Edie whom you brought to me is slightly ill. It was so hot yesterday she literally gasped for air and I thought she was smothering.We were most lucky this early morning for some other scouts brought better clothing for the children" and she willingly indicated the pretty light muslins in which all the children were dressed..."You see we are quite at our best, though we can't boast we own a single red cent and this home is ours only as a refuge. "Then Ther she continued turning to the four girls,"We have every reason to be grateful to you and God that we didn't lose a single soul in the flood even if all our property is gone.And so far we have not lost any any of our party during this battle, and there are few indeed among us refugees who can really say this. These are terrible times, you goodlittle girlscouts and we are all in God's hands.My husband fat father has been in terrible wars, my own father saw the Civil war in the United States, but there is no struggle to ever reach the stage of this.Because of the soldiers we are exceptionally well offf but we find our hands full.My eldest daughter has to aid the aide-de-camp loaned to us with the younger children who are somewhat ill because of this heat and confinement, then there is the cooking to be done by me and the room to be kept tidy by Edith and Nelly and there are so many ill and suffering to be attended to.You will never find us all here between or before six in the nothing evening, we are busy all day, but we shall always be glad to see you when you can spare time forva for a chat in the evening. and when you want Edith or the others to do something for you just call. However all the visitors we have recieved are not so

welcome,I can assure you"and she pinted to eight holes in the wall where enemy's shot had crashed through.Fortunately no shells had hit the building.

"She is a very good and noble woman over there she is of Foreign Nation ality."The aide-de-camp said as they went on. "They're what you call Scotch Irish but they're as strong Catholics as the whole of us,maybe I'm afraid I'll have to say even more Devotional to the Faith. She spends many hours every day as do many others of the refugee women at the hospital camps where the scenes are dreadful, and where the enemy's shot and shell during the frightful actions find victims killing alike the wounded and their attendants. The elder daughter looks after her younger children and the neat rows of the rooms.Even the youngest girl except little Edie, she's sick are busy also busy through the camp nursing sick children in the refugee camp and yet as you see all are bright, pleasant, and the picture of neatness marvelous contrasts indeed to the disorder and dreary scenes prevailing among many of the refugees, who might by making an effort be as bright and as comfortable as they are.. There are as you will see soon find many brilliant examples of heroism among the women refugees and great devotion to others whom here.Ah"he broke off as a terrific crash followed by a loud scream was heard,"I fear that shell has done mischief among some of the refugees.

"Mrs Mic-Nally one of our Red Cross nurses is killed, and twenty others besides her and fourty injured"a woman said wring out" and one of the little girls has her arm torn off.There is no of the military dr doctors."!

At this moment Mrs Mason came out of her door with a basin of vatevard some linen torn into strips for bandages just as one of the army surgeons ran in to the refugee camp from a tent where he had been attending to several casualties casualties.

"That's right"he nodded to Mrs Mason"This is a bad business I fear. So bad we couldn't withdraw them to the rear but there's greater danger there in case the enemy would storm the position."

"Company D to repair defenses"was now the order, and the girlscouts and Radcliffe followed the aide-de-camp.

"The scoundrels are busy already."she observed."I wish oh how I wish I could get the leaders of those who so horribly deps depleted my force.I'll give no quarter."

"This cannonade is as steady as the noise in a boiler factory"Radcliffe said"If only one in a hundred bullets were to hit, there would not be any of us all alive by to morrow morning.I also hear a strange noise.I'll bet there is an assault going on somewhere."

"No indeed" the aide-de-camp replied,"They are of course not firing at random, these are shots or shells fired by long range guns, or when the enemy has too long a range, but they are literally aiming at our batteries can't you hear their rolling thunders, yet their too long a range fire adds greatly to our difficulty in getting with the damage to they do."

For the next three hours the five child scout leaders were hard at work with the rest of a long rave of men toiling at a big breastwork along the front some distance beyond the zone of fire.Earth was brought in sacks or baskets and piled up piled up, dismounted artillery replaced by new and fences mended and bobwired gentlemen repaired.The toil was hard any where and in such heat it was exhausting. All the time that they were were toiling on the bullets continued to fly thick overhead. hitting the trees behind the trenches or burying themselves with short thud in the earth. At this time despite the danger the Mason children all of them without an exception were close by watching the scene, despite the fact that round shot high explosives and spra shrapnell and time crashed or burst with eruptions in many places at one time with a terrific rolling roar while the christi chain batteries were in a continual uproar.By the time all this was accomplished under heavy fire it was near noon, and time for those who could to get a little dinner. Those of the others were already in their positions, batteries were up and everything in readiness.Despite the warn in of Gertrude the Mason children still remained and Lorny had said;

"I'm not afraid.Someday if papa'll let me I'll be a boyscout."

"Bang"went a shell close by, and he didn't even vince thl though little Edie jumped.The guns in the forward position were loaded to their muzzles with grape.The picket line officers had recieved orders to listen attentively for the sound of movement of any body of the enemy, and to fire occasionally at the flashes of the enemy artillery.The few hours passed rapidly, for the roll of the work, the deep drum roll and thunder of cannon, the crackling roar of shell explosions, the deep bass like crash of high explosives all around were so exciting that Gertrude and the others were surprised when troops arrived to reinforce the rest.

It was at about ten minutes to twelve when Edie said looking somewhat sickly white all of a sudden"Oh God have mercy on us.Here they come"and she pointed to a long thick gray something far away moving like a wave. At her sudden exclamation the alarm was sounded, she and her brother and sisters were advised to go a little further out of the way, and re brigade after brigade rushed forward to repell the oncoming "storm."

It was suddenly heralded by a storm of Gladdelphian shell fire and spra shrapnell that almost darkened the sky with smoke and by a violent crash from every Gladdelphian gun which could be brought to bear upon the christian battery the Gladdelphians with the wildest yells as if possessed by demons rushed forward from the shelter of their positions and swarmed in a long heavy line upon the christian position.It was the first time the Mason children had seen a storm of battle and they stood there trembling from excitement while little Nelly had put her face with her hands to keep out the dreadful blasphemous sounds from those yelling demons in gray. The christian line stood a wave of people coming down behind the low parapet still the foe rushing into the mouth of their own cannons caused a crash."Then the whole line leaped to its feet with a roar of

[illegible] underin[illegible] shells and opened fire with their rifles. The sudden explosion of so many rifles was deafening. The Glandelinians fell in dreadful numbers but so heavy [illegible] the masses [illegible] closed in a moment and with yells and shouts of defiance the enemy leaped into the ditch as fast as they came on and tried to climb the position to wash the christian batteries. The christian line was finally hurled to the rear by the pressure of the assault, but the enemy suffered frightfully from the bayonets and by the firing at close quarters, and to bring it worse general Blain Night Lingers Corps were ready to be launched upon any threatened point, and these came up at the run, and the force of their coming counter charge staggered the foe. Desperately their generals called up on them to force the christian troops from the position, but ever the many thousands who did so were bayoneted or captured while a continuous fire of rifles was poured upon them from two directions. Overand over again all the christian guns charged with grape, swept away lines from the Glandelinian wave, and at last dispirited and beaten and appalled by their wholesale losses the enemy fell back to the shelters from which they had erupted emerged, but almost immediately afterwards they were rallied, and reinforced and ten minutes later another assault came of redoubled fury. The Thirty Second division of Angelinians moved forward to support the staggering christian line and while all the firing line became so well in smoke that even nor the Mason children couldn't see a thing that was going on general Gibbons said cheerfully to his reserve; officers;

"Now comrade comrades something will have to be done to stop this. If they roll up the line the then the enemy will be able to mass massacre all the refugees. I want some volunteers to go forth and warn general Sladerlinia how fierce the assault is that is being made."

The mens faces testified the dislike they felt for this dangerous business but they understood it was necessary, the enemy was storming the christian position with a fury beyond measure, and were becoming victorious and if something wasn't done disaster would follow. These men made their way under fire to the generals headquarters. The girlscout heroines at once understood at once the repugnance with which was felt to the approaching of this part of the battle field. The Mason children were almost ordered for safty sake to move out of the region as the battle was becoming wild in the extreme and they might be shot. St Elbelreda will always be celebrated for its suffering from a plague of onslaughts, and indeed his assault here was assuming surprising proportions. The numbers of badly wounded and mangled soldiers collected, the blood spilled in the battlefield, the impossibility of preserving certain portions of the line without reinforcements against such a wave of storming Glandelinians which rivaled the assaults of the days before was dreadful indeed. The christian troops waged hellish warfare against the assailants, power was plentiful and [illegible] cotton too, the shell fire was so terrific that it seemed countless legions of soldiers would have been blown into the air, but these wholesale executions, and this terrible tearing of the Glandelinian wave to pieces again and again however often repeated, appeared now to make no impression whatever on the teeming Glandelinian soldiery who were just as determined to win as their enemies were to stop the assault.

Both sides constantly met in a tumult of bayonets or pistol and rifle shots at close quarters. The heat of the day was terrific, while the fury and desperation of the assault irritated the christian soldiers almost to madness. General after general of the foe side was shot to death or wounded brigade after brigade was wiped out, assault after assault repulsed and still it continued in the same maddening horror. There seemed indeed but the choice of two evils, to cover the christian defensive lines by artillery even at the chance of hitting friends. or to withdraw before the storm and bear up against the assault in other positions as best as they might. The fighting soldiers of both sides were bathed in perspiration. The former alternative was chosen, and the assault however great, was repulsed, and the defensive men endured against it, but to expect such a host of enemies to desist so soon was clearly an impossibility. Every charge of the enemy cost them as much loss as in every big and bloody battle of the World war, and too the christian losses was terrible and the terrible action extended along a thirty mile front.

The battle was crazy with the wildest violence, the Mason children became scared at last and were home again covering in some concealed room for fear of shells hitting them there. This day was a bad one for the defendefenders of the position in front of the best part of a refugee camp, and no less than twelve shells never penetrated general Sladerlinia headquarters, and ten of the occupants were killed or wounded. During the assault these shells came from the left of the Glandelinian battery. Among the slain was one of Mrs Masons children a little boy, and Gertrude and her followers first learned the news when attempting to signal to general Mere for aid to stop the enemy storm, Edith and Nelly Mason came out from the door, with face on their way to fetch water. Gertrude and ludcliffe at once offered to fetch it for them as they understood how to do it through a danger zone more than they did, and as they spoke they saw that the girls faces were both swollen with cry. crying.

"Is anything the matter Mrs Mason."Angeline Jennins asked.

"Have you not heard"Edith said"how poor little Robert our younger brother has been killed to death by the fragment of a shell. One of the soldiers near us was also shot, and a general wounding [illegible] and we all had close escapes, the shells from that Glandelinian battery are terrible."

Gertrude Angeline and her followers were [illegible] ly saddened at the news, but they took the jugs and crossing the yard [illegible] to the well even though under fire filled and brought the [illegible] back...

"I wish we could get somebody to do something to silence the nearest of the Glandelinian batteries."said ludcliffe"Those Glandelinian batteries will blow the generals headquarters all to pieces should our ears, and not withstanding our own losses in soldiers we shall be having many of the women and children refugees killed every second. See there goes an explosion like at Katmei in eruption/""

"Now about us trying it."suggested Jennie Jerner.

"Yes how about us."answered Gertrude a little sarcastically."We were glad to get inside here as it was. Yet of course I wouldn't ask any one to go any one to go where I wouldn't go myself."

"Let's go and have a observation of the Glandelinian battery from the roof...."""" replied Angeline Richee....

The roof was the same as those of other houses in any city, flat and intended for the inmates to sit and enjoy the evening breeze of a summer..... It was also used for skating in the winter. There was a low parapet on the roof and this had been raised by a line of sand bags and behind them half a thousand soldiers were lying firing through the many openings between the bags, to try and shoot off as many of the enemy assaulting the distant christian position as they could and also in answer to the storm of rifles and machine guns the enemy also were maintaining upon the house., Stooping low to avoid the bullets, and holding large sheets of heavy tin over their heads to prevent themselves from being hit by fragments of shell should spun [illegible] shrapnell burst over their heads, the four girlscouts and ludcliffe, moved slowly across the terrace, and li lying down, peered out through the holes which had been left for the rifles. The generals headquarters stood on one of the highest points of the ground beyond the defenses of the main line which was in action and from it they could obtain a view of nearly the whole thundering teeming line of the enemys batteries which once in a while showed themselves when some of the walls of smoke lifted.... They were indeed higher than the positions held by most of this section of the enemys army, but one of the Glandelinian batteries consisting of grape and canister guns, and a line of machine guns distant only some one hundred and fifty yards from the building dominated the whole position nearest the house and though it wasn't active now it showed to be a battery greatly dreaded should it start in action too.

"Those Glandelinian battery is that?"Ladcliffe asked one of the officers on the terrace.

"A scout told me that is battery D under Colonel Johannas"he answered.

"It was one of our batteries, and the enemy captured it two days ago. It was a most terrible blunder that we did not destroy it when it was evident it would be captured it will be if it is not now an awful thorn in our side, and general Sladerlinia's headquarters will then become untenable. There is a dangerous Glandelinian chief, who surprising to us is a negro in the service of the Glandelinians, who has his post there, he is a magnificent shot and he has destroyed a great number of our gunners of our batteries and disabled many a cannon. It is almost certain death to show a head within a line of his fire. He professes himself to be a Negro Christian just fighting in the war for adventure, but anybody who is really a friend of our Blessed Lord wouldn't fight on their side unless he didn't get acquainted with the cause he's fighting for. But's he is a danger to us fo more than any one else in the Location, and [illegible] commands. [illegible]."

"I wonder exceedingly we have not launched a strong assault, captured the battery and set fire to the barracks in its locality."said Ladcliffe.

"The Glandelinians are so numerous that we could only hope to succeed with wholesale loss, and we are so depleted in this portion, and as no reinforcements arives for it we cannot therefore afford it. So the general refuses to allow any of us to charge the battery but I fear we shall be driven to it sooner or later. That new battery is terribly troublesome also. There do you see it, it lies, a numbred cannon just over that brow , so that the shots from our batteries cannot reach it, while it can pound away at our position and the house with high explosives, and indeed cover all the assaults the enemy hurls against us."

"I should have thought"Gertrude said"That a good rush at night might carry it, and spike the guns.."

"No we should sure be certain to start some sort of noise however quiet we are, and those machine gun batteries are all loaded at any time in action or not to the muzzle with explosive grape and canister, we have found that out, for once general Hand Mic-Mally hurled a storm of assault against the battery, and they fired such a storm of grape that the assault was all swept away to the last man, many thousands pon thousands of them, besides which which there is a hundred thousand Omarian infantry men on duty at night, one sleeps at day and is at pst at night, and although sometimes the battery ceases firing for some hours especially at night the rifles never ceased their meeting fire. We can hold our positions against the fiercest onslaughts but as general Vivian is not able to lend us vast help so far, we cannot dare launch one ourselves. It would be suicide. If it was the enemy infantry alone to contend with , all right, but the batteries are annihilating."

The five child scouts lay wistfully watching the two batteries those one of the further one frequently struck the house, and two or

three times shattered a portion of the sand bag parapet, and slew or wounded a score of men with the explosions, but the damage was at once repaired with sage lying in readiness, but always under a storm of rifles which opened or continued steadily in the hopes of hitting the men engaged upon the dangerous work, these however were accustomed to it, and built up the sandbags without showing as much as a finger to the enemy's sightners.

"There were six children slain by that last shot"an officer said coming up from below and joining them."They had gone into the house from the camp which is being hit hard by shell fire, and one of the shells made its way through the earth, and tore its way through a blocked up window."

"We must find some means o to have those batteries silenced Gertrude, whatever comes of it"Radcliffe said in her ear.

"I finally agree with you Radcliffe, and Jennie too, but how is it to be done.We cannot do it ourselves alone there are too many guns.?"

"Have you no idea Radcliffe?"asked Angeline Richee.

"Well my idea is this"answered Radcliffe."I consider we could chose a cha c chance under cover of a lot of smoke, we could originate enough s, ge smudge fire to do that as the wind is off from us tward that battery."

"But won't the enemy suspect something.?"

"I believed the enemy might have the idea that his shots set something on fire.We could observe the bearings of the batteries most carefully, and when they stop firing, and we believe the day troops are being withdrawn for the late afternoon regiments, we can secure a strong trusty force, crawl out with them all under cover of the fog and make for the guns..When we get close enough we can surprise them so suddenly they won't be able to resist, but befor that we all of us must remain on the ground so that no sentry can see us creepin forward under cover of the smoke, then during the confusion many of the men with a sponge full of water can give a squeeze on each of the touchholes so there would be no chance of going off till the charges were drawn, and thus give the surprise party chance to retreat saftly before the enemy come in too s ong numbers.Then we could recoil to our position warn our commanders the guns are disabled, and one of them can muster a stronger force, carry the guns with a rush, and spike them permanently."

"Capita l Radcliffe, we are with you, even though it seems hopeless to try it."

"Now let us take the exact bearings of the Glandelinian batteries.There was a long lane you see running along from beyond that corner nearly to thr guns.. hen we get out with the force we'll guide we must steer for that because it is comparatively clear from rubbish and we ain't so likely to knock a stone over and create a row. We must choose sometime when they are pounding away somewhere else and then we shall not be heard even if we do cause a little noise.We will as Mrs Mason for some sponges if she has any, We need not tell her want we want them for."

"And you believe that it is best to do it this afternoon early, Radcliffe dear.? "

"We ll this afternoon is just as chancefl to succeed as any other night or any other time and the sooner the thing is done or attempted the better.General Turner commands the guard from twelve to four this afternoon, and as he is an easy easy going fellow he'll do anything I'll say, while some of the others would be scared of such an adventure and back out."

As soon as early afternoon was on. and the required immense smudge fire was produced a little procession with six little forms on stretches covered with white cloth, and several of larger size started from General Sladerlinias headquarters, and a number of women and children followed.That sad morning had been a burden to many and now this early afternoon the dead children was now t be laid in the earth. Death of course had been busy everywhere. and in such a climate as that produced by the heats of the distant forest fires, and in so crowded a dwelling no delay could take place between death and burial, and the victims were buried as fast as possible. There were no time no manufacture coffins, no men to spare for this, and as each little victim fell so were they committed to the earth..

A little distance from general Sladerlinia's h headquarters the procession joined joined a larger one. one with many of the bloody days victims from other parts of the raving battlelines--a total of which this was only a small portion,.At the head of the sad procession sailed the Rev Father James one of the army Catholic Army chaplains, who was distinguished for the bravery and self devotion with which he at the very dangers of losing his life laboured among the many wounded soldiers as far as he could reach. The service there having first been a Mass for the dead, on which they were now engaged was in itself exceedingly dangerous for they had to go through a territory exposed much to the enemy's deadly fire--and--and they were thoroughly during this four days of battle so fear been remarkably well informed of what was going on. think the position--every time or to they could open a general fire in the direction of any spot there where they found out a portion of the army would be engaged in this sad invocation. Quietly the sad little procession moved along, though bullets whistled and shells hissed and exploded around them.Each stretcher with an adult body was carried by four soldiers while the bodies of the little ones were carried by their mothers or friends as if still alive..Mrs Mason and her eldest daughter carried between them on a stretcher on the on which the little body of their youngest son lay. Arrived at the selected spot, a long trench nine feet. He had been

[illegible] placed. [illegible] ve a [illegible] enough on it of [illegible] died for [illegible] in case [illegible] they were victims of no [illegible] and then the mothers turned away happily, with not one of them having been hit by the bullets which sang around, or by shell fragments, while some of the soldiers speedily filled in the grave. While the said procession had been absent, Gertrude and her followers had gone to Mrs Masons room.The curtain was drawn, and they could hear the littler children sobbing or wailing inside.

"Please one of you little girls, can I speak to you for a moment?"Radcliffe said."I would not intrude but it is something particular., very particular."

Little Eddie Mason came to the door.

Please "Radcliffe went on touched by the distress in her little blue eyes"Would your mother mind if you'd give us all the old sponges or soft rags you may have?We don't know any one else to ask , your mother is not home at present---and but remember little girl, you must not say a word to any one --I and my four companions here, are into guide a strong force this afternoon under cover of a smudge fudge to silence those batteries which is doing such damage."

"Silence those batteries."Eddie exclaimed in surprise."Oh if you could do that , but how is it possible.They'll wipe out any charging troop that'll storm it ."

"Oh you dear boy" Nelly who had come to the door exclaimed impetuously "If you could but do that every one would love you.We shall all be murdered if that terrible battery goes on.But how are you going to do it."?

"I didn't say we are going to do it,,,,"Radcliffe said smiling at the little girls excitement"But we are going to try it sometime this afternoon. We will tell you about it either this morrow morning or this evening when it is done, that is-" he said seriously "If we return to tell it.but you must not ask us any questions now, and please give us the pieces of sponges if you have them."

Eddie disappeared for a moment, and came back with an armfull of very large full sponges..

"We will not ask as you wish us not ot"she said quietly "But if it is true what you say you're going to do we now you'll run into some frightful danger danger.It's impossible to surprise the troops guarding those batteries and you'll have to do it in by violent assault., sudden and without delay. I may tell mama when she comes on the return that much, may I not?And we will all say A Rosary and a Hevem Novena of one day for your safe return---God bless you all,"and with a warm clasp of the hands and then a mighty big hug the two little girls went back to their room again.

"I tell you what Gertrude " Radcliffe said emphatically, when they went out into the air"If they would only try it they could have gotten ito into the regiment, but as it seems none of us are living through this crazy war, counting now our losses were twice already so heavy one time on the raft adventure, and just yesterday I believe it wouldn't seem prudent to offer them the chance providing they may have heard of the disaster..If the elder ones Edith and Nelly would go through it---that is "he added "If she'll take the chances with me in adventures, and will wait a bit. he's a steel nerved girl, and no mistake. I never felt really in requesting any one to join before;no not regularly,you now but nevertheless they're the makings."

At any other time Gertrude or her others friends would have laughed or disputed on this subject as it reallly takes a lot of red tape for any one to get in as a nurse or boyscout on account of the dangers of the outings but with Eddie's farewell words in her ears, and the innocent wistful beauty of the little girls face she was little disposed for mirth and she merely put her hand on Radcliffes shoulder and said;

"There will be time to plan for that in the future Radcliffe. She and her mother are as acquainted with our sad loss as we are and it would be rash for such a thoughtless over our heads.If she or Eddie or the others put up to themselves to join, because of the nature of no holy a cause in years, and for the fact, of the danger being elsewhere even worse than if they were scouts, their mother couldn't object if we were to request that, she'd put us out on our heels slick fast. she'd believe were we're asking for the destruction of her children.So let them decide for themselves. First of all we must remember our own loss in that desperate fight for the refugees and capture those batteries to get even.There's the battery opening in earnest.There.General Turner is signalling for all his batteries to try and silence them.Listen to how all those cannons roll their thunder.It is a spasmodic cannonade, and the explosions of shells are shaking the ground like an earthquake/ come along."

For an hour thefire on both sides was incessant. The wo hundred and sixty nine guns of the two Glandelinian batteries concentrated their fire upon the Glanelinian position, while at least six of the next guns opened upon General Vivi Sladerlinia's headquarters while from the trenches closest to it the fire of the enemy's musketry flashed and crack crackled incessantly sending a terrific hail of shot to keep down the reply of the christians on the roof. On the christian side the garrison on the terrace disregarded the enemys heaviest rifle fire, but crowded behind the sandbags and maintained a most steady fire well concentrated at the flashes of the nearest cannon seen through the wall of clouds pouring forth, while from the christian batteries the gunners unable to touch the enemys battery, and being forced

to leave it to the long range guns discharged grape at the enemys position to keep down the infantry.

The Glandelinians most unusally carefully instructed in military service had concent constructed long sheilds of rope to each gun to protect the gunners h ot not manning shield guns, but those at the best could cover one or t o two Glandelinian soldiers and the fire from the christian positions and from the terrace on top of general Sladerlinia's headquarters inflicted such heavy losses upon the gun gunners, that these batteries wre were withdrawn and the shield guns put into position. The fire nevertheless didn't cease. It vas now One P.M.K.. and Gertrude had colloe collected at her bidding a large force of men who would dare the great adventure of silencing the guns having first filled their sponges with water and putting them into small pails to retain the water. There they joined general general Hansonia Johnston.

"I can't see how you can think of it Radcliffe"? he said "but nevertheless those batteries are enough to drive one mad. We are accustomed to them but they're so devastating among our refugees.."

"I' is not exactly that sir." Radcliffe said "But we must do it. I and Gertrude have made up out minds to silence those batteries, and we need your assistance on that. We have got many sponges full of water, and we mean to go out select a number of men to also use pieces of the wet sponge and drown the priming. Then when we come on the return and tell general Hemo He will move forward with a strong force, rush to the assault and capture them. Tht' That will cause a gap in the enemy's lin s which will soon be disasterous for him."

"O I don't object but you and your followers here must either be possessed or mad to try to even imagine to try such a thing." the general said in astonishment. "We might all of us be wiped out."

"I'msure it is easy enough sir." Radcliffe replied "At any rate we mean to try it."

"I can't thin of letting you precious girlscouts go on such a dangerous adventure" General Johnstonia said. "Why' you'll be in a battle, facing terrific fire, and Heaven only knowns what will happen. Be wise and let only the leaders attempt it. They can do it as well."

"No sir, we cannot and will not change out minds." said Gertrude. "If we do not go we'll not let any one else go. What we want you request of you is to tell your men not to fire if they see a large troop of men in gray moving tward the enemys lines in the next few minutes and after that to listen for a call like this." and she imitated the meow of a cat. "If they hear that they are not to fire at any one approaching fr om the outside trench. Good bye sir. Wel We will assure you we'll return saftly..."

And without waiting for general Hansonia to make up his mind whether or not his duty compelled him to detain them, to re prevent them from carrying out the mad scheme of which Radcliffe had told heem of, the five children glided off through the smudge certain they had formed to where their surprise troop drossed in gray were awaiting them. They did not remove their shoes but wound round them numerous strips of cloth so that they would thread noiselessly, and yet if obliged to run for it would avoid the danger of cutting their feet and disabling themselves in their flight. Then being sure that general Hansonia would have given orders to his men not to fire if they heard a noise close at hand and [illegible] lines, they and their many followers went noiselessly to the breastwork which ran from the christian battery past general Sladerlinias headquarter s climbed over it in a wave, and dropped into the trenches beyond. Standing on the battery close beside them they saw against the gray horizon the figure of the general

"Good bye sir" Radcliffe said softly. "We will be on the return in less than have an hour if we are sue successful."

Then they and the whole force in gray pic ed their way carefully, and while nidden by the fog produced by the smudge over the rough ground till they reached the long lane, and then moved boldly but noiselessly forward for they were sure that for a little way there a was no danger of meeting the enemy, and that in the smu ge cloud they were perfectly invisible to any Glandelinian se ntry posted near the guns. After going forward a little over fifty yards, every one at the signal dropped on their hands and knees. Although the guns were still in action, they were raised in such a way that an approaching troop would not be hit, and hearing of the purpose of Gertrude the christian batteries had ceased firing in that direction though a dropping rifle fi fire from the left of the christian position had as usual still continued. This indicated to Gertrude and her followers and the men t pretty accurately the psition position of the nearest battery. The whole force crawled forward foot by f oot and soon reached the little ridge which sheltered the one hundred guns at this spot from the christian batteries beyond. The guns themselves they could not see for behind them was a wall of high br brush and except against the sky line nothing was visible. They themse They themselves were as they discovered in a line between Sladerlinias Headquarters and ary one who might be standing at the guns, and could see the reflection of big fires showing that while the battle was raging fiercely elsewhere, and whole some of the enemy here was maintaining [illegible] in a severe dropping fire, there were [illegible] other assaults.

Having observed the scene, the whole force lead by the ating girlscouts moved forward cautiously inch by inch. Presently Radcliffe put his hand on something which for a moment made him start back, an instants thought, however reasoured him, it was a soldier, but the hardness of the touch told that the the man was dead.. Crawling past it the child scouts found other bodies lying in teeming numbers, and then Gertrude touched a ah wheel. They had arived at the guns, and the bodies were those of many men shot down a few hours before in the act of loading. Behind the guns a number of artillery men were stationed, but for some reason or other the guns stood alone and unguarded something unusual to find when the Glandelinians are so watchful.. A clasp of the hand and the five children parted one going as previously arranged each way, the soldiers with the sponges doing the same. Radcliffe rose very quietly by the side of the gun, keeping his head however below its level and paising God that the smudge fire sent the smo e even way over here. she ran her hand along it untill it came to the breech.. she found the touch hole covered with a wad of cloth to keep the power dry from dew that may occure/ This Radcliffe carefully removed, put up her hand again with the wet sponge gave a squeeze, and then cautiously replaced the covering. Gertrude did the same with the gun on the right of it, and even the four others, and all the men with sponges crept along from gun to gun, while the gray clad disguised infantry lay in readiness in case the enemy would discover this and give the alam alarm. soon of this battery the whole line of guns were disabled. Then they all crawled back and joined each other./ A clasp of the hands in congratulation, and then they were starting to return when they heard a dull tramp, and the head of a gray column came along just ahead of them. The child scouts shrank back under the guns and lay flat among the bodies of the dead to avoid the scene which would ensue. The column of Glandelinians halted at the guns and a stentorian voice asked;

"Is the general of the battery here on duty?"

"Here I am" said a voice from behind the nearest gun and a Glandelinian officer came forward.

"We are going to direct an overwhelming assault upon general Sladerlinias rear. We shall be strong for reinforcements came up and we shall soon sweep the Christian dogs before us. It is the order of your general that you open with your guns here to distract the attention of the christian batteries."

"Will it please you graciously sir, to prove to our chief general that we have fought the christian dogs along this line all morning and that over three quarters of my gunners are dead. The fire of the christian dogs is too strong for us. Your Excellency will sees the ground is covered with our dead. See excelency how we have suffered. Confound that smoke. We must have set something on fire within their lines as the smoke comes tward us."

The childscouts held their breath, when there was the sharp sound of many rifles, the man with the torch fell prostrated, while a teeming number of the others also fell, the general among them, and horrified cries arose from thesurvivors of the column. Then the men in gray who were lying down suddenly rose to their feet, and sprang forward attac ing the surprised enemy with frightful fury.

"Forward march was the command of their officer s, and the whole column rushed foreard, the enemy being demorilized. However the Glandelinian infantry behind the g uns rushed forward to the counter charge, and closed with the victorious gray mass of men and a frightful unequal contest raged hand to hand. They were overwhelmed and forced to retreat their losses being awful. The dare devil child scouts lost no time during the confusion in creeping out again, and with the survivors of their gray coated troop making the best of their way back, once fairly over the crest, with the yelling enemy in persuit, they rose to their feet delivered a withering fire which mowed the Glandelinians down in a line and ran down tward the christian position. As they neared this Radcliffe whistled twice and gave the "Cat call""""""" once. The cat call was answered, and in a minute they were all safely in their own lines once more, and all the persuing Glandelinians no matter how great their numbers who did not retreat quick enough were all shot down.....

This enabled the rest to scramble over the earthworks.2.2.2.22222

"All right" Radcliffe said to general Hansonia, "The guns are useless of the first battery but are nevertheless strongly guarded.. There are lots lots of infantry on both sides but some of them will be drawn off for they are planning to storm general Sladerlinia's rear. Where is general Hemo."?

"He has just made his rounds" General Hansonia said "I will take you to him and you can give him your orders..?"""""

General Hemo was astonished when he heard from the girlscout leaders that thattheyhad bebe boe n out and rendered the guns of the nearest battery temporarily useless thought some cost of life among the soldiers they had brought with them to carry the positionwhich they didn't do.

"You were somewhat reckless in doing it though it was a gallent action something very much onheard of, and which will astonish the Princesses when they hear word of it." he said. "We must at once [illegible] force, and carry the second battery too if possible. We could [illegible] other battery. I shall [illegible]

[illegible] .If the attack of the enemy comes upon Sladerlinia's rear before our attack the artillery men will prepare for action and may discover that the guns of their [illegible] are [illegible] Call up your [illegible] at once general Hanconia and let them [illegible] on the position, and so you" he turned to a soldier [illegible] to general Sladerlinia and [illegible] a great assault is going to be made upon his rear. Tell him we are going to capture the batteries if possible and ask him to bring every battery [illegible] the Christian position to the left of the [illegible] so as to keep down the enemy infantry fire there."

In two minutes every man of the christian Brigades in this location was assembled in the position even those on the roof of the headquarters being called down.

"Bring forth the small machine guns to advance with the charge," Was the command all along the line" Now every body we are going to carry the enemys two batteries, they have been rendered temporarily useless so we have only to dash for the first battery. We can use that to cover our charge against the second. as we now how to render them useful again in an instant the enemy don't. The moment they were in our possession, you general Herdrudes with 100,000 men will clear the position immediately behind the batteries and look for the munition dumps.. General Curran you with 1,115,000 men will try to move to the right a little, and you general Percival Jons with your command to the left. Do not go far at on ce but each carry the enemys ca camp or two set the tents or barracks on fire, and if you're too hard pressed fall back here when you hear the bugle. Now as quietly as you can fall till you hear we are discovered, and then go at a rush to the guns. And remember if they're Omarians don't give any quarter. If not then take prisoners."

In fact the whole line of charge had gone vonly a few paces before the enemys lines suddenly opened with a terrific fire of rifles. The noise of so many columns of men stumbling over the debris of levened country houses, through thickets and over brush was heard in an istant instant and the enemy was aroused and threw themselves forward most gallently to defend the line.

"Forward" was the coo command. "Don't answer their fire, give them the bayonet."

The divisions of troops under this scathing fire rushed along. They poured into and across the lane now, and were able to run fast, but the enemy's fire swept them off in appalling numbers just the same. The first fire had been followed by a crash of guns from the second and more distant guns but they were too close now to be hit by these and the shells and balls whistled overhead or crashed everywhere else in frightful explosions, but the only loss incurred was from the enemy's infantry. The foremost of the troops heard the voice of the nearest officer at the guns that had been rendered useless shout to his men.;;"

"Steady Infantry and grenaiders don't fire till they are on the crest. Then open and sweep them away. Draw off the useless guns so they'll not capture them."

The first wave topped the crest and rushed at the guns.

"Fire" shouted the officer and the command came simultaneously all along the line and a crash of rifles stunned the troops. The first half of the christian wave was swept away into dead and wounded but in a moment the survivors rushedon to the guns, and though the foremost went down into bleeding and wounded ina whole ling seeming line the others aided by the others comig up coming up behind swarmed among the surprised and astonished Gladelinians and a terrific bayonet fight occured. The Gladelinians though fighting desperately and being Zimmermannians were driven to the rear unable to withstand the assault, and the guns were in the possession of the victors. Then each man selected went quickly from gun to gun removed the a wet substance, cleaned it out while the infantry pressed on, and in short order the whole battery was useful again, and opened upon the enemy with grape and canister. The Gladelinians reinforced rallied and strove most desperately to recover the guns under cover of the battery further away but in vain. Another section of the christian assault struck against that battery and as the guns couldn't be depressed to hit them it the battery was carried at one swoop. All along the line a short but furious hand to hand fight raged. The Gladelinian infantry fought most desperately but unavailing ly. One of their generals fell and this caused disheartening and confusion. The fight was stern and bloody there was no yelling on either side, and the enemy was steadily pressed to the rear. A Regiment of Omarians were surrounded and they knew it was useless to ask for quarter the l clashing of bayonets again against bayonets the sound of many shots close at hand and the sound of the fall of heavy bodies alone told of the desperate strug struggle.

It ended temporarily just as general Johnston came up.

"Search around before the main force of the foe comes to counter attack us" was his order "They must have a munition dump around here perhaps a large one. We can explode that to cover our retreat for we won't be able to maintain these positions though we can drag the artillery with us."

There was a rapid search.....

"Here it is" cried one of the lieutenants hose name was Ned and he loo ed into a large wooden barrac s of one story and very long. There's enou enough explosives here to blow up a whole trench. There's lots of barrels full of dynimite powder, and T.N.".....""

"Break open one barrel quick." as the order...2.2.22 "Colonel I will do this with two of the boys. Do you line that low wall, and keep back the enemy for a minute or two, they will be on us like a whi whole nation of men. Run into the she" he said to a man called pick" and as the officers led their m into various positions to resist the enemys counter charge which was sure to come and follow up too" "You will see a bucket of water

[illegible] as soon as possible. Now then." he said "Empty this barrel among the others, there's [illegible] much in the heads of [illegible] or four others with its brothers... [illegible] the man called pick returned with the water....." "fill your cap with powder.""

The man called pick did so and the general poured some water into it stirred them together till the powder was dampened through and through, and with this made a train train some ten feet long to the dry powder. The long line of Christians were now hotly engaged with a large mass of the advancing enemy who were rushing forward with a fury that seemed that not even all the fiends in hell if they helped the christians couldn't stop them. The assault was irrestible and led by general Francis Stanci. One immense drove after another was swept away by the christian fire, general Stanc was wounded, two of his aiding generals was killed, and an immea immeasureable number of his men fell but the probable demented survivors couldn't be stopped and they began to carry all before them.

"Fall back instantly before we're enveloped general Hanconia" was the signal given. "Hey bugler sound the retreat, what're you sleeping for. Can't you see that wall of Omarians coming like the fiends of hell. Go along my lads I'll light the train. It's the only way to chec those razy Glandelinian fools."

In a few minutes the order was recieved and the whole line reluctantly recoiled before the advaning rebels who however did not yell as they came on with bayonets fixed. General Johnston waited untill the last of his men had passed, and those dangerously exposed to the enemys dangerous annihilating fire which was mowing all the men down within his sight as fast as they were seen applied a lighted torch to the train which began to fiz and sputter and then ran off mounted his horse and followed the others, the last man to remain shutting the door of the "cant" as he went out, in order that the burning fuse should not be seen... By this time may many tents and barrac s of the enemys camp were aflame and the whole force were rerr retreating at double time tward their own intrenchments followed by the enemy who still advanced silent ; . As they neared their own intrenchments the enemy came forwar forward and now let loose into the air a terrific roar of rifle fire, and the head of the wave of reinforcements were pouring out through the fields and coming tward where the captured battery had stood, when the earth shook as if there was an earthquake, a mighty flash of fire lit the sky, a mighty eruption, there was a roar as of the loudest thunder concieved, and most of the retreating columns were swept from their feet by the concussion, while a shower of stones debris of the barn, sand and water and all sorts of timber fell in a wide circle and pelted even general Sladerlinias headquarters like a terrific chower from a volcanic eruption. The troops were soon up and scrambled over their positions, and were all ready within fifteen minutes as extensive as their line of retreat was. For a minute the dreadful explosion that sounded like a hundred thousand cannon at one time was sounded or followed by a death like stillness broken only by the sound of the falling fragments, and stones, then from the whole of Sladerlinias line of troops embattled or not, a great cheer of triumph rose up while a yell of fury answered them from the enemys intrenchments, and from those who were counter charging, and who had momentarily halted at the frightful disaster to so many of their comrades. Then those who survi e survived came forward with redoubled fury and the attac raged with a frenzied violence.

While the struggle was going on insanely general Hanconias's first question was from general Nemo;

"Did you suffer much loss.?"

"Couldn't tell that now sir "was the report of the officers of the nearest sections. "We haven't had time for a roll call."

Finally it was discovered that Hanconia's loss th though considerable was far less than Hanconia himself. The latter suffered four hundred thousand in wounded, two hundred thousand were severely wounded, twenty two thousand were seriously hurt, but the gradual reports always came in showing that at big as the loss of wounded were none would prove fatal. His loss however in dead was twenty eight thousand.

"Hurrah my lads" said general Sladerlinia "Two hundred and sixty guns captured our christian troops anf my headquarters freed from those terrible Glandelinian batteries, a lesson given to the enemy and I expect many thousand of them blown up, and at the cost of our own smaller loss... It was well done indeed." and general Sladerlinia with two or three of his officers stepped stepped forward. "It sure was gallently done, but how indeed was it that all those guns were silent. silent.? You could have hardly caught the enemy asleep in broad daylight."

"No sir" said general Johnston "Those of the girlscout leaders who brought in the e message from general Viins Vivians section two or three hours ago went out on the ir own account with a strong force of men dressed in gray and silenced the guns of the grape battery by wetting the priming."

A surpressed cheer broke from all within hearing for untill now general Hanconia and those on guard with his troops only had been acquainted with what had happened, and the silence of the guns had been a mystery to all.

"Step forward my dear children will you" general Sladerlinia said." you have done a most gallent action" he went on clasping them by the hand" A most gallent action indeed" and the whole of my army is greatly indebted to you and will do more now to follow your directions than ever before. I shall have great pleasure in reporting your conduct of such gallently to our little "Commander in Chiefs the Orincesses when the times comes for doing so. I will not mar the pleasure which all feel at your deed by saying it has only brought the fierce assault of the enemy upon us, but I believe we can soon repulse that easily enough. Good fortune has attended your enterprize but in one way you should have considered first before you went out to do it. The lives of our brave girl scouts are too valuable to allow them to undertake such unseen risks as this on their own account. And now that I have said said

2what I was obliged to say, I request yo. all within my hearing to give three cheers four our five gallent young friends."

Three hearty cheers were readily given then the general hurried off to superten sl superintend the preparations for the defense of his rear threatened by the "storm" from the other section of the Glandelinian army if indeed the assault would not be posponed owing to the fact that the enemy did not seem to show any discouragemen which the blow just inflicted would naturally spread. Surrounded by their friends the girlscout leaders re-entered the house.

"What was that terrible explosion?What in the world has happened?"Was as ed by a score of little female voices as they entered.

"Good news" one of the soldiers said"I believe we can sleep in peace to night.The guns of the two batteries which has annoyed us all in this territory are all captured, and their huge magazines blown up, and all this without much loss to our side, thanks to the four or five girlscouts and their boy with them who went out with a mass of men in gray and temporarily disabled all the guns of the first firettery first battery by wetting the primings as fast as possible. All your gratitude can be due to them. The enemy are storming our position now but I have doubts if they'll have any success."

There was a general cry of grateful joy, for since seven or eight guns of the battery had begun to play upon the house no one had felt that his or her life or the lives of those dearest to them were safe for a moment. All were dres dressed for in these times of unusual four days of peril no one dared even so much as feel to go to bed, they had been terrified by the darness caused by the burning of Ethelreda, and now they crowded round the child scout leaders, shaking them by the hand ,patting them on the shoulders many, c y crying for very joy and relief.

"Mrs Mason" was standing at the door and Gertrude and her followers went up to her. she drew aside the curtain for them to enter, for sure that the girlscout leaders intended to carry out some desperate interprize, none of her family had even lain down.Mrs Mason, and her aide-de-camp helper followed them in/

"We were all praying for you"she said simply, "especially the Rosary and two Litanies. for we felt as if you had been our own children, for you were doing as much for me and my children nay more than my own could have done"and she kissed them on their cheeks.

"I believe, Mrs Mason"said Gertrude with the demure impudence of a girlscat girlscout leader"That that ought to go around."

"I believe you have fairly earned it you brave but impudent little girl" Mrs Mason said laughing.

First Edith kissed Gertrude and the others tearfully for she was thinking that had the batteries been silenced and captured only one day earlier her little brother would have been saved and many others too.Edith glanced at her mother and allowed the child scouts to kiss her and the rest, while little Edie threw her arms around each each once neck lovingly and kissed them heartily, telling them they were darling girl and friend scouts.

Radcliffe who poessessed none of the good impudence of her sister and who moreover was at the age when if she had been a boy for real would have been bashful with little girls, contented herself with shaking hands with Mrs Masons sons but allowed the rest to kiss her, and would have done the same with the eldest boy but that young lad believing she reallly was a boy kissed her on the cheek with a laugh.

"I don't now what to do my boy"Radcliffe said with a laugh"so go ahead, it is not much kissing that we boyand girlscouts get in this "hell"Goodness news so you may do so."

The time in the meantime came for the expected assault of the enemy upon general Sladerlinia's rear, while it was still raging but most unsuccessfully in front.At first it was not believed the storm would come as many officers believed it possible that the enemy would be too much disconcerted by the capture of the two batteries, and the loss of so many men by the christian fire and the explosion to attempt any offensive operations, but nevertheless this did not put them off their guard for since from all other experiences there was no telling whatever what the landelinians would not do next. The destruction of the munition shed behind the batteries , and the camps of the enemy would have it seemed deterred them from-re-establishing a battery in the same place, as there would be no shelter for the enemy infantry supporting the guns, and after a repulse of the counter christian assaults it was evident to them that a large force must be retained in readiness to repell any fu further assault of general Sladerlinias army.

But the assault upon the rear came, with tremendous fury.At first the christian line there was shaken and broken in several places and finally driven back but the christian generals had plenty of artillery and troops on hand, and the flank attack was well nigh annihilated before the survivors of the enemy was repulsed.

Though the battle was raging elsewhere with a fury and violence which the writer cannot even describe for a few hours nevertheless life was more tolerable in the region of general Sladerlinia's headquarters, for although through the action in the neighborhood shot and shell f still frequently hit the house, and batteries multiplied in the neighborhood and the thunder of cannons became redoubled, and the fires in St Ethelreda became worse with the recent described final efforts to stop its progress going on, none of the artillery retained so deadly a fire as that from the two batteries which had been captured.. The girlscouts too their fair c share in all the heavy fatigue work to show ea example to the soldiers, and in the pic et duty in one of the christian positions, but they enjoyed their slight slight intervals of repose which they were forced to spent with Mrs Masons family.""""""

Her husband and though a Foriegner and an Scotch Irishman was a general in charge of general Sladerlinia's right wing, and was also high in the Abbieannian Civil service, and a member of the Abbieannian Gemini. He was a fit husband for his loving and kindly wife, and as general Rightronia Mason was of a hopeful and cheerful disposition the girlscout leaders found themselves members of a charming family circle of Scotch Irish Catholics. Often and often they wished that little Jack and Jean could recover and but jointhem, and though often often they had recieved letters from them the letters told the same same old story, not well enough to rejoin yet.

Rather it was written in one of the letters Jack Jean was all right now, even perfectly all right, but the charitable little girl wouldn't leave Jack behind and not untill he was all right e would they start out together.""

During the time when the assault of the enemy was somewhat slack but when the firing on both sides was more severe than ordinary and the noise sounded as if the end of the world was coming, one of the orderlies came up from the front to report to general Sladerlinia.

"General Sladerlinia isn't here just now"said Gertrude."I'm in command though for the present.What i s the trouble sir.?"

"I am afraid Miss Aronburg they are going to or are mining somewhere near here."

Gertrude rose white as a sheet.

"Mining "?she cried.

"Where?"demanded Radcliffe, while Mrs Mason was horrified.

"Why Miss Aronburg, lying on the ground we believe we can hear the sound of b lows and digging."

Gertrude glanced at h r companions.

"That is terrible"said Jennie Turmer."I heard this afternoon the enemy were driving two huge mines into some sections of the lines of battle of our own side but I did not believe they would be driving mines tward this location and tward the generals headquarters, now we are to have our turn of being blown up oh.Well we blew in the last they tried at Jennie vivian, that was why there was such an explosion there, and we must do it again here I presume but it is so much more hard wor .Listen to the firing,.Isn't it terrible. We will frustrate them.We know how girls come on."

The five girlscouts and Radcliffe were outside in a second.

"Now gentlemen"she said to some of her friends who stood near her.L "Let us see who has the best ears.Excuse us Mrs Mason, we shall not be long away. so do not be worried.They have tried to blow us up, but it always happened to be the reverse."

They notified general Sladerlinia by telegraph as they knew where he had gone.Gertrude too found all the men on guard all lying down listening as far as the noise of battle further off would allow them to hear.They had their ears on the ground.Gertrude also listened, and she and all the otherw could hear the sound, it was very faint because of the noise of battle, a faint as the muffled sound of a drum, sometimes beating ategular at regular intervals intervals of a second or two, sometimes ceasing for a short minute or two.

"I don't doubt at all that they are mining close or under general Sladerlinia's headquarters."one of the officers said.

"The question is"answered Gertrude glancing at Jennie Turmer"From which way are they coming."

"That cannot be hard."smiled Jennie murmer."We can plan to frustrate them. and suddenly too..."""!!!...,

"How."Demanded Angeline picheo.

"Yes e tell us"said the rest in a chorus."you are the head in brains Jen."

"Well, at any rate"Jennie murmer said to the men but loud enough so her friends friends could hear her."We must begin at once to sinv a shaft.It won't take long.If we get down a slight bit, we cannot judge as to the direction we must drive two or three listening galleries in didr different directio directions.Bjt but before we begin we must let Colonel Andrews of the Royal Abbieannian Engineers now and take his adtitte advice;;;;for he is incommand of all mining operations....."""

In ten minutes Colonel Andrews was on the ground.....

"Those Glandelinian devils it seems are mining in earnest"he said"This is the fifteenth we have discovered to day, and none of them were unsuccessful ,and how many more there may be Our Blessed Lord alone could reveal to us. Whether we can fool them or not I do not say but we can start right here and while at work as Our Blessed Mothers Intercession and help"he said to One one of the officers..... "Your engineers have got all sorts of tools I believe... say about eight feet square, then as many men as necessary can work at once. I will be here the first thing as soon as possible and then we can sa search round and see which i is the likeliest spot for the men to be working from.Will you as your men who have heard the sound to listen closely all the time in order to detect if possible a stir of men coming orgoing from any given point..!!"

Pic s and shovels were brought out, the men told i off into working parties of fifty each to relieve each other every hour, and the work,,, began.. Well sin ing is hard toil in any climate, whether it is summer or winter, in the trp tropics or in the Artic, but with a October thermometer ma ing a hundred and twenty at night and day because of the Forest fires, when it should now be fifty at the lowest it is terrible, and each s t of wor ers as they came up bathed in per spiration, threw themselves on the ground utterly exhausted.

"This is not work."one of them complained."This is a Turkish Bath."

"We are the lost souls working for nothing."one of them answered with a grin,

"What is this.July or October."said another.

For fear that the discovery of where the enemy were going to lay the mine would not be successful as it had failed to be elsewhere, everybody were commanded to clear out of the building, and all troops to move from the danger zone, for even if it was discovered the toilers intended to blow the mine to frustrate the enemy. Toward evening with the fury of the battle slightly stopping it was decided that the enemy miners were probably working, from a ruined country house,, near their former two batteries which they had lost, and a gallery was begun from the bottom of the shaft. This may have been pushed on night and day for three days, the christian workers now being certain from the rapidly increasing sound of the Glandelinian toilers that this was the line by which the enemy was approaching.

To dig deep enough to frustrate them seemed impossible on time, for it was believed the gallery must have been driven nearly fifty yards in one day that many barrels of ~~powd~~ of ~~ex~~ explosives were going to be stored there, and an effort was made to beat the enemy to it, by having thousands of men ta e up the wor at many relief shifts so as to be no stopping, and through the intercession of the Blessed Mother no doubt, a work which too the enemy on the other side three day and nights to accomplish was being done in less than five hours by the christian workers. Then the christians waited for the approach of the Glandelinian's Gallery. The Glandelinians meantime had erected batteries whose cross fire this evening swept the ground outside the positions positions so that a sortie it was believed could not be carried out with any hope of success, but christian batteries replied from an unseen position and blew these Glandelinian batteries into the air in a very short time and committed incalculable destruction among the enemy positions driving the enemy even out from his camps which also reached was reached by the terrific curtain of high explosive shell fire...

It was therefore possible for any christian force to be able to attempt any sort of counter or general assault had they wished to do so, and a long party was prepared to move out to drive off any strong guard force that might have been placed and to enter the enemy's gallery and catch them at their work. A sentry too was continually placed in the gallery and each minute the sound of the pick and crowbar became louder and louder.

At exactly five o-clock that afternoon the engineers judged that there could not be more or less than a few yards of earth and gravel between them. The train was laid low, and a cautious watchcontinued for some time untill just at the moment when it was believed that an opening would be made ,the train was fired.. The hearth heaved as if there was a tremendous earthqua e, and a great eruption occured sending clouds of debris nearly two thousand feetbhigh, and for over a mile showers of stones fell on the surrounding districts. The enemys gallery was blown in, and the men work ing destroyed and a loud cheer came from the christian troops at the defeat of another attempt upon them..

The early evening b egan very badly for the whole of general Sladerlinia's army. The enemy hurled a dreadful attack upon all parts at one time at about five thirty, and concentrated his artillery in a dreadful storm of thunder ing fire that shook the air like a convulsion. The troops troops continued to hold their position but their losses was something beyond believing. General Bandico Ying, one of the Civil Commissioners named by Emperor Vivian to such a position was shot drea dead while trying to restore his bro en front and ten of his staff were killed. General Henry Lawrence Stanck one of the Relatives of Marie ~~Stac~~ Stanck was shot from his horse and died a few minutes afterwards. The Reverend Father James was mortally wounded in a deed or errand of mercy, as were lieutenant generals Lewis Turners, Henry Sherpard and Archer Rickson. Never before in his career as a general did general Sladerlinia suffer from such assaults. They came at him i like insane storms from an insane world / The Eighteenth Division of Concentinians observed a column of Hobbonites believed to be under general Heidi Horner was to be moving forward in a unusual singularly formed column miles long, and these yelling so fiercely as if the air was rent by the scream of a tornado made a most furious as a assault upon the Eighteenth Division. The storm was inconcievably violent and wild, and the Glandelinians tore through and began to carry the position. Every soldier even the ill and wounded too posts wherever they could fire on the foe and kept up a n unceasing wither ing fire, annihilating a portion of the line of assault. The Glandelinians spurred on by their officers and the waving of their National flags pressed on through the hurricane of fire. The din was prodigious---the "Devil yells of the enemy, the tremendous artillery fire on both sides seeming to tear the landscape away with their tornado of bursting shells, the incessant roar of exploding gang gang shells, and the terrible noise of rifl es along the whole christian line. The enemy seemed mad with their dare devil courage but they couldn't press on any further. General Mason threw in his own divisions and his fire of rifles and cannon tore the enemy away from his front. Blood literally flew into the air from mangled bodies during explosions it literally seemed to rain blood,, ent intestines, fragments of bodies, bones dirt rocks and debris of every description.

The Glandelinians along Masons line was swept away before the christian fire. Along general Herdrules front large waves of Glandelinians advanced in one most d terrible desperate and determined assault after the other. Each time however the withering fire of so many christian troops along a five mile front opened upon them, and also cannons from the line of ~~pettien~~ positions from the branches of trees, from the roof of general Sladerlinias head quarters, and the storm of grape from the nearest short range batteries caused them such frightful losses in wholesale numbers, that they wavered and fell to the rear. Each fresh effort was led by brave officers who led on the assailants shrieking;

"Death to the Christian dogs. Carry the position."

But they died, even though their spirits animated their followers. Only once or twice did the assailants get near the christian line of intrenchments, and then but to fall back rapidly after suffering heavy loss, only to recieve reinforcements and go at it again with redoubled fury. So fierce was the "Storm" from the enemy that every half hour the position of general Sladerlinias army grew more unendurable. The positions were being torn up, the building was crumbling away under the heavy and continued she ll fire, and as one position after another became absolutely untenable, the refugees were becoming more and more crowded in the small number of houses which still a offered some sort of shelter. Even dea h everywhere fearful as its ravages were did not become sufficient to counteract the close closeness of the packing. Crowded in gloomy rooms living on the most meager food---for all the comforts such as tea, sugar, wine, spirits, etc etc were exhausted, and even the bread was made of flour, ground each for him or herself between rough stones-without proper medicines, attendance, or even bedding; tormented by a plague of flies, made ill by disgusting smells, condemned to inaction and confinement, the women and children had died off rapidly and the men refugees although better off with red regard to light and air, sickened fast. The glare, fierce glare from the burning city of St Ethelreda on thisthorrible night of October the Fifth added to the scene, the flashes of explosions, the glare of so many rocket bombs in the air, the lightning like flashes of shell and cannon and all other horrors of the battle was unnerving to say the least.

Half the christian officers of the whole of Sladerlinias army were laid up with ser severe, mortaly or any sort of wounds imaginable, and all were lowered in health and strength. It was one day of the wildest and fiercest battl battle ever raged between General Vivians whole army and that of the enemy, though it was Tamerline's first battle in his career. At near six thirty that frightful evening, as Gertrude and her followers had just returned from a sort of short distanced scouting, a terrific and great explosion was heard, the loudest ever heard before, the sky was full of flashing fire and one of those posted on the roof, ran down shouting;

"To arms. The Glandelinians have fired a huge mine under Howson Lotts Farm."

" Some one else shouted.

"The Glandelinians are coming. They have broken the line."

The reserves were sent forth, every man not engaged in the battle yet rushed to the spot. The mine had carried away a portion of the christian position, and the enemy with yells of triumph rushed forward driving whole brigades of demolished christian troops before them. The confusion was awful. The christian troops in the reserve sprang forward to the rescue, and then ensued a furious melee. Each man fought for himself, hand to hand in the long gap, Hobbonite and Angelinian struggled fiercely in deadly combat, the sharp report of the revolver, the thud of countless clubbed guns, the ring of bayonet bayonet upon bayonet, the clash of sword against steel, the cheer of the christian troops and the yell of the Glandelinians mingled in wild confusion. The enemy fought with a bravery that none couldcompare, and they pressed on successfully, the christians were being forced back, and the Glandelinians pressed on with triumph. It seemed their blood was up, and they fiercely followed their advantage. Part of the Glandelinian engineers ever on the alert admid the dreadful carnage joined the throngs with some barrels of T.N.T and the desperate Nationals were pushed back sufficiently far to enable some of the houthouses of the generals Headquarters from hich which the enemy had been greatly annoyed by the christian sharpshooters to be blown up. This success cheered the Glandelinians and spured them on to greater efforts, and the enemy too were driving two new mines. The garrison of general Sladerlinia's headquarters had now less cover than before, for the building had been reduced to a mere shell by the enemys fire and all the women and children had a few hours before been removed to other quarters and just in time before this "Frightful storm" came on. The division of general Herdrules right was shattered by the enemy's assault. It was difficult to form an idea of the storm of shot shell and high explosives which swept the space inclosed within the very locality of general Sladerlinias headquarters, but some notion may be obtained from the fact that an officer had the curiosity to count the number of shells that hit the building a glancing blow, or exploded in the yards in the first three hours of that terrible evening and found that they amounted to the almost incredible number of five hundred and eighty.. Going through a hell as this, all that terrible l ve long day, with the enemy coming against Sladerlinias army in wave after wave in endless succession, Gertrude Angeline e rejoiced when she and her followers recieved orders from Angeline Jennings to move further to the rear, with the news that the Glandelinians along their point of observation was advancing successfully. The Glandelinians here were Zimmermannians and led by general Warrener Vorger. About 100,000 of General Cranlters christian troops had formed up in St Andrews Orchard firing on tye the enemy who were now dashing over the position in a surge of men three deep and rushed in a charge for general Sladerlinia's house. The first line fell into a confused mass of dead and wounded, and the second was shattered, but the th ird though galled came on opening fire as they ran. The scene of massacre was frightful, but the enemy came on furiously.

General Sladerlinia's headquarters had through the whole day the post from which the christians had most annoyed the enemy, one of the men of the National Guard in particular having slew a great many of the Glandelinian officers and artillery men of the nearest batteries.. It was tward this point that the enemy mines had been driven in vain, and it was determined by the enemy to destroy or capture this position at all hazards. The sudden rush of the survivors of that surge took the christians by surprise.

Scarce a shot was fired untill they had traversed half the distance, and then a fierce storm of musketry opened from all the line of positions held by his troops. Still despite the big numbers of their t men going down the enemy I pushed on at full speed without pausing to return a single shot. With a cheer they burst in an awful swarm over the first line of the positio n, and while half the column of Glandelinians entered it and engaged in a furious hand to hand combat with the Nationals along a sixmile front, the others in accordance with orders, pressed forward to the right against the positions there, so as to prevent other divisions of christian troops from advancing to the assistance of the others thus being so hard pressed.

The " Warrener" Glandelinians belonged to the divisions of troops who advanced and were soon also engaged in a hand to hand fight with the christians. Scattering through the Orchard Orchard under a scathing fire they drove the Nationals there before them. Thousands of the Warreners were fighting fighting the fiercest, and a dozen of them burst into the headquarters occupied by the girlscout l eaders. before the latter could find time to escape.

A Glandelinian colonel by the name of Johnson entered first, followed by his sons Ned, and Richard being the last of the party of the dozen Warreners. Gertrude was nearest the assailants and she raised up a chair and gave the colonel a heavy heavy blow. The Glandelinian colonel lay on the floor his skull beaten in with a blow from the heavy part of the chair. The Glandelinian Richard was in time to see the terrible chair descend again upon Neds head. Ned guarded it with his rifle but the guard was beaten down and Ned stretched senseless on the ground. Radcliffe brought down two others with shots from his pistol but the Glandelinian Richard raised his rifle to strike and laid him senseless on the floor. Before the Glandelinian could raise his rifle to aim it at Jennie murmur, she drove her little sabre through his chest and the Glandelinian fell prostrate his body rolling down some steps i t into the yard. All but one Glandelinian remained, not after all being any match for the girlscout leaders, and as the last fell this survivor tried to escape. Fortunately Angeline Riches had her pistol still loaded and she fired, and the soldier rolled down the entrance steps after the other. The battle was raging fiercely outside but no more Glandelinians came in, or thought it time to do so. Throwing aside her small rifle Gertrude turned to raise Radcliffe. Radcliffe lay as if dead. A shell hit the top of the house tore it away, and brought down a rain of debris upon them. another entered the doorway and exploded in the room doing them no harm however but causing the floor to be torn up and the plastering on the ceiling and walls to come down on and all about them. Gertrude leaped to her feet, and glanced out and saw that the christian troops (for the time being) in full retreat.. she shouted but her voice was lost in the sputtering of rifle fire, and the rattleing thunder of exploding shells, and the sharper noise,, of shrapnell. Whi le the others were assigned to stand guard at the windows and fire on any more who tried to get in, Gertrude ran to Radcliffe and tried to lift him, and had got her on his her shoulders when there was a tremendous explosion that made such a concussion as to raze all the windows in the house, and to bring her down with Radcliffe on top of her. General Greatheart's headquarters had been blown up/

Following close upon the sound came the yells of the enemy who were fleeing or flocking up to persue the christians back to the second line of defenses.. Escape was now hopeless. Gertrude lowered tetth Radcliffe to the ground hastily dragging the bodies of the Glandelinians outside the door and then lifting Radcliffe bore hi her down the steps into the cellar into which two of the enemy had fallen, followed by her companions. She carried Radcliffe well into the cellar, removed the wooden steps and then with great difficulty, also dragged the bodies of the Colonel and the other soldiers further in, so that any one gla nceing down into the hole from the outside would therefore not be able to see anything unusual.

Then as she lay down faint from her exertions, she could hear above and suddenly the thread of a great number of men followed by a tremendous rifle fire from the house.....

Once or w twice she thought she heard some one coming to the door of the outs outhouse, but if so no one entered, though her companions were ready for him if he did and proved to be a foe. Beyond rubbing Radcliffes hands, while Angeline Riches put cold stones to hi his forehead, Gertrude and and she could do nothing, but Radcliffe breathed, and gertrude felt strong ho hopesthatbher sister in disguise was only stunned. In a few minutes,, she showed signs of reviving and in a quarter of an hour was able to hear from Gertrude and the rest an account of what had happened, and where they ere were.....2.2.2.222

"We are in a horrible fix Gertrude this time, we're in possession of the enemy if not yet captured, and no mistake.. my head aches so I cannotbhardly think let us be quiet for a bit, and we will all try to plan what is best to be done. There is nohurry to decide. No one may come down to this place but we may as well, all of us creep behind this huge pile of wood and sta straw and then we shall be safe. If they do come in and we're hard put to it we got good reliable pistols and plenty of ammunition."

Gertrude and the others assent d and for half an hour they lay quiet Radcliffes regular breathing soon telling her that her disguised sister had dro dropped off to s leep(de peep) Then maki ng a sign to the others G ertrude cr crept out again qui tly from her hiding place.

"It's a grand idea" said Angeline Jennings when she told her what she intended doing. "Magnificent. It's nasty, horribly nasty, but after so many months of what we have gone through during this war one can see and do things which it would have made one also am almost die of illness to imagine of before we en tered the regiments, and as our lives dependupon it we must not stand upon niceties. I wish though we had something to color our skins though it would have come natural then I suppose."

"Do you agree" persisted Gertrude..

"Yes."

So saying Gertrude took out her pocket knife,, opened it, and went to the body of one of the Glandelinians. This soldier had long matted hair. Gertrude took the long matted hair into her hand with an exclamanation of great disgust but nevertheless saw at once that her idea was a feasible one. The hair was matted together in an strange inextricable mass and could be trusted to hang together. She accordingly set to wor to cut it off as close to the head as it was possible. but although her blade w s was a sharp one it was a long and unpleasant tas . and nothing but the ~~case of~~ the necessity of the case alone could hav e nerved her to go through with it. It was finished at last and she examined the hair with complacency.

"That's a magnificent wig" said Angeline Riches.

"Yes, I defy the best bar ber in the world to form such a natural one." exclaimed Angeline Jennings.

"Now for that small tiger rug." said Gertrude.

This was a long task, in the finding, as they chanced the danger of being discovered by the foe but at last it was found, and Gertrude with the help of her companions set to clean as well as well as they could the inside, of the hide... Then she dragged into a corner and covered up the carcasses of the dead men having first stripped the clothes off them and secured their pistols and ammunition belts, scattered a little straw over the bearskin and then her tas being finished, she and her followers crept behind the log logs again, lay down and waited hoping it would be still outside,.. It was in vain, the noise of battle increased instead of dimini diminished. It was some hours yet and it was starting to get dark when Radcliffe awoke,, and sat up by her side... Outside the din of the titanic little battle, the steady noise of countless rifles here and there in sputtering roars of fire, and the roar of so many hundreds of cannons, and the bursting of shells was going on as usual with out interruption. now near, now close, and then receding but never ceasing.

"How do you feel now Radcliffe?" Gertrude asked....

"All right Gertrude." I have gu got quite a bab lump on the side of the head where that fool hit me, and I feel a little muddled still, but that is nothing. I can't think of any plan for escaping from this place Gertrude with us being almost in possession of the enemy since he has advanced himself up here, nor of getting hold of a disguise, for even if we could get out of this place and neighborhood we would soon be detected somewhere else and in this region of battle we too might be hit by shells or stray bullets, and once outside it would be useless to beg for shelter or aid.""

"It is all arranged Radcliffe" Jennie murmer slad cheerfully.

"How?"

"Find out from Gertrude."

"What did you do Gert!!!!""""....."

"I have gotbtwo of the best disguises in the world for you and me, the others made disguises for themselves and we have only to dress up in them and trip out of here."

Radcliffe looked at Gertrude as if she thought she had gone out of her mind.

"you don't believe me! Just you wait, then just three minutes, till I have dressed p and then I'll call you" and without waiting for an answer Gertrude went out. She speedily stripped to the waist, put on the Glandelinian shirt and coat with a grimace of disgust, tied up her hair as tightly as she could, put the wig on her head, shook the long knotted hair over her face and shoulders-behind it hung to the waist---too the officer staff in her hand and called quietly to Radcliffe and her friends to come out. They did so and remained petrified with astonishment .

"Good he avens Gert rude" Radcliffe exclaimed at last. "Is that you?"

"It is me sure enough" Gertrude said, removing the wig. "Here is a wig in which the sharpest eyes of a disguise reading glandelinian could not detect me."

"But where in th e world did you?" began Radcliffe, still lost in surprise.

"My dear Radcliffe, I have borrowed it from a dead rebel soldier. It was not at all a nice fancy job" she went on in answer to Radcliffes more astonished look." ut it's over now, and we need not say any more about it. The hair and rags I w put on are disgustedly filthy, there is no doubt about that. Their late owner never used a comb, never cleaned his hair or scrubbed his head nor washed his hands nor face nor never I supposed ever had a bath in his life, and was otherwise beastly in his habits, still Radcliffe dear that cannot be helped, and if you desire when we once get out of the battle zone if we can get out, we can put them in hot water for twenty four hours or manufacture a sort of oven and ba e them to ge t rid of their strange little "Inhabitants" Our lives are at stake Radcliffe and we must not mind trifles. We got to do anything now adays even drone in filth if possible when it is compelled to do so.""

"Right indeed" radcliffe said making her or making a great effort to overcome his first sensation of disgust. "As you say it is a trifle. You have hit upon a good idea, Gertrude, Superb, and I believe you have saved our lives from what seemed a hopeless scrape. Put what is the disguise for me.?"

"This" Gertrude said lifting the bear skin. "You can get into this, and if we go by to night, so that you can go upright, for you could never t ravel far on all foure, we were'nt creatured that way, we five should pass very well, as you could lie curled up by my side in the daytime and no one will then question us. I don't believe any of the others could get into the s/in, Radcliffe or I'd certainly offer it to one of them, but it'll be awfully hot in it."

"We don't blind mind going as a few Vagabonds a bit" Angeline Riches.....said. "Fortunately last summers sun has done his best to us, and the color of our skins can be hidden by a good coat of iodine or dirt is better, which will appear as natural as possible. N ow let us set about it at on ce."

"It only took a quarter of an hour for it was not necessary to sew up the bears "suit" it having once been used by the owner as a sort of coat and was fastened by buttons. Never'heless the operation had been completed so perfectly, that once they were dressed they had no fear of being interrupted, and it was hoped for that the battle would cease by night fall.

"Now Radcliffe before we go I will set fire to the straw. I don't suppose suppose any Glandelinians will go downand discover anything, but it is as well to prevent it if possible. We will throw that big piece of matting over the opening in the entrance, so the glare of the flames won't show untill we get far away."

She ran down the ladder, lit a match set the straw afire and then ran up again as fast as it was possible. The mat was dragged across the opening and th en they all went boldly out into the yard, Radcliffe trotting on all fours with Gertrude. The coming of night was to prove a dark one except for the glare from burning St Ethelreda, and although there were many Glandelinians in the yard no one noticed the child scouts, who turning out through a gateway, took a road tward the still flamingchristian positions.

They had traveled on e hundred yards or so, after starting and now they entered a locality teeming with tro troops quartered there. In order to be at h hand to the batteries, to resist or to repell assaults and counter assaults or to join in assaults. The girls f were for a time in a pickle. For they didn't know what troops these may be, of their side or of the enemy's.. Fortunately the night was very dark, and they were able to pass by many of these unseen. Their uniforms however didn't seem as dark as christian uniforms were, and therefore they were extra cautious and over and over again they were challenged and answered the words they understood must be recieved by Glandelinians or sentinels, and therefore they were not molested or questioned.....

"Radcliffe guessed from the fact of their having been met with so close to the position, that they might have been well known by the Glandelinians had they been Manlays men instead of Tamerlines, and this therefore proved the case of why they had been so easily able to pass through the Glandelinian troops without hinderance... Several of the men addressed the girls, and one of them pointedto the "bear", but Gertrude waved her arm tossed her head an grily, and strode on, and as "vagabonds frequently are abdorbed in thought of where they're going to get their next meal, and unwilling to converse for nothing, the questioners impudently fell back, but swore at them as they did so, telling them they were better off to be in the army as scouts or something of the sort o instead of being lazy good for nothing tramps.

Beyond this the territory seemed deserted.. The most populous advanced victorious Glandelinian divisions lay far away and few of the Glandelinians soldiers or officers, save those on duty at night, and as pickets and sentries had to be out after nightfall..

The instant they were in a quiet quarter Radcliffe rose to his feet.

"My goodness"Radcliffe whispered to Gertrude, "Ha' being on all fours so long is about to disable ones back Gertrude." """

They now turned sharply to the left, presently crossed a wide field leading from the road and continued on through quiet lanes untill they came to the stream. The stream was the guide which they wanted, which they hoped would lead them tward general Vivians part of the lines, and they followed it along. going the same route which general Mic-Cantler afterwards followed in his advance, untill they came to a small bridge across the canal.. Once over they were they felt sure within chrlstian territory and fairly safe. They therefore went on at a most rapid speed untill well in the country and t cut down by the roadside for a consultation, as to their best course of proceedig proceeding. All of them were of the same opinion that the perils which would lie in their way of reaching general Vivians army closest to St Ethelreda would be very great, especially if the battle still raged, and to travel by day because of the battle would be sucide. Too this road was occupied by great numbers of troops, of which side they couldn't tell unless they were seen, and they may be Glandelinians who were determined to bar the way to general Vivians against general James Cannon and Mic-Cantler. They no doubt had advanced without question because it was natural that Glandelinian troops should be going their way from St Ethelreda to Vantura but it would not be at all natural that ragged girls should at this time be going in the opposite direction, and Tamerlines Glandelinians could be very suspicious too.

Moreover and this weighed very strongly, with them, especially Gertrude ---they were well aware that general Mic-Cantler will or was already advancing with a force fully worthy of the deed before him, general Tamerline had heard that Mic-Vantler was or had mustered the biggest christian army on all record so far, and they thought should he ever succeed in getting tward St Ethelreda, or form deploy deploying movements Tamerline would be trapped, and would not be able to retreat wid wisel hampered as he would be with so many millions of his wounded. In that case Tamerline would have to continue to hold St Ethelreda untill a fresh relieving force arived or retreat and give it up altogether and lose his career as a fighting man. Animated by these considerations and fea feeling sure that Tamerline will soon rue the day he dared to go the "rounds"with general Vivian, Gertrude and her firends friends determined to push on for St Ethelreda sections where they hoped they may arive on time to see the end of the battle, at o whose commencement they had been presen at present...

So suspicions would be so easily excited however they believed by their passage through that line of country which would be they felt sure be found denuded of enemy troops except of cour e enemy scout patri patrols, for all the Glandelinian regiments and divisons of troops were in the action now or had marched off either tward St Ethelreda or to the left of the line of battle and the country was in the hands of the christians would would not only not mistake a wandering warfarer as a foe but give him shelter and food....2.2.2

It certainly was unusual for "vagabonds "to be accompanied by a "Little bear" but it did not seem man impossible. Glandelinians might not be suspicious but the christian troops might be. of Course Gertrude protested protested that it was absolus absolutely possible that they should continue on during the whole night, for that as long as they may still be in one territory of the enemy they would be at once detected in the day.

"I vote that we continue all to night girls, we'll sure be able to reach our friends by then. If we cannot do it we can turn in and hide during the day. Then in the evening when it gets quite dark we can reach probably the outer limits of the christian line. Then one of us can begin to shout, and bring soldiers to our aid. If we are tooclose to the foe lines we will go on. Once within the christian lines we can readily change to our uniforms. I t.o. If we could only have something extra for you had, as it is awful for you to have to go far in the bear outfit, and no doubt I've not the slightest doubt that your feet is very uncomfortable."

This plan was agreed upon, and they moved across the country for the Vantura Road, Radcliffe slipping out of his bear disguise, and simply wearing it wrapped loss loosely round him. All girl and boy scouts had been very accustomed to such incessant adventures that these would have no difficulty in continuing on all night.. As they saw a party of soldiers coming on horses and carrying torches they retired into a group of trees, and threw themselves down, Radcliffe being cautious enough to get into the bear custom and butt on it up in case of surprise..... It was of course very hot but at least the flies couldn't bother him, and as it was quite loose for him it was not quite so war m as it would have been had it fitted more tightly. It was past ten that night before they continued o on, and they too having had not, ing to worth smile in food during the terrible day before they were extremely hungry. Yet now so many soldiers were about that they didn't dare expose themselves, and no doubt if they were beingtrailed the enemy would be forming a ring round the country about. Some no doubt when searching at night would bear torches and use bloodhounds. Yet so far there were no enemies ins light for the present.

"I'm sure hungry"Angeline Idcnes said.

"I have with me some little parched grain and some baked cakes" said Jennie Garner" at it is not enough to go round..."

"And I don't" feel quite so well"Said Angeline Jennings. "It mus t be either the heat or fever produced by the heat. I had some cooling draughts early this this evening made of rice water and acidu acid fruit. But it didn't do me any good."

They however ate of it as far as it would go round, and then they continued their journey, pausing in a short time for Radcliffe to get out of his custom/. Gertrude and her followers thought it not necessary about coloring their faces, for during the hot summer before their faces and arms had been burned so brown that they had no fear that a side glance or so at them at night, even in the torchlight, or in the glare of distant forest fires would detect that she and her followers were not glandelinians..

"Now Radcliffe I promished to stream by the stream for a few hours or so, if you so desired, to souse that head of hair in the water or to boil it in the water; what do you say!"

"No "Radcliffe said" It is terribly filthy, but we will waste no time. To morrow morning when we halt we will try to manufacture an oven of some sort and roast it. I'll be glad when we are safe to the christian lij es. lines. And believe me I'm awfully sleepy.."

Indeed they had made a very long march that night so far and soon it began to become day and fortunately there was considerably more light this morning with a strong southwr southwesterly wind, out no sun appeared. the sky being gray. Gertrude collected some dry pieces of wood and lit a fire. Then she and Angeline pichee made a hole in the ground, and filled it with glowing embers, and when the embers were just out she cleared them out, removed the wig which was teeming with lice, rolled it up carefully, and put it into the hot oven she had thus prepared and covered the top in with a sod. Then carefully glancing around to be sure that no enemies were in sight, sight, she and the others removed their clothing (old rags nothing else) and em enjoyed a dip in the stream near a bend close to the woods. They noticed for this time of the year that the water was as warm as it would be found in a bathtub hotenough to be un comfortable for the first ermerson and the y wondered why.. After their swim they again smeared themselves over with mud, and sat down in the hot wind to dry. Then they returned to the old filthy rags again which they had to redon with a feeling of disgust. Then Gertrude opened her oven, removed the wig, gave it a good shake, combed it as hard as possible without injuring it, and put it on once more saddling,

"Thank God and His Blessed Mother I feel clean again."

In this whole nights journey, these girlscouts had traveled only about ten miles, and were now closeto St Ethelreda. As they started on again they saw a squadron of Scoodlier cavarly approaching. They were seen therefore there was no need to run for it, to do so would have incurred their fire, and there were too many to cope with in their small number. The Scoodlers moved close up, and contemplated the wild looking boy with his long tangled hair and his eyes peering out through the angle tangle. One of them gave a passing glance at the "little Bear" and then said;

"That is no real bear it is a little girl in a bears skin. Are you going to a show.!"

Gertrude had feared that the discovery might be made and at first didn't find a word to say in answer but one of them said;

"Fool sure they're show children.. Do you believe they're Christian dogs."?

"They sure must be."said the leader.

"Do you call me a dog damn you"said Radcliffe angrilly and rushed forward as if to strike with a long staff he carried, and as the man still insulted him he twirled his staff round his head brought it down with such a force on

soldiers wrist that it nearly dislocated his arm.The other Glandelinians began to shout, as the officer in a rage drew his pistol. before he could fire however his comrades threw themselves upon him crying "Don't shoot a vagabond. It's mighty dangerous for their comrades might be near here and massacre us all.Vagbonds are worse than christian dogs. leave them alone and let's go on."

The furious Scoodlier while cursing and swearing was dragged away by his comrades, and the girlscouts calmly resumed their way, and now congratulated themselves upon having done more of the trip than they had hoped for for now the first hour of traveling in the morning brought them, however much longer than they had expected for Angeline ichoes cut her foot badly again against a piece of glass lying in the road, and was so lame that they'd have never reached the christian lines in a month had they not been already up to it.

They now saw in the short distance the flag of general Vivians headquarter building flying from the watch tower.They had made a long detour and came in at the main rear of general Vivians position.On this side the country was perfectly open, not an enemy in sight but the region as they saw was teeming with christian patrols. They new nothing of general Vivians part of the battle of Yesterday, but that early afternoon the enemy had sent a force of six hundred thousand men to intercept a heavy train of troops coming and which had been on its way to reinforce general vivian, it being a portion of Blain Light Lingers Corps. Brigadier general Bel Benligan one of the most gallent and promising officers of the christian army had been sent out with a force of equal size of which only one fourth were the brave Calverinians. He met them on Heidi's road and routed the enemy with a loss of four hundred thousand, capturing all their guns, one hundred and thirteen of the five hundred guns being centemeter sheild cannons. A most curious instance here occured in the manner in which the Glandelinians will fight with a bravery and fury which is inconclevable when driven to bay or cornered. The army of six hundred thousand men however also had made such a desperate fight that they had even caused the christian loss to be about fifty thousand in dead and one hundred thousand in wounded in the frightful contest.After the dreadful fray was believed to have been over it was found that a party of some twenty thousand of the Scoodlier rebels had been in position in a number of farm houses once belonging to a farmer whose name was George Allenberger, a foriegner by birth but a loyal man to Abbieannia's cause, and who was now in the army, while his wife was a Red Cross nurse. and his three children scouts in the army of general Concentinian Aronburg. General Currens infantry about One hundred thousand strong were sent to drive the enemy out but its commanding officer and fifty thousand of its men were slain by the desperate handful of Glandelinian soldiers, many of whom were found to have rapid fire machine guns.

The Sixty First Was Watsons division was then ordered up two hundred thousand strong, supported by long range centemeter guns, but their assault was repulsed with a loss of one hundred and fifty thousand slain, sixteen generals dead and many wounded. While the battle raged fiercely elsewhere, it was not untill nightfall after many repeated fierce attempts before the enemy in the houses were finally overpowered and a number of other generals dangerously woundedand many more had fallen. Altogether the victory over this little band cost the christians the loss of six hundred thousand in dead and wounded, far greater loss than which had been incurred in defeating six hundred thousand Glandelinians in the open.The result of this fearful and bloody engagement was that the road in the rear of the christian position was perfectly open, and Gertrude and her friends experienced no hinderance whatever in approaching the christian lines this morning...

Jennie had after crossing the road in the early morning left the bear cub behind her, and adopted the simple clothing ofa vagabond. Indeed their hearts leaped within on beholding as they they continued on a large large force of Concentinian cavarly trotting along the road two miles from the camp.

"It is the Gemini"Gertrude said, recognizing the leader Gingigore with him, and a boyscout who appeared to be Adeledefob."I believe I recognize the leading officer girls.Retain your disguises a minute longer, we shall have some fun."

Gertrude accordingly stood in the middle of the road and shouted her strange girlscout cry"Who-o-o-cha "at the top of her voice..

"Get out of the way you little numbskull"Gingigore himself said, as he drew up his horse on seeing the wild figure covered withshaggy hair to almost the feet, twirling her formidable staff-de-baff.....2.2.22

Gertrude stopped a moment.

"What do you raggamuffins want?"demanded Adele-De-fob himself."Have you been Glandelinian spies escaped from the christian lines.?If so---"He finished by drawing his sabre;

"Not a bit of it more than you are yourself"Gertrude answered x drawing her own . "I'm as good at the sabre as you are my lad."

Adele-de-fob reined his horse in showing his astonishment in his face. "He had drawn his sabre unconsciously, never really intending to use it on her, and seeing her doing the same and meaning as it apprently seemed to really use it if she was attacked, and defiance from such a figure as this, naturally petrified him....2.2.2.2

"Who in the world are you?"?"???"he demanded..

"Angelinia Gertrude Aronburg, this is Radcliffe, Jennie Turner, Jane Melfort, and Angeline Jennings." and Gertrude pulled off her wig.

"By heavens in Heavens" a said all of the officers, and Adelsdefob leaped from his horse exclaimig;

"I am glad to see you.Where are on earth have you come from and rigged

up that way..Some scout who came up here from Vantana had met some scout Patrol who had come down from Gladerlinia's army and he reported thatyou and your followers had gone on into his lines in disguise, and that news had come that you got saftly in...."

"So we did" Gertrude said."And as you see we have got saftly out again.We left there early yesterday evening ."

"And what was the state of things in general Gladerlinia's army then????" General Gingigore asked."How long could he hold out. We feel sure it'll be another six hours before general Vivian can hope to send him heavy reinforcements....."

"Another six hours"Gertrude said..... "That is terrible Gingigore.General Gladerlinia was or is hard pressed when we left."

"Well"Mused Gingigore" Gladerlinia sure is a good fighter.Never before had the enemy ever whipped him in all their assaults."

"That is not the half of it"said Radcliffe himself.

"What's wrong?"demanded the general suspiciously.

"Why"Said Jennie Turner the enemy were driving a terrific mines in all directions which explode like volcanoes in eruption, his losses losses are weakening his army every hour, and the men fit for duty have to be worked to death to try and frustrate the enemys mining details."

"You don't say."said general Gladerlinia startled." My Heavens if Gladerlinia has to give way general Vivian'll be beaten. That'll leave a huge gap in our battle front. Couldn't they hold out for a little over six hours."

"No sir.It don't seem possible that they could hold out for another four or five hours from the time the battle will renew to day; but if it can be done they will do it, but it'll be short of miraculous."

"Do you happen to hear of my Uncle?"demanded Gertrude.

"Sure. Why?"

"We could telegraph him to come with his army ao and help general Vivian."

"The man that brought the news about you said he was all right and hearty, had an enormous army, and his cavarly was doing good work scouring the country around Maximillian. He's too far off to do anything right away. Now will you ride with us and report the news to general Jacob Marcus..He may form a plan to help us out for general Gladerlinia. I believe its the best plans.."

So saying he ordered threesee of the troopers to ride to camp with the news, while five of the soldiers dismounted to give their horses to the girls while they would walk alongside..

Gertrude had thrown down the wig when she removed it from her head or, but before mounting Radcliffe recovered it rolled it upon into a o little bundle,and said;

"It was your first effort in the manufacturing of a wig Gertrude, and as it has brought us saftly through the enemy lines and probably saved our lives I'll retain it as long as I live, as amenento, besides who can foresee it may be useful again yet..."

There was unusual excitement created within the christian lines within eas reach by the arival of Gingigore es Gemini Cavarly with five what they at first thought were ragamuffins arrested with arms in their possession, and the news that they were christian girlscout leaders in disguise ins intensified the excisme excitement and yet the news did not take long to spread..2.2 The cavarly two hundred strong, drew up at their own lines, and then dismounting general Gingigore at once sent an orderly to general Marcus with the news,,,,,, while the five girlscouts were showed into a tent, and enjoyed the luxury of a bath, and a message was sent round to all the various officers of the general, which the quarter master brought sufficient clothes to allow the girlscout leaders to put in their appearance in the garb of little girls, there being no uniforms here for them..... A good hearty morning meal was ready for them by the time they were cleansed up and dressed, and these were enjoyed after a fornight's feeding upon unboiled grain varied only accoug occassional piece of dried up half mouldy bread..... The breakfast, concluded they accompanied General Gingigore to the general'S tent.

Indeed they were most cordially recieved by general Marcus Marcus, and omitting all details because it would be too long a story now to tell, they gave him an account of their having been cut off during a successful assault of the enemy, and having made their way to this portion of general Vivians army in disguise.They they proceeded to describe fully the state of affairs with general Gladerlinia's army, a recital which was at once interesting and important and yet alarming inasmuch as several scouts messengers had got through from general Gladerlinia's to general Vivian,as none of them carried letters--- for these would have insured their death if searched---they had brought simply messages from general Memo requesting for speedy help to general Gladerlinia, and their stories as to the extent of the situation at Gladerlinia's were necessarily vagur and not trustworthy..2.2.2.2

The most satisfactory portion of t Gertrudes statement was though greatly alarming, that although general Gladerlinia was getting short of ammunition, and that all the comforts and many of what are regarded as a almost the necessaries of life, were exhausted, his loss was frightful in men and officers, the enemy wouldn't let up on him, and it was hard to say whether he could maintain his position for six hours longer or not."

"But why?"asked the general."Gladerlinia is a terror for the enemy, a great fighter, and no Glandelinian general has even been able to stand up to him before even in an unfair fight."

"The reason is this"said Gertrude.The great fear is that some or manyess many essential portions of the defensive psitions may be destroyed by mines."

"B at hasn't he been able to resist infantry arrays.?"

"Against open assaults he is safe"said Kinetal Jennie Turner"and if that was all he would need no help from any one and could hold his own.General Oz is the main commander of the foe concentrating against him and is doing what is an unheard of thing before."

"What is that?"

"The enemy is now devoting th mselves so much to driving terrible mines that however great the care and vigilance of the troops and guards, and others, they are not always able to detect them, or even if they do so to run counter mines owing to the exposure of so many of the troops, and one mine has blown to their deaths two whole Companies."

General Marcus pondered a moment rubbing his b eard thoughtfully, and then said;

"Where is general Gladerlinia situated.?"

"Near Vantura Junction."

The general consulted a map, help held a private intercourse with his generals for a few minutes, and then coming back to them said;

"Much obliged f or you your description girls, it throws for me a great light upon the state of affairs, and is very valuable.I will atonce telegraph a code report of it to general Vivian, and general Plain night Linger.The dangerous situation that will turn up if gladerlinia is forced to give way, and the pressing need of aid, will no doubt impress general Plain Nightlinger with the urgent necessity to place general Ben Marcus my brother in a position to move against the enemy and enable general Memo to advance at the earliest possible moment. He of course will also if you wished it communicate to general Concentinian Peter Aronburg the news of your safe arival here, and request him to advance to our aid if possible. Iwill also sent a note of warning to general Vivians brother of the danger here.You girlscout heriones and your boy companion here(indicating Radcliffe) have gone through a great deal since you were in this battle, while we have always been successfully holding our own, and my other brother Jake Marcus destroyed the enemy storming him yesterday.However the tide has turned now.We ourselves have recieved huge reinforcements, and a strong munition strain from general Gannon, and I m intending to smash through my enemy's front to day in accordance with general Vivians plans.I can spare my two brothers, and will send them immediately with all their available force to help gladerlinia at the start, and if possible will come myself. In the meantime you will at any rate for a few hours if not days need rest.I will leave you for at least a day with yourfriends of the Gemini, and you can send for your survivors of your child scout regiment unless you wish to go to them.I hope that you will with your companions here dine with me sometime to day."

A little later Gertrude and her followers met out in the Company Street general Donald Aurand whose xhivalrous bravery placed him on a par with emperor Vivian, who was called the "Thunder bolt 2" of the christian armies.He was short of staff officers, and did not wish to deplete the fighting powers of his corps by drawing officers from them, and the girlscout though superior to any one in their own rank at the say of the Princesses, nevertheless volunteered to attatch themselves to his personal staff that day till the proper ones could arive who should bei be in the place of those fallen..However for a time ther e was no occassion for their services and they put themselves at liberty to do as they could otherwise untill that days battle op erations began in earnest..The next few hours were accordingly spent in conversation.

There were a large number of boyscouts in camp here "Called the "Lone Forresters"belonging to no commander in person and being of an Independent Regiment, and every boyscout in that egiment was anxious to hear the tale of the outcome of that portion of the battle at gladerlinia's, and of the personal experiences of the girlscout leaders in entering and leaving the endangered christian division.They therefore had to get one after th other on a tall stump with the two hundred boys around them and told all they found wise to relate in detail.They were the heroines of the day, and all these elder boyscouts were much pleased at the simplicity at which which Gertrude and her companions told their adventures and at the entire absense of any consciousness that they had done anything more than any one else.In fact they rather regarded the whole business as two or five scho lgirls much regard some adventure in which they has b had been engaged, Gertrude in parfi particular, regarding all their adventures, with the exception of all the horrors and thrills of thefrightful battle in the light of an "immense lark."

In the meantime during the night general Marcus's troops had been toiling half the night in the positions and the batteries under the direct direction of the engineer officers, and as daylight had started to come on with more brightness this morning than had been for months, every heart beat high with satisfaction, that after standing for four days on the defensive while other portions of the christian line had made grand and far lour assaults, and repelling continual assaults of enormously superior numbers, at last their turn had arived, and that now the day was at hand when the long defered vengeance was to fall upon the blood stained Gladelinian army...

This morning whether th e battle could have its final ending or not for this day was to be the bloodiest of the terrible conflict..

General Vivian decided to storm the city of Vantura which the enemy during one of his fierce counter charges had recaptured during the night before, and thus if he was successful he could easily relieve general Gladerlinia against or from the pressure of the enemy directed against him...., Therefore as son as it was light enough to see probably about eight in the morning the main christian batteries under Baldwin opened a more more terrific artillery fire than ever before in the battle and sent the first battering shot against the city which had for three or four days resuste resisted the most fierce attempts to capture it, and which when captured had again been regained by the enemy.Hitherto indeed, heavy shot shell and shrapnell had been fired at the various Gladelinian gunners in the position to try to silence their terrific answering fire, and the city and Gladelinian positions beyond had been shelled by the motar batteries sho so that the gnnon cannonade was a fierce and as steady as well as destructive as the artillery storm in the full duration of the "World war"combined, but either purposely or otherwise not a single shot had been fired with the object of injuring the Gladelinian position or bring the awful resist ance of the enemy toan end.

For four days the christian armies had both been on the defensive and offensive, and the enemy not only held the positions, the two closely divided cities but had during each succeeding night ore erected very strong new positions and had free ingress and egress from both the towns at all points save from the sides a facing the christian positions, and never before had a battle b een more stubbornly and desperately fought. during these four awful days with the conflagration at St Ethelreda aging raging so terribly, however the respective positions of the two bulldog tenacious enemies had changed a good deal because of incapable destruction committed during the artillery storm, and the frightful onslaughts. and by quadruple numbers of dreadful fires. For the first part of the battle the Gladelinian armies had cut up the christian army a good deal, and had thrown o general Vivian out of position so that he had to resume a new one, and the Gladelinians were elated with their most tremendous success they so far had ever gained in battle in the war, and even on so hard a general to beat as general Vivian.Never before in any war all over the war zone could any other Gladelinian army claim such a success. It was the best won battle so wa far on all record, general gladerlinia too was despite his career now losing it it seemed by his threatened smashing defeat and destruction, general V ivians right wing was no more, a new one being formed under cover, and though he outnumbed the enemy three to one he had lost all positions he had carried, and his loss in dead and wounded exceeded that of the enemy at Evangeline St Claire and Cedernine together, while though dreadful the enemy loss was yet far inferior.

They had been intoxi cated with their success, and murder of women and chil dren, and the destruction of Gertrudes bands, and despite the fact that general Vivians enormous numbers concentrated against them, their more successful a tillery fire disabling so many christian guns and demolishing the positions made them not only confident of success but arrogant in the belief that general Tamerline had general vivian down on his knees. But their main success had been on these three days in general. Yet general Tamerline was worried. Despite the failure of all his attempts, even with enormously su erior numbers to drive the enemy forces from the grip which it had so insanely and tenach tenaciously held the main danger was, general Hanson had vanquished general Manley at Lebanon, general vivian was not even dreaming of giving up the contest but of renewing it more vehemently., Hansonwas advancing, Concentinian Aronburgs dangerous Abbieannian army was only five miles away, and coming as fast as men could march, and general vivian had too many men which never saw a battle yet while Tamerline had no one to replace his losses. All this began to dampen the ardor of their enthusiasm.Doubts as to whether after all their great fighting at St Ethelreda would meet with any further success, and fear that destruction of their Omarian armies would result for their atrocities w would finally come upon them, began the first time to enter their minds, and with the fact that their spies brought proofs that general Vivian planned imediately to form a try a final effort to crush Tamerline was n enough to cause the greatest apprehension. F or a time what had alarmed the christian armies throughout the wae zone,,, was that a frightful complication of pestilences swept or was sweeping throughout the country especiallly amog the refugees, a reign of terror prevailed throughoutnthe country and in many towns even though ill the inhabitants were robbed and murdered murdered, all sorts of prop erty were raided or fired, and violence reigned supreme and the glandelinians did not seem to far fear the pest ilences.

Many of the glandelinian generals were terrified at the terrible resul results of the long endured battle, and had tried to get general Tamerline to desist in his "storm"un upon general Vivian-but finding their a uthority was purely nominial b egan to long for an ending of the horrible st struggle struggle The heavy shell which from time to time crashed into general Tamerline headquarters disturbed his peace but he was stubborn

and would not give up the battle. The it was then by an army which however large and smallll was confident of vixtory, against one which however however large or equal in size, was beginning to doubt that final success would the be theirs, that the main operations of the battle began on the morning of the sixth of the month of October. The artillery at some sections of the battle line had continued active night and day. Every might hadseen heavy be batteries of fresh cannons(maybe they were freshies) rising at a distance of ody three hundred yards from the Glandelinian position, fifteenthousand horses pulling wagons brought oith, two hundred thousand men filled sand bags, placed facines and erected traverses for the guns.To the surprised eyes of the Glandelinians the batteries had rose as if they had been erected in the Magicland of Oz. The Glandelinian generals had vived viewed these reparations with a strange apathy.They had tried at the commencement of the formation of the batteries to sweep the ground with such a storm of grape shell and rifle fire, and to throw so many hand bombs that the erection of batteries so close to their positions would have been impossible., had not the other long range christian batteries laid down such a storm of curtain fire of shells and high explosives that the enemy couldn't do a thing. And when at last they were able to bring on their heavier batteries and began a furious cannonade against the christian lines, the positions had reached a heifht heightthat afforded shelter for all those employed upon them.....

Each battery as fast as the heavy guns were placed into position opened a steady fire upon the Glandelinian positions untill nearly a half two thousand big guns thundered incessantly, and yet rep reopened with greater violence on the morning of the fifth day ofthe battle..2.2.2

On this day the enemy now fought desperately.They hurled a line of assault two million strong against general Vivians center, and in the horrible "storm" that resulted that whole line was shattered and rolled back to its own position in panic and confusion and with many of its generals dead. The christian artillery fire in the meantime over powered that of the guns at the long bastions of the foe positions near Vantura opposed to them the intrenchments were torn into the air by the explosions with great loss of life,, but from the Glandelinian guns placed out in the open on the christian left flank they plaved uponthe National batteries, while from the enemy positions elsewhere a horrible storm of rifle and cannon fire was poured upon the christian troops.But the christian gunners continued to hammer away unceasingly. After half an hour a simul similar "storm"as before poured against the christian line, but far more extended, sweeping against general vivians center and right wing, but the christian artillery and musketry fire tore that line of assault to more bits and sent the survivors flying helter skelter for the shelter of their own positions, leaving a wave of dead and wounded behind them.

Meantwhile section by section the massive Glandelinian positions before Vantura crumbled under the christian fire or erupted into debris. Orders were issued at once for the assault to be made, which came at ten oclock, sometime later after the enemys seconfd second storm wave had been devastated. The assaulting christian force was divided into four immense waves of their own, the first composed to one million three hundred thousand men of the Seventhy Seventhy Fifth Domdobian Corps, one million two hundred and fifty thousand men of the First Bengall State Fusiliers, and one million four hundred and fifty thousand men of the Calverinian division---in all of a probability of four million men under general George Cashemrea were s to storm the enemys main line on the left Wing. And all this was the first column, or wave....2.2.2.

The second wave of christian troops consit consisting of two hundred and fifty generals and other officers, and five hundred thousand Concentinians, and six hundred thousand Angelinians, added by three hundred thousand Domdobians, of the eighth , two hundred and fifty thousand men of the Second Bengall State Fusiliers, and three hundred and fifty th ousand men of the Fourth Triponligonlian Ina Infantry under general Daniel Jones, were to storm the Glandelinian position fronting Vanturium Rum.The third wave consisting of two hundred thousand men of the Fifty Second Corps, two hundred and fifty thousand men of the Winkie Abyssinkilian battalion , and five hundred thousand men of the Abbieannian Infantry of the First Grand Division under general Bengiman Marcus were to assault the G landelinian centre, and the first line position which was to be torn up by the curtain high explosive shell fire of general Luckwig Baldwins batteries. The fourth Wave, eight hundred and sixty thousan thousand strong was made up of many brigades of Angelinian Regiments the Red Cross Battalions of Concentinians, and the Main winkie Abyssin ilian divisions the latter being six hundred and fifty six thousand strong. It was commanded by general Richard Kindernine, and was to try and carry the town itself held so desperately by the Glandelinians called the Mangaboos-Scoodliers, and also the Omrians. and to enter the city by two sides if possible.In the addition to these immense four

waves of christian troops was the reserve one million five hundred thousand strong under general Doubleday Federal.They were alll the powerful Abyssinkilian bodies, but there were also the Sixty First Corps of Angelinians, the Winnen Battalion,, the 344th Infantry of Angelinians under general Pennsar, the Winkie Abyssinkilian auxiliary force and of the Sixty Ninth Grenadier corps who were to cover withthe aid of the artillery fire the assault of the "christian storm waves", and then to go forward with the reseves reserves.This though it must be understood, was not the main of general Vivians battle line, but the assaulting columns only to "storm Vantura Vantura Junction.

This latter body however, was to await the success of the "storm Wave" and then to follow them into the town, and assist them as required. The cavarly and the rest of the force, including all the advancing light field pieces was to cover the rear, and defend the christian position, should, the desperate enemy attempt a counter"STORM." Precisely at ten thirty in the morning, the Sixty Ninth Grenadier Corps dashed forward in skirmishing order tward the Glandelinian positions, and the heads of the main assaulting columns, moved out of their positions under cover of such a tremendous artillery fire that the scene was walled up high in dense pungent clouds pierced by flashes as if a long fu fissure eruption from the ground.

Gertrude Angeline, and her followers, who had stuffed cotton in their ears to shut out the dreadful sounds of those"crazily thundering" cannons w had placed themselves on duty tenid general Jacob Marcus, and as accustomed as they were to danger, their hearts beat fast as they watched this movement of so vast a wave of christian troops.Indeed it was to be a tremendous interprize---an interprize absolutely unrivaled in any history ever written- for so many hundreds of thousands of men to move forward in one wave to assault a position and a city garrisoned by some thirty million well trained troops all it may be said, fighting with ropes around their necks. The total of the assaulting christian line was equal to that of the foe.

As the long angular shaped s irmish line of the Sicthy Sixtieth Grenadiers dashed forward in front., and the head of the main column advanced, a most terrific fire of firearms of every description added by machine, rapid fire, and other small cannons broke out from all sections of the positions, added by the thunder of hundreds of bigger cannon, which the christians all necessity for concealment being over, answered with a tremendous cheer as they swept forward,.

For a short time as severe as the fire was, and severe enough to have wiped out the full force of the Grenadiers, it was however either too high or too long in range for not a soldier fell. The first section of the wave arived at the first abandoned trench of the enemy, and there so fast did regiment after regiment of men fall into dead and wounded that there was a temporary halt.It was some time before they could be rallied under such a severe test, and officers and men fell as fast as snow under the hail of bullets and from the grape and canister and shells of the enemy. Then as they gathered in strength in the position there was one wild cheer that was as deafening as the noise of all the wild sound of firing, and they dashed up the long low slope of rubbish and stones and other earth debris and passed th over the position driving the Glandelinians before them. After four hours desperate fighting, in which the christians were repulsed four times with sickening losses the entrance to Vantura was won. Scrambling breathlessly up, always close behind their gallent general, despite the danger of it all, though it was apparent dare devil recklessness on their part when they did not need to do so, Gertrude Angeline and her followers were among the first to win their way into the city, and fought as the soldiers did.

An equally rapid success had attended the assaults upon the left wing of the Glandelinian position by the Second Wave.Nor were the Thrid Third far behind in the violent furious assault through the Apple and Cherry tree Orchards. In this big Orchard, or surrounding this big orchard was a high stone wall in the center of which was a gas gate, and here a bloody deed had first need to be done which always lived in the memory of christian generals and the nation in general as long as it would exist in the world or stories as a nation.As the head of the assaulting wave moved forward in the face of a dreadful fire of guns and weapons of all descriptions which galled them terribly, a good sized party started at the doubl tward the gate.The party was commanded by Lieutenant Homer - and Francis Cunnings of the Abbieanrian Royal Engineers, and Captians smoth and Jamesonia, and six corporals of the same Corps, the bugler of the Fifty Second Brigade, and one hundred and ninty four Angelinian sappers and miners under Turner Jensin, and George Jennings..Each of the sappers carried heavy high explosives in bags, and covered by such fire as the christian troops and artillery could give them, they advanced to the gate. The gate was in the center of the wall, and from the parapets a storm of rifle fire was continually pured upon them.When they reached a ditich ditch they found the draw bridge destroyed, but crossed in single file upon the beams on which it rested..The gate of course was closed, but a small postern door of some sh sort beside it was open, and through this the Mangaboos

added a heavy fire to that which streamed from above. The sapp ers laid their bags against the gate, and slipped down into the ditch to allow the firing party to do their work. Many had already fallen. Sergeant George St Peter was shot dead as he laid down his munition bag,, and three corporals were wounded. As Lieutenant Warner tried to fire the fuse he fell shot through both legs and one arm, while two others who stood by were shot dead, and Dunsay Comorton was severely wounded. As he fell too Lieutenant Turner handed the slow punk fire head to Captian Sanders who lit the fuse, but fell mortally wounded as he did so. These then those who survived jumped or were helped into the big ditch and in another moment a terrific ear splittingexplosion convulsed the ground and air with the din, and the gate was blown to bits, bits andthe wor wall thereytorn into a huge breach mangling to death some one thousand one hundred and fourty of the enemy who were behind the gate and that portion of the wall. Then general Dargenter seeing that the way was clear ordered Colonel Hardar to sound the advance and the assaulting column came rushing forward with a cheer, annihilated the defenders of the wall with their sharp rifle fire, while one portion of the column brust through the breach into the Orchard, closed with the Glandelinian columns there, cut them to pieces, and routed them tward the city. In this gallent action general Dargenter fell mortally wounded, General Daniel Hinders was also shot to death, and five others wounded.

O of all the column of men wb who too part in the glorious deed of blowing up the gate only two lived to wear the Abbiegannian victorious cross the reward of valor. Six of the lieutenants had died on the spot, two l other lieutenants died of their wounds, two captians were mortally wounded, and the colonel too was shot to death. Thus only Sag Sergeant Lesage, and Private Imgrand lived to wear the honor so nobly won.

The battle raged with the most stubborn furv in the rear of the Orchards and in and across the Farm belonging to Allenberger, and was as bloody and as stubborn in this space onl, only as a hundred Antetams could have been in that space of time. Here at the farm a check was made, t the Glandelinians fought so frightfully desperately, that the christians couldn't advance any further, their losses was awful, and they had to throw themselves into positions to be free from exposure, and to be in readiness in case the bull doggish Glandelinians would rally and counter charge, and the scene here was like a hellish inferno. The barks of all the orchard trees was torn away by the rifle shots, and the branches too, rail fences on the farms were splintered by the same fire, or hickory broomed, and at Allenberger's Crossroads the loss of life was immeasureable on both sides. After the battle when the fr ightened Farmer and his family dared to return he stated that he believed a bu million bullet holes were in the west side of his farm house, and a thousand in each window pane.

The battle passed onward and forward across the farms both sides equally as bulldoggish and tenacious, but endurance was a matter of course, and unfortunately it was the christians who began to yeild ground inch by inch, and general Callahan who direced the battle here had to send for aid for his losses was so severe he believed he couldn'thold out much lon longer.

These Glandelinians were under general Thaserlino in person.

So o General Bernard Dunnor who was in general command of the whole assault i ng force by t the aid of his generals concentrated the two columns which had poured through a portion of the stubbornly defended city, and then swept the enemy off the the positions and ramparts as far as Center Street, the whole of the northern portion of the town being in the powsess possession of the christian troops. Then he proceeded to push on tward the main section of the city, where he expected to meet general Watson with the fourth column. This rave however had failed to even reach the position of the enemys right wing, the enemys defense proving so strong, the enemy being as desperate as men fighting for their very lives, and the position was held by so numerous a force of Turmerannians that the christians found it impossible to carry that position, and after suffering heavily beyond measure, the commander had to call back his men his retreat being covered by the cavarly, and the artillery.

The Glandelinians counter charged him most furiously with the aid of artille artillery and machine guns but they in turn were repulsed with greater loss than they inflicted upon the christian troops before. Then general or an general Berlardson or Bernardson too advanced through the narrow lane entering the St Gertrudes General City Park, the christian christian wav e of troops was swept fr by a storm of fire from window, loophole, housetop of all the houses surrounding the large open square and from bridges, from behind every tree and bench and other postions in the park a fire to which no effective reply whatever was possible. The christian troops were shot down in terrible numbers, and at the left of the park by the big Animal house a whole platoon or drove of the troops was annihilated, by the fire of all the soldiers in that building.

Generalsafter generals tried to rallythe torn up christian columns and fell one after the one the other, regiment after regiment was destroyed, and brigades were reduced to regiments as fast as they rushed to the assault to try and carry the park. It was a terrible horror

within that once beautiful city, but nevertheless the christians wrue were or seemed to be more determined than the enemy and l no losses seemed to discourage them and they even r.s rushed on again and again/ The main commander general Bernard Dunnor just as he was in the act of cheering on his men, was shot through the lung, and abdomen and fell back in the arms of two men behind him mortally wounded. He was carried off by his sorrowing soldiers, and lingered untill the twentyfourth of this month of October ,when to the deep grief of the whole of general vivinna christian army, he after recieving the Last Sacraments expired..

Firally the general who had to supercede him saw that it was evident that any attempt no matter how desperate to force a path further in this direction would lead to the massacre of the whole wave of christian troops and would be useless in the bargain, and that this park must be won step by step, and mostly by the aid of artillery, the troops by firm orders, not caused natural ly by the enemy were ordered to retreat to the positiond they had captured and fr om there they closed such a fearful withering fire that the Glandelinians no matter how great were their numbers were absolutely afraid to counter charge, and kept closely under cover to escape annihilation themselves.

A similia r experience had befall the third wave, which had guided or led by general Callahan, who was well acquainted with the city as it had been his own home town, endeavored to form a circuit so as to reach and carry the houses centreing the city, sweep no desperate and furious was the resistance experienced that this wave of troops also had been compelled to retreat to the positions it had captured. The reserved column had followed the hird third in at the northwest section of the city, and had after some fierce fighting possessed itself of should a hundred and fifty most strong buildings and an open square in that neighborhood,,,, most important which was a large and magnificent Public, Free Library, and when therefore the Third column fell back, allthese houses were held against four desperate counter charges of the enemy and guns were erected planted to command the streets leading thereto and covered the streets with dead and wounced wounded Glandelinians..

One cause of the slight advance thatmorning was the severeity of the Glandelinian rifle and artill ery fire. At one section of the battle line usually knowing the weakness of humanity, the enemy had store immense quantities of champagne, and other wines, beer, and spirits and streets next to the ramparts, expecting that the christian troops Parched Parched with thirst and excited by the sight of these lux luxuries o would fall into the snare,,,,,, and dr ink so deeply that the fighting power of the christian force would be for a while seriously impared.

This t schem e availed the Glandelinian troops to naught, for soldiers who came upon these, only stopped long enough to refill their canteens with the luxuries, and deliberately destroyed thebarrles and dumed the rest into the streets, and applying the torch set the wines and brandy aflame.

Despite the repulses of the christian assaults the fearful fighting continue continued, as they were crazily determined to carry the city or die.

From house to house the christian troops fought their way frequently when the streets were so swept by terrific rifle and machine g un and rapid fire guns that it was impossible to progress there, making their way to breaking down the smaller walls,,and so working from one house to another or from one district to another. uring these terrible hours guns and mortars and other pieces of artillery were gradually brought into the city from un sed christian batteries and placed so as to shell the many houses defended by the enemy.

In the meantime the Sixty First corps had arived and the fourth G:Grand division and they made a rush at the great magazine and city battery in St Gertrudes Park. The Glandelinians offered more fiercer resistance than it could take a million volumes like this to describe but it was in vain, th ese christian troops rushed through all obstacles and reached a long Glandelinian battery which cannon were crammed to the muzzle with grape and canister and which commanded every approach to the great Park. Here one hundred and sixty five cannon opened upon the assailants, and mowed down the entire line of troops in front at one discharge, but before they could be reloaded again the ghristian troops behind rushed among the Glandelinians and the guns, and the Glandelinians were so stricken by the rapidity and dash of these christian troops that no matter how desperately and couragely courageiously they fought, or no matter what they sacrificed to stand ground they could not bear up in the face of the onslaught, and like a prize fighter knocked out, they had to ta e the nine counts and retreated, but poured a sudden withering fire as they fell back destroying the first of the onrushing christian column to the last man .

General Calahan who led this onslaught stated after wards that he had never seen Glandelinians fight so stubbornly. The one hundred and sixty five Glandelinian guns and an enormous supply of ammunition fell into the hands of the christian assailants, and a great many of the guns were at once turned against their late owners. The Glandelinians rallied and made one desperate counter charger after another in endless flings, and bangs. but the guns and the christian infantry fire i annihilated the charge as fast as they came on, and the Glandelinians from sheer horror fell

back to the rear. So hour by hour the most desperate fight went on.

A pall of heavy smoke from hundreds of burning buildings hung over the city. From either side hundreds of cannons and mortars, played unceasingly while the rattle of millions of rifles, pistols and muskets, the crash of falling houses, the shrieks of women, the screams of children, and the shouting of countless numbers of men, the boom bang of shells exploding in the streets and above the city in an uproar wilder than the most insane thunderstorm mingled in a chaos of sounds.

To the credit of these Glandelinian soldiers who happened to be the Scoodliers be it said, that infuriated as they were by the thirst for vengeance against their christian assailants, and the heat of the frightful battle not a single case occured, so far as was discovered of a christian woman being ill treated, insulted or fired upon---although the women and children had been o and were present in the conflicts and constantly accompani accompanied or cheered on the charges of the christian troops.

To the christian soldiers however met with in battle in the town no mercy was shown, every christian soldier captured was at once cut down or bayoneted and the same fate befell all townsmen found fighting against them or sniping from houses and street doors. The rest of the men while the battle was in the wildest progress and it seemed evident the christian would destroy the ch city, as well as the women and children were before the fighting was over permitted to leave the city unmolested, although large numbers of them had been a ghastlier in the destruction of the sholiers of the enemy soldiers. This was an unusual thing among the Glandelinians, something which as fierce as they were never happened befos before. It might be that the city was in danger of being captured, and the Glandelinians understood if any of the inhabitants had been harmed they themselves the same as the Omarians would recieve no mercy.

Fearing this anyway was why they gave no quarter during the fight. to the christian soldiers they captured.

From the time that the christian soldiers burst through the breaches an exodus had begun from a portion of the town of the inhabitants on the other side, and across the big bridge over the Vantura Stream. The or christian heavy guns could have destroyed this bridge, and the christian cavarly might have swept round the city, and cut off the retreat on the other side had they been soldiers of the foe, but as they were refugees nothing was done untill they were over, and then the bridge went to pieces into a terrific explosion that shook the sound.

They ou had forgotten the proverb that it is "good to build a bridge for a flying foe" for the enemy finding their retreat cut off, and fearing certain death awaited them unless they could drive the christians out of out of the city, the defense was so indescribly and wildly desperatel that it was becoming absolutely imposible for the christian troops to accomplish it. The defense therefore showed what could be effected by desperate men fighting in narrow or wide streets and city squares, and loss and disasterous repulse along the right wing of the enemy was another bloody evidence of the inexpediency of driving a desperate enemy to despair.

As it was toward noon the christians were so depleted in losses they had to gradually fall back, some of the regiments fought feebly and were far from making the most of the narrow streets and strongly built houses. No one desired to be the first to retreat, but all were forced on the christian side by their generals to make off slowly and gradually at the earliest opportunity to avoid the too severe fire of so desperate an enemy. Hundreds of thousands had fallen on the christian side in that city, it was appearing like Chicago when it had its great fire, and the results was most dolefull. The christian loss was sad in officers and generals. and all the regiment al flags had countless bullet holes in them. Men grew distrustful of the situation, and minute by minute the retreat increased, the resistance to the enemy's counter storm diminished ,and the districts held by the once victorious christians grew smaller and ~~smaller~~ smaller. It was true that by tvus thus allowing 10,000,000 shrviving christian soldiers to escape, was to allow them to continue the awful "War storm" in the old way outside the city, the christians to the enemy were dangerous foes beyond contempt, and the results of the horror which raged simultaneously in the two cities, and of Sladerlinia's deliverance soon proved to Tamerline what an adversary general Vivian was.

The Glandelinians recaptured every section of the city, but up till noon the christian position along the St Gertrudes Park still held out. This with that strong wall was a fortified region in itself, the christians were in possession of many cannon. The Glandelinians had tried with their artillery to laid low that wall while the Glandelinian mining engineers had tried to run a trench to enable a closer range battery to be easily erected to play upon the christians in possession of the fenced in walls along the Parks Lagoon. This sc region was the hottest contested part of the battle in the city. The Sixty First Division of Glandelinians with some Mangaboos, and Growleywogs rushed boldly forward, though they fell in teaming lines, untill they got to a long overhanging park hill under which they found shelter, and opened a tremendous fire at the walls and positions in possession of the christian s. Sixteen times a charge as fierce as Pickett's at Gettysburg was made by the christians to dislodge this Sixty First Division, and sixteen times that many fell and the charges were repulsed. Along all portions of the christian line the fire of rifle and cannons was so severe that the enemy dared not

exposed themselves, general Mic-Hollestinia Jones who was in command of the Glandelinian troops in this quarter, convinced that the report that the other christian forces had began to retreat was true--determined upon massing an overwhelming assault under cover of a tremendous artillery fire at once. General Dome Homer was appointed to lead the divisions told off for the main duty, which was effected but not without dreadful loss.

For a time the christian fire had swept everything away,, but the Glandelinians were tooo great in numbers this,, time, and they finally were in possession of the wall. One regiment of fifteen fifteen hundred men encountered three rapid fire guns placed in the blasted gateway, and were nearly annihilated before some grenadiers blew the guns and their crews to smithereens.

The news that the Park was finally wrested again from the almost victorious christians spread rapidly, and there was a rush to drive the christians further, but to expose themselves too much meant annihilation and the advance of the enemy had to be made with great caution as every house window, door way, and other objects of shelter fairly erupted fir with rifle and rapid machine gun and the discharge of other arms. The christian troops in their slow hotly contested retreat carried off everything of value in the houses they abandoned. and as they left the houses, to check the enemys advance they applied the torch and terrible fires were burning making the scene as dark as night with so much smoke.

It was the craziest and most destructive battle general Vivians army so far had ever fought.

At exactly twelve noon, (the boom) the headquarters of this part of the Glandelinian army were replaced in Vantura and thousands of soldiers fought nearly as desperately now to stop if possible the progress of the fierce conflagration. As the Glandelinian Pennons was up the flagstaff against the city hall so lately captured by the almost victorious christians, the seat and headquarters of the Glandelinian army which had deluged the city with christian blood, a royal salute was fired by the enemy guns, and tremendous cheers arose from the victorious troops in all parts od of the city. The raising of that flag anew, the booming of those guns was the signal that the christian assault of that morning had recieved its death blow. Over fifteen million Glandelinians were therefore still in possession of Vantura, but the heart of the action here was gone. Should general general Vivian mass a new assault of the same horrible fury upon the city, it would easily fall this time. Each body of Glandelinians during the dreadful battle had fought for themselves---for life rather than for victory, and yet had so far won, as far as the progress of the battle may count, and so far it was not even started this day.

The final issue of the struggle was now certain. The enemy no longer had any brigadier generals, or Divisional commanders, a center or a common aim o all had fallen dead or wounded, and the loss among the troops was frightful beyond compare. All the surviving Glandelinian generals who had hitherto showed the greatest energy in the fighting hesitated no longer and in holding a council with Tamerline urged him to abandon the titanic contest and flee while the fleeing was good. But he refused to listen to reason being confident he could yet worst general Vivian.

Nothing has been said as to the part the girlscout leaders bore in that fierce fierce six hours fighting. They were not actually in the conflict as it was not their place, but they did their own personal scout duty, but they were not inthe fight, though they did specially distinguish themselves in all other ways, and had often volunteered to carry messages to generals and officers of troops engaged in sto stubborn fight, and in doing so to dash across open spaces and run the gauntlet of hundreds of rifle balls and shell explosions, and the burst of shrapnell, and face the peril of falling walls from burning houses, and the danger of meeting with bodies of enemies inthe streets, but however they miraculously escaped with out even the slightest scratch... They had not been present on the occassion of the sad reverse of the assault, but during the lull of the battle she had learned where a certain number of enemy officers were stationed a little outside the city who had had a hand in the massacre of her band, and a little later she rode out of her tent and said to her friends;

"I intend just going on an expedition of your own hearts, not to go into any part of the battle again, girls. I have recieved word that a enemy general and his officers who had ben been in the massacre at Vantura road when I lost so heavily in my comrades in defending the refugees have stolen awayand have gone to the farmhouse near the one of Allenbergers, where our armies are still in possession. I am going with a squadron of troopers to capture and bring them in. I have some accounts to settlewith them which will be an example to them hereafter and Glandelinia too" She scowled for a moment and then clearing her face added "would you wish to accompany me.?"

"Oh yes of all things" The girlscout leaders exclaimed. "but have we any time to get our horses."

"We don't need to mount ours" said Gertrude. "Many of the soldiers will mount us." Several of my boyscouts of Penrods cutvin surviving parties slipped into that localite localities in the hopes of stt getting some loot and three or four were shot, so we must go at once to capture them. They are some of those who destroyed so many of our commands."

The girlscouts at once went to general V arcos to tell him where they were going so he would not worry about them in case he found them absent. abe absent..As they were the highest girlscout leaders on the staff of the Vivian Girl Princesses, the general at once prote te protested, but there wa s no turning them from their purpose, and he of coulse course having so say could not stop them, and therefore gave them a powerful escort of AbyssinKilian winkie cavaly cavarly.He had been greatly delighted in their presence, they had been celestial beings to him, he understood how gallent and fearless they were, and Gertrude and all her higher commissioned followers had so frequently of distinguished themselves in the hundreds of dashing exploits which they had executed with their other friends, that even Emperor Vivian, confirmed faithfully and truthfully by Violet, and her sisters had said that they even went far beyond them in all they did, and the perils they encountered, especially Gertrude Angeline and Angoline Riches..

A few mi nutes later they were riding at a trot tward the spot where those glandelinian officers had retreated for refugee when their regiments were wiped out at Vantura junction. Their rout e lay across ground hintarto in possession of the enemy, but which now was christian possession, and they rode past hundreds of thousands of f flocking christian wounded soldiers,who were on their way to the Base Army hospital tents. They had among them many wounded Zimmermannian Glandelinian prisoners also who scowled and muttered curses and blasphemies as the littlevtrop of girlscouts rode by with their escort, some of the Glandelinians sco shouting loudly at them"It's better you crazy little fool a minded your own business and don't butt into our own cause."and other words too many to be put here but they did not pay any attention to them, though when some of the prisoners shouted impracautions at them Gertrudew heeled and said;

" We can prove to you we are the main commanders here though we're mere Guttersnipes as you called us.It's to us alone thatbyou zimmermannian soldiers were spared.Bette r look out.We might yet glasify you among the Omarians and give no quarter.Beware.We can be merciless too."

That shut the insolent Glandelinians up for a season.Therefore not a soldier among the prisoners dared to raise his voice or even give them so much as a black look."

"What are all those strange but wonderful ruins?"Gertrude as ed of Jane Melfort, by whose side she was riding."

"This is the out s irts of Vantura.The smaller houses have gone to dust and ruble before the cannon fire of our artillery but these massive ruins contained or was the scene where some of the fiercest fighting of the morning occured.Wait till we hear of the losses in this battle when it is finall y over.In my opinion there is nothing in Calverinia or in the world to equal its fury."

Another half h our' riding brought them into sight of a magitt magnificient farmhouses of stone alongside of which was a tall shaft of masonry rising above this now quiet part of the battlefield, where the girlscouts saw more dead lying about than it could have brought them five months to count by tens.

"That is the place we're to surprise and surround."Gertrude said; "To bad we will have to laid it low.Isn't it not mf nificent."

Indeed near this structure was an immense shaft or to or tower.It seem ed to bebuilt in stages with a gallery round each. Each stage too was different but what was in them no one was certain but from questioning scouts they learned that the Glandelinian officials had halted at this peculiar building,.The gates were shut, and it was certain that the Glan delinian officiers wouldhave a large force of troopers with him.Teeming numbers of men in gray showed themselves at the windows and on the roof roof, and indeed things appeared quite perilious for Gertrudes troop to storm this stronghold. One of the AbyssinKilian captians however rode,,, forward without the slightest hesitationand pounded on the greattt gate with his sabre handle.... A strange little window by the side of the gate opened, and he was asked what he wanted..... ...

"I represent miss Angelinia Gertrude Aronburg who has come to take and carry into the christian camps, the chief staff officer here, and all who are with him.It is better to submit quietly, for though you do overwhelm us entirely in numbers we have guns whichill hurl shells that'll demolish the structure at one shot.go therefore if we have to shell ini f es [illegible] soul in the place will be put to the sword..you're men massacred out band an of boy and girlscouts at Vantura Road and will jave have to pay the consequence.."

"Is there any conditional surrender.?" ?"

"I the ld [illegible] We'll do as we please with you once' your're prisoners."

In two minu tes this"what may be called the postern"opened and a strangely garbed man made his appearance..2.2.2.2.2.2

"I am his minister"he said.

The captian ben'in acknowledgement that the minister stood before him.

"Ye

"The general will surrender"he said"If you will have Miss Angelinia Aronburg promise that his life shall be spared, if not he will defend himself to the last,and if wounted will die by his own hand.We glandelirians do not hardly believe in surrendering any more than you christian dogs do you understand...."?

"Defense would be sucide in itself and absolutely useless."the captian said."The force she has here is strong enough to carry the place and our cannons could reduce it into a heap of ruins, and if it did not, the sound of firing would bri bring any strength of reinforcements I could expect in the shortest time.She though she is our superior, has no authority to give such a promise since your bands destroyed her boy and girlscouts."

"If you give the promise it will be kept"the Glandelinian said."If you refuse the general will commit sucide when the first christian soldier passes the gate. We Glandelinian would die first before we'd surrender unconditionally."

"I'll consult her in person."said the captian.

At hearing this Gertrude hesitated. It was true by the laws of violet and her sisters she had no authority to make such a promise unless it could be proven the Glandelinians were not Omarians.Therefore she only decided on that purpose answering herself to the Glandelinian thus;

"If you're not Omarians all right.but if you are we're going to give no conditions whatever, What sort of glandelinians are you.?"

"We are Scoodliers."

"You lie."

"Pon my honor I don't .Are you blind.girl.Can't you see my uniform."

"I'll find out first"she sneered."

She sent one of her scouts under a flag of truce to go in and see and he safily came back and said;

"They're Scooldiers and Mangaboos there Miss Aronburg."They're not the guilty ones. "

"I agree"he said after a pause" o for she felt sure the christian government would rather have the Glandelinian general a prisoner in their possession than he co should excite a feeling of regret and admiration among all the Glandelinian armies by dying by his own hand in preference than falling into those of the Nationals."

"Unconditional or Conditional."demanded the soldier.

"Conditional.He and the lives of his followers will be spared."""

In a minute the gate was thrown aside or open, and an aged general came out f ollowed by ninty unarmed cavarly men and a host of infantry who had all cast aside their arms and advanced under a glaf of truce. The aged general was nearly ninty five, Gertrude had thought him a young man.In no case Gertrude thought now having seen him would she allow him ly to announce be executed by the military since she realized now the old man was clearly not guilty in the massacre of the refugees, and for the annihilation of her band of child scouts..... Th The party were soon on their way to the christian lines. When in the lines he was brought to one of the tents and placed there, and Gertrude Gertrude then said;

"I'm going out again r ight away, and try to catch as many Omarians as possible.I have seen they are the real culprits in the matter as only they ansaulted the refugees in ambush and caused me to sacrifice my troop to save the unfortunates.If you would care to go out again well and good."

They were very glad to do so, but they delighted more if they could have the survivors of their band with them and this was readily agreed to, These boys and girls though few in number were very pleased to have the chance to do so and were pleased still more at the news of Gertrudes capture of the general and all his retainers. They were collected in about an hours time and despite the fury of the battle raging everywhere else, set out.One of the christian spies had reported to Angeline Jennings that a number of the Omarians who had participated in the mace massacre were trying to capture a farmer and his children, and that the farmer was defending his home and children against them with a rifle.The whole squadron of child scouts and soldiers hastily rode in that direction and came within sight of the fight.

"That's the farm house from which window you see the puff of smoke"Gertrude said pointing to a large farmhouse near a number of barns."forward.Give them no quarter."

The troop rode forward at a furiously gallop gallop, and the glandelinians seeing them coming ran for the shelter of the barns, jammedthe doors shut and opened fire.The troops dashed up from two sides, and surrounding the barns dismounted. A number of the Glandelinians had gotten into the farmhouse too, and soldiers were placed at all the various doors of the [illegible] who se with orders to shoot down any Glandelinians who might come out ,and while a flag of truce was produced which stopped the firing, Gertrude

sent a man into the building to order the Glandelinians out, and to warn them if any harm had come to the farmer and his wife, and children, if they were slain, the building would be set afame and they slay every Glandelinian who tried to get out or flying him into the flames.

There arose within the farm house a great tumult within the building as the question whether they should surrender, or refuse and fight to the last man was argued. Several times the courier returned to as Gertrude if any conditions would be given, but she only said sheerlily, that no conditions would ever be made with them. The Glandelinians in the farm house saw the odds were against them, that in one assault the troopers could burst in and the Glandelinians, some of them high officers who were leaders in the Ventua Ventura Road massacre came out throw down their arms and surrendered. The troops who surrendered were immediately put on spare horses under close guard, and sent away, while the leaders too were sent off tward the christian lines.

Then they made preparations to carry the barns. The assault was made in one tremendous rush, and though some numbers fell the barn doors were burst opeb, open and the Glandelinians seeing it useless to escape fought untill only fifty of them were left;. Still the struggle raged. untill not Glandelinian lasted. Then they burst into a little outhouse and here from five to six thousand Glandelinians many of many of them still armed were assembled. A yell of hate and fury arose arose as the bands of christian troops troops entered guns were shown threateningly and sabres waved in the air, and many of the rebels told the christians to go "some place". For the little band who entered here while the fight was going on in the other barns the odds were were tremendous, and the boy and girlscouts who entered with the soldiers felt that nothing remained but to sell their lives dearly.

"Lay down your arms and surrender." One of the soldiers shouted in a sterntorian voice.

"Go to perdition" was the answer and a number of shots were fired from the crows of 89 soldiers of the enemy and the bullets whistled over the heads of the Abyssinkilian horsemen but fortunately none were hit....

"Lay down your arms." screamed Gertrude going in despite the danger. "You little girl girl go sit on a tack.

"We haven't got time. Men unsling your rifles. Ready ..im."

As every christian soldier obeyed the command simultaneously, the bravery of the Glandelinians flew at once. Those nearest threw down their arms and as with leveled weapons the horsemen rode through the crowds, arms where were everywhere thrown down, and resistance here was at an end. Over six thousand rifles, five hundred sabres,, and twelve thousand daggers and other weapons in addition were collected., and a large number of horses were captured.. Ordering a part of the trooper force to remain with the squadron in charge of these things untill some wagons or cartscould be sent for the weapons, Gertrude Angeline accompanied by her followers rode a off after the other prisoners, which had started some five or ten minutes before. They rode rapidly untill they neared the christian lines ,when they saw the leader of the murderous Omarians, surrounded by a great mob of Camp Fire girls, and soldiers. Gertrude Angeline set spurs to her horse and gallopped forward at full speed, followed by her girlscout officers. They burst throughthe crowd. A cheering cry came from them as the girlscouts rode up to where the prisoners were on a open wagon from which with the greatest difficulty the guards had so far retained the crowd, but held them just the same as they were threatening to lynch the prisoners. There was not a moment for hesitation. Gertrude raised a hand, and a momentary silence followed..2.2.2.2.2222222

"These Glandelinian soldiers on horseback in the hands of the soldiers" said she in a loud voice "have not only massacred the refugees on Ventura road but have ordered and witnessed the massacre of my followers in that terrible fight. Thus therefore the Government and through my own hands hand hands purishes such traitors and child murderers."

Then drawing her pistol, before the surprised crowd of Camp fire girls and the soldiers ever thought what she was going to do she by her own hand shot the Glandelinian officers dead. The crowd of Camp fire girls and the soldiers astonished andc and awed went to their own respective places, and the dead Glandelinian officers were carried away.

While the Glandelinian guns were saluting the raising of the enemy flag once again in Van tura, withthe recapture of that place and the driving of the christian assailants out, general Richardson Halsted, Greatheart and many other christian generals were desperately fighting their way up to St Ethelreda, and here the battle was still still more severe. The reaction of this portion of the battle started earlier than it did at Ventura.. General Greatheart was the first first to advance and he crossed the Ventura river, brushed aside the enemys fiercest opposition along this point point, and after three hours march under a tremendous shell fire, and his men galled by rifles and machine guns drove the enemy to shelter and captured the position. The Glandelinian left wing at this section which could have annihilated entirely the christian assault, was defeated through the blunders of its general, and this position too fell into the hands of the Angelinians. All the enemy stores and the baggage and minutions were left here in their possession.

A strong force of christian troops under general Oprahn was left to hold it against all Glandelinian counter attacks, and general Great Great heart pushed on, and fought his way through two lines of orchards and fields strongly defended by the Glandelinians, and he indeed was flabbergasted at the desperate fury of their fighting. He came just in time to support a portion of general Sladerlinia(s army for the enemy had driven ten mines right under the christian defenses, and these would had general Great Heart arived one hour later have been exploded,, and the fate of general Sladerlinia's army might have been a disastrous one....2.2.2.

The desperate fighting of the dreadful day before had however terribly depleted general Sladerlinia's glorious army which had performed the unusual feat of standing ground against overwhelming numbers, and in the face of such odds had passed breaking dangers and difficulties. Out of fifteen million men who had defended this portion of the christian position, more than a third were dead, and two thirds wounded, among them six of their most gallant brigadier and divisional generals and many other officers. With so depleted a christian force it was evident that it would be hopeless to endeavor to carry off the many wounded, the ill, the women and children refugees should the army be compelled to retreat during the height of a dreadful battle, and it was therefore determined to hold the position with to the last untill further aid arived.. The battle here therefore recommenced, but under different conditions, for the increased force enabled the christians to hold a larger area, and although the discomforts, the horrors of insane wild fury of battle and the privations were the same as before---for the reinforcements had not come up in the entire army under Greatheart, the other sections having moved on to storm other portions of the Glandelinian positions. but the danger of the positions by being carried by enemy assaults was at an end....2.2.

One noble action connected with the desperate fighting to relieve general Sladerlinia's army should never be forgotten, and was never forgotten by any one who witnessed it.

Before general Greatheart started forward with his own main divisions of troops, general Sir John his staff general officer arived with full permission to assume the command. Upon his arival however he issued a general order to say that to general Greatheart who had done such great deeds to relie relieve general Sladerlinia, should be the honor of the crowning success and that therefore he waived his sen x seniority and would fight under General Greatheart greatheart as a volunteer untill the latter arived. a A more generous act of self goodness for the purpose of relieving his friends than this was never accomplished by any other good christian general before. To the christian general who relieved general Sladerlinia in the face of such a Hellish battle line as this would fall honor fame the gratitude of not only Sladerlinia and his army, but more so of the refugees in the generals army, and all this credict general Greatheart gave to him. He was worthy indded of the name the men always gave him "The "Fiery Sword" of Abbieannia. The news that general Sladerlinia was relieved caused almost as much delight to the troops who had tried to capture burning Ventura, as their own successes elsewhere outside of the city had given t them for their anxiety as to the saftyof general Sladerlinia and his army had been most intense.

To Gertrude Angeline and her surviving regiment the news gave an intense pleasure for the thought of the friends and comrades they had left be hind in that most terrible situation had been ever present to their mind. The faces of the suffering refugees,, the tender little girls and boys, the delicate of the children, the horrors that might ensue should the enemy force his way into the refugee camps, and the terror of their friend the Mason Family had haunted them since they left Sladerlinias command, and the joy at the thought that these were rescued rescued from the awful fate impending over them smashed all records.

Following greatheart's arival, came Blain Night Linger, dangerous Nemo and "Desperate Desmond, then Hairbreath Nero and some others, and the Glandelinian forces assailing general Sladerlinia was shattered into fragments, their own positions captured , plenty of cannons and wagons, and the loss of the Glandelinians in officers was ffi frightful. They had given these christian generals the greatest resistance that ever can be maintained in battle, but all in vain, the christian troops swept everything away, general Greatheart was in the van, and the whole supported by fresh divisions, poured on fiercely to storm St Ethelreda.

It was not only at this place that Gertrude and her followers heard the news, for while the battle was raging so fiercely, they left with the big flying columns of troopers under general Baldwin which was ordered to support the rear of the assaulting christian columns to sweep round and try to surround St Ethelreda, to clear away the bands of Glandelinian cavarly which infested the intervening country, and then to drive the enemy from the position near Ventura road while the main columns not in battle yet were to advance to force the capture of St Ethelreda and smash general Tamerlines army in two. Sladerlinia was heavily reinforded with troops and artillery. Gertrude Angeline and Angeline Riches being well acquainted with the country in this territory had decided to lead this column of Calvary for Baldwins desire, as Gertrude herself would naturally on the first opportunity resume command of what is left of her regiment of boy and girlscouts, which was at general ivians center where she had left them, while Angeline Jennings was longing to see her sister and some of the others who were left behind. The advanced position of the Glandelinians were found not far from Ventura Road, and were defeated without difficulty and after several minor conflicts the troops moved hasilty onward tward the main position. As they deployed to the right a heavy battery of hidden artillery opened on them with shot shell and grape, an infantry fire of exceeding fury roared out from hidden positions in a long stretch of woods, and then a large body of Glandelinian cavarly dashed upon them as if they were a sus sudden tidal wave.....

Then a section of the Glandelinian infantry rushed forward with all their bravery and the shock of the attack was so severe that for a time of fifteen minutes the christian line was rolled up in the frightfulest confusion, and one of their brigadier generals fell at the first fire..w.3.

But however the christian troops were always inured to all symptons of a war, and with wonderful rapidity those who had been driven rallied and made a counter assault, and finally hurled them back with whde wholesale salguhter slaughter, and captured fourteen battleflags. General Agra moved forward with his troops. The enemy still resisted. The advancing troops under Hal sted had been joined by a division under general Gladon. They moved forward tward the enemy in the woods nearly three million atrong, all ttttgh troops who had gone through many big battles in the war. Also the Ninty Third Concentinian division, and a part of the Angelinlandivisions two hundred thousand strong also pushed forward while Gertrude and her friend officers were able once more to rejoin their own regiments. and their delight was unbounded.

Her comrades re o reported to her for duty at once. All sorts of rumors as to Gertrudes doings had reached Penrod and he congratulated her more than the others had done.. General Fredrkic son Parsons columns also were moving forward. They had with them a great convoy of seige material and plenty of provisions. The sixty Fourth division which had done so much fighting in the other days of the gigiantic battle were allowed to rest for the remainder of the day....2.2.2.

The other troops pre paring for the advance was increased as soon as general Vivian could mass up the troops, and by the arival of general Walter Jennings, who with two hundred thousand cavarly beside his million infantry, had also a troop of Nine hundred and fifty thousand Abbieannians. They had had heavy fightinh on the way down, and had protected their convoy and heavy seige guns which they were in charge, and had defeated the enemy four million strong in a two day fight far on the left, and captured all his guns but with a loss to themselves of nearly one hundred thousand men in dead, and six hundred thousand wounded. soon after the commencement of the fi fifths morninge engagement at St Ethelreda, general Roswell Buster Johnston who was in main command of all this column, was wounded, his aiding lieutenant was killed, and general Nelsonia who took command also was wounded. Five times an officer took command of the divisions only to be killed or wounded, and the battle raging along this portion of the line was as violent as any could possibly be.

The astonishment of the many thousands of refugees in general Slader linias army at the disaster to the Glandelinian assailants, and of the strongly massed reinforcements ariving for the christian army was unbounded. During the lull many of the new y newly arived soldiers went about gladerlinias camps in platoons aiding the many wounded being brought in. Greatly delighted they had been when they had been able to crush the fury of the Glandelinian onslaught.

Hearing the news that the city of Vantura was again assaulted by ernormous numbers of troops and that general Vivian himself led this storm with the utmost determination to carry the city, they went there with what was left of their troop to witness the fray. They were in one of the streets which had been carried when Gertrude said;;;

"I believe we had better turn Angeline. "These furious Glandelinians are rallying again, and those cowling scoundrels would be only too glad to put a bayonet or a shot into us, and we might be buried away under groun dir one of the city dens and no one over be the wiser for it. I have no dout doubt it will be a long long time before any army can carry Vantura. See the Glandelinians are coming in a counter charge with terrible furw..2.2."

Gertrude and all the others turned to retreat, when Anbe Angeline Jennings said;;;;

"Listen /"

They paused, and in another section where they thought it was still they heard a confused sound of shouting and a noise as if of a terrific tttttt tumult. They listened attentively.

"Gertrude" Penrod said or exclaimed; "I am sure some of those shouts are foriegn. Some foriegners have got into a row with the Glandelinians. Come on. We must save the strangers at all costs." go

So saying he dashed up the narrow street, accompanied by his followers with alll their pistols drawn. They went down two more lanes which were very wi wide and then in a large open space they saw a crowd of Glandelinians coming driving a large platoon of christians before them. The leaders of the hard pressed christian troops seemed to be foriegners.

"This is a most serious business" Gertrude said. "as they ran. "We are in the worst part of the city. We will have to avoid this or we'll all be lost this time. Three or four more regiments of the enemy as they retreated to the end of the lane came into sight, and a squad or two of them rushed forward to prevent their passage, but the child scouts fought their way through, and shoulder to shoulder charged the crowd of Glandelinians in the van. All through the city the second fight had been as desperate as the first one.

Reinforcements for the christian troops were griving however and the Glandelinians were counter attacked but that did not relieve Gertrude and her followers from the assault upon them. They stretched four or five Glandelinians upon the ground, and two of the child scouts were bleeding from bayonet cuts. The Christian troops gave a cheer at the sight of the reinforcement and tried to storm those who were menacing the child scouts, and the infuriated glandelinians drew back for a moment and then being reinforced resumed the assault most fiercely. Gertrude and Penrod had drawn their little sabres, and for a minute they and all their followers fought for their lives back to back. It was evident however that this could not last, for as the Glandelinians were being victoric s again, every moment added to the numbers of their foes, the Glandelinians appearing from every quarter.

"Now lads and girls" Penrod shouted "Get some yourselves ready, and when you get yourself ready, and when I signal the command altogether dash for that house at the right corner. The door is open Thank Heaven.. When we are once in there we can hold it till help comes. Press them a bit first as hard as we can, so as to scatter them a little, and then for the rush... Are you all ready..? Now....."

With a cheer the boy and girl scouts hurled themselves upon the nearest platoon of Glandelinian troops in a body. The surprise added to the weight and force of the charge, was irresistible, the glandelinians were cut down or shot in greater numbers than was desirable for them, and before the enemy quite understood what had happ e happened, all of the child scouts were safe in the house,, and the door slammed to and bolted..

"See. if there are any windows they can force their way in at.."

A number of the boy and girl scouts ran into three or four rooms of which only on the second floor the house consisted,,,,,,, but the windows in these, for some reason or other were strongly barred, perhaps the place may have been used as a or prison for enemy soldiers, There was a furious beating of rifle butts at the door, and shouts of" Down with the little christian dogs" outside.

"They'll force it out in a minute." George Zimmermon said.

"Upstairs. everybody" Gertrude said; "We can there hold them against any number."

"It's strange they did not use their rifles or pistols" Radcliffe said, as they all gathered in the upper rooms "We should have been playing the harp with the angles, if they had done so."

"I believe they thought they could do us with their bayonets and daggers" Angeline Richee replied,,,"

"Maybe they thought of capturing us alive" said Gertrude.

"Let them try it" said Jennie Turner.

"Now lads" said Angeline Jennings to the foriegners whom she and her friends had rescued; "How did you get into this row with the Glandelinians seeing you are not in uniforms but in civilan clothes?" and this question was asked a little sharply...22

"Well Miss Girlscout" said one of the foriegners "We were some of the refugees in the christian army, and when the christian troops charged into the city we thought to go along with them and getting here we got lost altogether especially when the Glandelinians began to repulse the assault. Well we saw we had fallen among Glandelinians of the fiercest type. We thought the Glandelinians wouldn't bother us because it was said they don't payyany any attention to foriegners, but they saw us in their counter charge and about a score of them made for us with b fixed bayonets bayonets. We at first ran for it as you may well imagine then they al began to give forth that "terrible devil yell" of theirs full of blasphemous words and curses. Seeing that it was either fight or die for running we drew our pistols and fought them desperately. We shot down about ten of them before they could reach us, the whole five of us! There were to many of the enemy though for the more we shot the more there came, and we were well nigh carried,,, by the Glandelinians when you andvyour little squads came to our help...."

At this moment a terrific crash was heard below, that proved the dooor,, had finally yeilded, and the crowd of Glandelinians rushed into the lower part of the house.. When it was found to be empty there was a little dl delay. The fugitives inside could hear a renewed terrifying roar of the battle and wondered what had happened... however aong the enemy who had entere entered the house, not one of them cared to be the first one to mount the stairs, and encoontor the determined band of little and big christean christian bands above.. who they well felt sure of would not give up to any one. Gertrude stoppd forward to glance at the state of things below when half a dozen pistol shots were fired. One inflicted a nasty cut on her cheek, and another struck her a glancing blow onthe hand.....2.2.2.2.2.

"Are you hert Gertrude.!" Radcliffe said, as she leaped back...

"Not nothing to worry about; but it sure was a close shave. Had I exposed myself I'd been gone. George pick up by savre sabre will you. I didn't suspect they would open fire."

"They'll do anything when they've got us cornered" Radcliffe said." opp keep a sharp look out everybody in case they start a rush upstairs, while I try tie up Gertrudes face and hand."

"They are coming" said one of the foriegners" as the house trembled from the rush of a body of men up the stairs.. For a moment they fired upon the glandelinians but could not stop them,

"Stand well out of reach everybody, and cut them down as they entered the door.

Pushed from behind as they were half a dozen or more of the Glandelinian soldiers forced their way simultaneously into the room, crying-

"surrender you christian dogs or we'll give you no quarter".

"Try and get us." shouted Gertrude, and ere the Glandelinians could fire a pistol or even put themselves into an attitude of desperate defense they were cut down or run through the body. Gertrude then drew a tremendous grenade from her grenade holder, and it exploded on the steps with a tremendous crash, and a wild cry was heard while a different noise as of the fall of timber was heard..

"Hurrah" cried Angeline Richee. "Your grenade had demolished the staircase and it has crashed down with everybody on it."

Many groans and yells and shrieks, were heard below,,,,, then there was a sound of persons being carried out, and then for a while everything was quiet below, while outside the hubbub became greater.

"What is all the confusion outside from" asked Radcliffe., and and Gertrude and he peered out of one of the small windows into the stret. street..

A number of the Glandelinians,, were bringing large bundles of strav nd and hay from a large horse barn opposite."

"They are going to set the h ouse on fire."Gertrude exclaimed.. "what is best to be done Radcliffe.!!!!!!G!!G !!!!!!

"Radcliffe glanced round, tested, the walls, and then his glance was aaa fixed on the ceiling up.

"Some of us can cut or brea out through the ceiling providing there is no r oom above Gertrude,"there must be a space between that ane the roof and I don't believe the wall is very thick between thant that and the next house, and we can work our way from house to house-and if the flames ·gian fast---we can but push off the slates and tiles and retreat to thr the roofs and run the gauntlet of their pistols and rifles.Their blood u is up now and they will shoot to a certainity. o you agree to that plan?"

"That's it. ow everyone of you, stand close together; now, George you jump on their shoulders and cut a good hole through the roof or the ceiling with your dagger.... Do it f as fast as you can, there's no time for us to lose"for they could hear the tramping of feet below and the sound of the hay be ing thrown down, and there was the smell of gasoline.....2.2.2.

"ow every one of you here"Radcliffe went on--for as he Understood the situation he was naturally in command of them all"Grab two or three of those narrow rugs on the floor there and fasten them together. hut the door to keep the smoke out .There the Glandelinians have lit the fire---"as a loud shout of pleasure rose from below.The plaster of the ceiling was tough and hard, and George could not use his strength to advantage. Dense smoke curled up through the crevices of the floor, and all watched anxiously the progress made by the fire.

"That hole is made big enough"Radcliffe cried at last"We have not a moment to lose the flames are now seething through prtions of the floor. ·N lw George climb through the hole, now girls follow in turn."

All of the girls went rapidly through the hole.

"ow lads to thw boy scouts" one"one o of one of you two don't waste any time.Now Gertrude catch hold of its mans legs andgive him a hoist that's right..Now drop that rope Gertrude.Now G ertrude you go on. Now lads catch this bundle of rugs. That's right. ive me one end.There we are to the last at last.Now spread one of these rugs over the hole to keep the smoke out. Now comrades how is the wall of this room above.?"

"Unusall y soft for the plaster, we'll be through in a jiffy."

In accordance with orders those first had up had begun at once to dig a hole through with their daggers through the plaster wall which formed the partition between the houses.. lthough thicker below as it seedm seemed the division between what may be always called the lofts of the houses were made but of a single wall of wood and as George clambered up through the hole, the boys above had already made a good big opening quite large enough for a good sized man to get through. All crept through it, and again Radcliffe hung a rope or rug over the hole to keep out the smoke.

"Now comrades"Tear a hole in the next wall again, but try to avoid as much noise as you can.The Glandelinians will be in possession of all the streets below,, and they might hear us, and it ia well they should have the impression that we are burned in the house where we were. Put you must watch sharp comrades for the fire will spread through these dried up houses as if they were built of straw.."

The boyscouts labored hard with their daggers, and they all worked their way from house to house but the flames followed as fast hot and close,, and at last almost chocked by smoke,, and dust Gertrude said;;;;;

"Quick my comrades, knock of some tiles or shingles, and get onthe roof... of we'll al be nurned as if we were rats in the trap.This side, which is further from the street. We don't to get into the battle ."

The tiles gave way with some resistance, and each one thrust his or her head out through the hole they had made for a breath of fresh air, In wo two minutes all were on the roof.

"Crocuch crouch down, comrades, remain on this side of the roof de boof the Glandelinians may not be expecting to see us come out on this side they will be too b usy fighting the Nationals.I can hear lots of firing close by frm from many unburning houses.ove on boys, and every one of you girls, the fire is spreading now prettly ne nearly as fast as we can scramble along and we might be overtaken."

It was indeed already a great fire; down both the main districts of the big city at whose junction the house first fired stood, the flames had spready spread rapidly, and even leaping across the wide streets becaus because of a fierce windblowing had seized the opposite houses. lready five hundred or six hundred houses were in a big blaze, although it was not twenty minutes from the beginning of the fire.

"There's a large cross lane about twenty houses ahead"said Radcliffe.

"We will remain on the last house as long as we can had, and then slide down by means of our rope to the roof of the house lower down.The Christian troops are edgeing forward, I can tell by the recession of the firing, and the Glandelinians will be too busy now with resisting our own friends to try to follow,follow us, besides I'll bet they believe we have been dead long ago, and the Glandelinians who are at the head of it will have been driven off by our own soldiers.But we'll have to be on the watch for this fire, as the wind is blowing fresh and strong and there is no saying how far the fire may spread.Besides we shall have a reinforcing troop of christians in a few minutes.As son as the enemy is driven out of this district then we are safe."

They were soon gathered,, on the roof of the last hou house of this district,and threee minutes later were driven from it now not only by the flames but by shells aimed at them by a Glandelinian battery. One by one they scrambled down even while under fire on to the house below and thence to the side walk below without a loss of a single comrade..e.e.e Then they passed through the house into the opening of the city square beyond. Glancing up the squre square and down a number of wide streets it was a n enormous archy wall of flames, the flames were rushing from every window and towering up above every roof, almost meeting over the Square. Upon t the other hand,the battle was raging, the christian troops was pressing forward with irestible fury, all was wild confusion and terror, men

of both sides were fighting fiercely and the screams of the wounded, the yells of the Glandelinians, and shouts, and blasphemies of the Glandelinians mingled with the roaring of flames and the crash of falling. roofs.. As the recent great floods in Calverinia, so was the confusion now and in all excitement all was forgotten about the child scout fugitives and no one paid any attention to them now.

"heathe your daggers now comrades"Angeline Jenni nge sai said."There is no more of us having need of fightinghend a hand to help these poor wretches of the non combatants. See they're throwing out of upper windows bedding and articles of furniture, see the poor women laden with house hold goods, and with children in their arms and others hanging to their clothes, fleeing out of the zone of battle in their city.even bedridden people are b ing brought out.There two of you men take up that poor old creature, they have carried her out, and then were killed by shots from somewhere, carry her on till you find some open space to set her down in. Now George, you take a number of boys and work one side of the district, I will take the opposite side with the others. Let w go into every room and see that no one who is ill or children are left behind.There the flames have passed the cross lane of the city already, the corner houses are on fire....

For an hour and a qu quarter in the face of great peril, and from shells hitting the houses they all labored and toiled assiduously, and many a bedridden old man or woman, or a frightened child, did they finally rescue. fortunately at the end of the street lane was an open space of some extent. and here piles of house hold goods in the midsts of bodies of those fallen on both sides and helpless people were gathered in great terror,..

At the end of that hour and a quarter they heard the battle recede far through the city, showing this time the Christian were victorious, and then there came a deep tramp, an and an ernormous brigade of winlies led by general Hendry Darger filed up through the street. The boy and girlscouts and the foriegners burst into a cheer when they saw their friends and commades arive, and these respinded responded upon seeing some of the forien foriegners at work carrying the ill and the aged... Radcliffe and Gertrude at once made their way to general Darger, and reported briefly that the great fire was lighted in the first place by the enemy with the purpose of burning them and all their little comrades, but that they had escaped, and had since then been at their greatest efforts helping the terror stricken inhabitants whom strangely the enemy during all their time of co occupation of the city had not harmed..

"All right. All right "general Darger said." you g can give better details afterwards. at present since our troops have finally carried the city we have got to try and stop the progress of the conflagration.It seems if we don't we,ll have the whole city afire, and then we have only to claim we have captured fire."

"The whole cr y is endangered sir.It is extending over many districts already, there must be a couple of thousand of homes in flames, and I fear what we have seen in the lane we have been toiling in, a considerable loss of life from the conflagration itself..."

"General Percy Wyln"General Darger said to one of his staff officers "Take your whole division of soldiers, with your mining engineers and knock down or blow up all the houses on this side of the district there.. Col onel Jamieson, you take as many men as you can and do the same with the district on the right. The main army itself will follow me. Forward march."

In about half an hours time if not less all the entire force of General Dargers troop which had arived, on the ground, immediately after the enemy had abandoned the city---were at work pulling or tearing down houses, so as to arrest the progress of the great conflagration by isol isolating the burning districts. Upon three sides they finallly succeeded, but upon the other side the fierce fire driven by a high wind, defied all their efforts. and so often threatened to trap and engulf them that the fighters had to retreat beforevit, and the blaze swept onward for many blocks untill it burned itself out when it reached the surburbs and the open country. In its course it had swept away a great part of the best and most beau beautiful part of the town of Vantura. All through the afternoon all the soldiers toiled, and evening had come on before all danger of any further progress of the flames was over, the men were then ordered to encamp in the big squares of the city. A fresh body of troops coming up to preserve ore order, and prevent the Glandelinians ever regaining a foothold on thr town. Then Radcliffe and Gertrude again summoned the general and related the full history of the affair from the time they had come upon the scene, and the general and all who heard the story expressed themse themselves in terms of warm praise for their bravery, quickness and presence of mind... Then the five foriegners were callled up, and their story though longer than that told by Radcliffe and Gertrude was yet absolutely all the same,,, and general Darger told the men that they ought not ought not to have gone too far from the army, for the Glandelinians don'r respect no one who is among the christians, but that beyond that indiscretion they had acted, as reported by Gertrude and Radcliffe with great courage coolness, and good discimp discipline, and thatbhe was sorry they had not tried to get into the army... Then Gertrude and her friend went on the return to their tent, and had to go through their yarn again with great miu minuteness and long detail....

"I do believe"said one of the soodier soldiers"That you girlscouts and your boy followers are the luckiest children in the world.It is not one man in a million chances who has such chances and comes through it.""

"That is so comrade"said another soldier"But it is not one in a million who having gone through such adventures, would have been alive to tell them at the end.The getting into these perils may be considered luck, but the getting out of them demands coolness, quickness of invention, such as few persons in the world even possesses. Now comrade tell me me honestly whether you believe that, had you been cut off as they were during the repulse of our first attempt to capture Vantura you would have ever thought of securing that old mans hair for a wig.?"

"No"the ol other soldier said"I am quite sure the thought would never have come to me.Yes as you say sir, Gertrude, and her followers have had no end of luck, but they certainly d eserves and makes the best of it."

THE MAIN DESCISIVE ACTION FOR ST ETHELREDA.
FUTILE EFFORTS...". "."

IN the meantime during these events, general Richardson Halsted, with Fredrickson Halsted an d Kindernine, with five hundred thousand of his gallent Angelinian troops pressed on from Vantura Road, moving forward with them the heavy seige and other guns.

An hour or so later they tooo were joined by general Blain Night Lingers main column, which had been encamped on the shores of the stream and in communication with the christian forces holding that position.simultaneous to this General Hendro Dargar the Gemini, and Gingigore arived in camp with immense forces of troops, and their coming was hailed with delight by the embattled christian armies who now felt sure that the hour was now at hand when the city of St Ethelreda still smouldering in its vast stretches of ruins was to be soon in possession of the christian troops.

The total force that moved up thus to aid the embattled troops were, The Calverinians, the Fifty Third, and Seventy Sixths corps, and the Ninty Ninth corps of i Infantry, two divisions of concentinian infantry, and the largest force of Abbiannias yet to have arived. The cavarly consisted of the Ninth Carbineers, and detatchments of Domobian Dragoons and Calverinian lancers.The artillery comprised the main of Balw Baldwins battery with three hundred and eighty eight heavy guns, twenty guns of the Royal horse artillery, six hundree light field pieces, and a heavy battery of the royal Artillery of two hundred and fifty five big guns... A total was added to this of about one thousand one hundred and twenty seven gathling and rapid fire guns, and nine hundred thousand supporting artillery cavarly.

On this morning one of the civilians of the city came into the christian positions.He had disguised as a Glandelinian started the evening before vr from the city with a guide, had swum the river, recrossed by the bridge, passed close to one stretch of the Glandelinian position and finally made his way in safty..... He was perfectly acquainted with with all the Glandelinian positions and brought plans for the guiadiance of general Vivian in his main purposed adfa advance... After an examination of the plans, general Vivian determined that instead of forcing his way through the narrow streets, and amidst the smouldering ruins, he would move a large force of troops partly round the city, and assault by the western side, where there was much open ground covered with farm houses and other rural buildings. These if in possession of the foe could be stormed and captured one by one, by a series of seporate assaults, and thus the city could be approached with far less loss than which would have occured in an attempt to force a way through the crowded city, and endager the terrified non-combatants as well. Therefore general Rand Mac-Halley's divisons pushed on, through the Norm Wood Groves, defeating quite a large force of Glandelinians which attempted to stop their way. The conflict v conflict was sharp and bloody but short in duration. During this movement Gertrude Ange line---for Radcliffe remained with his regiment which to his great disguist was afraid to go any further into the battle zone(who could blame them) and had remained near Vantura---had the joy of (though how they came that way all alone and through such dangerous terr terrt territory the story doesn't tell) meeting Jack and Jean again and much sooner than expected.It was needn needless to tell of the delight of that meeting after all the boy and girlscouts had gone through and of such loss they suffered since they were forced to part fr om these two greatest of scouts, nearly two weeks before some time after the last batte battle. Jean and her boy companion who was still using crutches had heard of the disaster to Gertrudes squadrons at "Her battle of Vantura Road" as t she and her boy companion were on their way to St Ethelreda, but since then no word had reached them, and they had to avoid the big battle was that was so terrifically raging.

Gertrude Angoline and Angoline pichee were more than delighted to meet them again,,,,,, and the whole of the army even who saw them arive vied with each other in the heartiness of th the vec welcome accorded the two.Unfortunately Joana sister Minerva was with Radcliffes troop.Jean was surprised to see how dreadfully the battle had lessened the number of Gertrudes troop of scouts, and of the fifteen hundred boys and girls who had been so long under her and been comrades of Jean and Jack not more than fifty now remained in the ranks, those not having died being in hospitals .

It was rather early in the morning when they arived, and Gertrude did not find it out untilll two hours after the ap capture of Vantura. soon after this the whole troops moved forward. The Seventy Fifth corps to its intense disappointment was ordered to stay and guard the Rear with its immense accumulation of t stores and munitions, and the rest of the fighting troops turning off from the direct Vantura road and following the lines Gertrude and her followers had traversed,,,,,,, when they made their way into gladerlinia's army moved forward to storm with all their might the whole of general Tamerlines Center....

The Rebel Angelinian troop s in gray who had anticipated an advance by the direct direct line taken by Halsted, and who had made immense preparations for offense in that quarter were taken aback by the movement to the right, and no opposition was experienced untilll the column approached the beautiful meadowns and level glens.

Then from positions of the enemy miles long a simultaneous rifle and ma Retry fire was opened upon them. Fortunately for the first long line of christian troops the enemys fire had either too long or too short a range for that fire of the enemy was withering enough to have wiped out the whole ~~christian~~ in christian advance. This gave the advancing troops time to secure means to advance from shelter to shelter and return a storm of fire of their own.

The head of the christian colun was extended in skirmishing order, reinforcements were sent up with support of rapid fire guns to keep down the rifle fire of the enemy, and firing heavily as they advanced, and being suppor supported by a cannon fire of heavier artillery, they drove the enemy slowly before them but met however the most determined resistance all the way that never could be beaten.It took two hours to drive the enemy from this position and the christian loss now was dreadful. The enemy recoiled recoiled to the rear, desperately contesting every inch of the ground, but the christian troops continuedpressed forward, and with increasing loss in which three generals were killed carried the strong position on a bend of the creek.. and drove the enemy across the strea, rum.mam stream.

By this time the enemys troo ps from the main position were coming up and prepared to recross the stream and give battle. They checked the christian advance at this section and drove it back with greater loss than ever, and as many cannons were brought up on their own side of the stream the christian wave at this point made t no further attempt on the offensive, and retained the defensive.

The result of the fighting more than answered the commander in chiefs expectation on the foe side, for not only had his troops finally regained their commanding positions, from which the whole of the chistian christian advance could be shelled and blown into the air, but a large convoy of provisions and stores had been captured in the repulse of the christian onslaught, and a new base of operations obtained....2.2.2.2.2

This day however for general Vivian anyhow could be celebrated in the anals annals of the Christian Military History as that upon which some of the bloodiest and fiercest fighting fighting which ever raged with general vivians army occured..... The Glandelinian positions were in long lines of high breatworks.At a short distance offf from the stream was a long angle of trenches supported by a wall of oith.This wall of earth was loop holed for rapid fire machine guns,,, and a large opening in the wall made on purpose had a row upon row of heavy artillery placed in such positi position as to swepp an an advancing christian army right and r left, front and rear, and had a ery very strong inna infantry line behind it. In front a hundred yards distant was a fortified encampment of very large size also held by the main army. All the positions were defended by heavy masses of troops, while a woods beyond were held by an immense division of the best cracshot rifle men of all the Glandelinian army.

The column of christian renewed assault was commanded by general Linhorn, he had twe nty Divisional, and fourty Brigadier generals under him, his advance of troops was excessively immense, and as it crossed the stream in a very long wave by wading and advanced a tremendous artillery machine gun, and rifle fire was opened upon it from the villiage of camps which formed the advanced post of the enemy, and three quarters of Tin horns immense division was wiped out, and had to fall back..The line of battle however was reinforced , the columns broke up into s~~kirmishing~~ skirmishing order and advanced steadily, and half way reached the villiage only to metmeet the same dreadful whole sale slaughter and general Linhorn was slain and half of his general officers too.

General Vivian investigating this dreadful situation saw the position was impregnable, and he ordered his heavy shell guns to open a curtain fire upon the camp like position. As he rode back and forth to give the order properly he was shot from his horse and borne to the rear severely wounded.For a time the confusion caused by this disaster was terrible, and taking advantage of it the enemy issued forth in a flood of men miles long to storm the christian position in turn and hurled half of the christian troops out with great slaughter.It was general Gingigore who in such a situation saved the day. General Mylette Andersonia led this terrific Glandelinian attack which swelled again the christian line as if it was an orm ernormous sea from an overflowing ocean and m for an hour the enemy held full sway, but general Gingigore seeing the danger and finding out that the army was without a head, and absolutely leader less, as Indernine and Blain Lightlinger too were wounded, assumed the full command himself.

He watched the enemy coming raging forward with a fury as if they were all the fiends of hell on a wild ramage with Hell to back them, then he hastily sent this message to general Baldwin;

"Your guns to the front.hurry,Advise general Jack Evans to fall bac or he,ll be trapped and annihilated.Gen Tell general Halsted to sover the rear.The enemy is advancing with irrestible force.No delay.Gen r General Vivian is shot. Hurry."

Indeed the messenger reached general Baldwin but the message had not needed to have been sent about the guns as they were already in position and masked. But he had a reserve battery of bigger guns.It too some time to bring the ponderous sixty eight pounders and bigger centemeter shield guns into avtion action and position, but as soon as all was in position Baldwin first sent the messages to Evans and Halsted, threw his own heavy infantry into line of battle, and awaited the retreating columns. As soon as they had passed through the gaps opened for them all the guns opened at once and tore and ripped the enemys immense column to pieces. Mylette Andersonia was mortally wounded, but however the Glandelinians though astonished by the terrific fire of artillery charged on, and rushed

and swarmed among the guns, and fought most obstinately, their leaders leading their troops gallantly forward. The men fell however as fast as they swarmed among the guns, either shot or cut down or bayoneted the christian infantry behind the guns joined in with their own fire and after fighting for twenty minutes and striving most desperately to press on, the enemy to avoid annihilation as more and more troops concentrated against them had to recoil recoil. The Glandelinians however had won the christian position and were loathe to give way, and fought with the energy and desperation of as many Giant Decairs, but the guns of Baldwin's batteries blew the captured christian positions into the one air made it untenable for the enemy, and after resisting an assault led by Baldwin the enemy gave way and fled to their own positions.

At the height of this repulse of the enemy, general Baldwin recieved a severe shoulder wound, and his horse was killed.

The christian guns were now pushed forward,,, and their fire directed at the Glandelinian positions and the strong fortified camps. The enemy replied with a heavy hurricane artillery fire of their own and the uproar was record breaking. The concussion of so many cannons and explosions was so terrific that the men of both sides could not hardly remain on their feet, and the trees of the forests in the battle zone shimmied with the vibration.

At this time Gingigore ordered an assault. The Fourth Calverinian division had been directed to lead the "storm" while the Ninty Third Abs Abyssinkilian Corps, and the Fifty Third division and other columns were to cover their advance, by their rifle fire at all points from which the enemy were firing.... firing. The abyssinkilian troops however were too impatient to be at the enemy to perform the patient role assigned them, and so joined the other troops in their onslaught... The Glandelinian fire was so fierce and searching that along the whole line of advance it cleared the way before it, but the other lines of christians not annihilated rushed on with a speed and ardor so fierce and rapid rapid that the Glandelinians didn't have much time to reload their weapons, they were too close for the enemys bigger cannon, and the troops though mowed down in long teeming numbers pushed through and over the Glandelinian position on the right, and though the enemy mustered in great force to repel them with demonical fury they now couldn't stay the christian advance. It was a wild desperate conflict, the enemy repelled the assault with all their might, there ensued a most frightful struggle, two million of the Omarians here held the position, and these refusing to retreat even when the way was open to them fought with the energy of desperation and despair.. Nothing however could withstand the troops of Baldwins command, mad with the longbalked thirst for revenge, and attacked with the cry---which in very truth was the death knell of the enemy enemy "Remember Abbieann" on their lips. It was a fearful merciless death struggle. No quarter was asked or given. Some Glandelinians started to retreat, their comrades shot them down. It was a most stubborn, furious desperate strife man to man desperate Glandelinian against furious Abbieannian. However in such a strife weight and power tell their tale, the Glandelinians were reinforced and not one of the two million three hundred thousand christians out of five, who crossed the Glandelinian position escaped, that many of their dead bodies and one million of the enemy's were the next day counted within the position and out side of it, and the remainder of the christian line was driven back to its own position.

My how the Glandelinians could fight.

Along this portion the battle had raged now for six hours.. and the enemy held the advantage. Along other portions of the line of battle the enemy maintained such a terrible fire upon the christian troops that advance against the enemy seemed impossible. Yet general Nemo was ordered to move forward with his divisions and to use guns that would rend the positions and blow everything into the air. The Christian troops along this line however had fought with some better success and they had cut their way into Farmer Browns Orchard and captured a position of the enemy on the right of the Cow Pasture.. H Nemo moved forward, his batteries were in position and in action fiercely an if he were on a ship and fighting his ship broadside to broadside with the enemy and a dreadful cannonade convulsed land and air,,,,,,,,. General Nemo and his ros troops rushed forward to the assault with tremendous fury. It was an action o probably unexampled in any battle of the war before..

Despite this big assault being supported by a teeming line of artillery all in a continuous roar of thunders and by a strong wave of infantry general Aronburg Delights sixteen brigades was annihilated by the storm of rifle and rapid machine gun fire from the position a little beyond the farm, and general Richard Warrereners division also c had its career come to an end. Nemos division was shattered, Halsteds, was demolished, he had to fall back to the Lanes and general pouble pay Federals division also suffered heavily. The christian guns however continued such a tremendous fire upon the enemy and his battery that the exultant landelinians didn't dare to counter charge, daring and as desperate as they were, but as it came to pass general Stanck Omarian and immermamans al crackshot rifle men kept up a wild but unusally effectual fire upon the christian gunners, and every gun, out of two hundred and fifty, lost a score of men as fast as they took the places of those fallen before. The carnage was unspeakable amazing, and the whole christian line of assault had to give way, and the battery for the time was unsupported and threatened with destruction. Then the Glandelinian infantry with a wild cheer burst forward in a wave but as they came rushing through the groves and over the meadows they too went down in such awful numbers that the entire region was covered with the dead and wounded of the enemy. They strove most desperately to push on, but wave after wave they were annihilated, and finall finally recoiled in despair.

General Halsted was determined at all hazards to carry that bloody farm. The Ninttieth and the Fourty Five Grand divisions were not engaged

in the battle yet, and he ordered them up to the attack. He realized that the Glandelinian position in Farmer Browns farm was a very strong one situated on high rises of ground and on an eminence, with flanking woods and fields of corn. The christian guns reopened with redoubled vigor upon the enemy position here and effected a serious breach in the foe lines and tore up a good deal of the position, but still the enemy was too desperate to give way. The left of this foe position was also greatly annoyed too by ten christian motar batteries in an advanced post of the christian position- but the enemy did not seem to even mind it at zall and returned as hot a fire as they could. Determined to silence the foe batteries the word was given for an onslaught, and all the christian forx force rushed forward, and despite their awful losses which was that whole teeming lines were swept away as fast as they came on, finally surmounted all obstacles because the enemys fire had to slacken because the guns grew too hot, and they carried the advanced position with the bayonet, and a long observatory behind it was also most gallantly carried by the christian troops, but they couldn't penetrate any further, and had to be content with what they had captured.

In the meantime rescued and reinforced general Sladerlinia was not idle. On the arival of the heavy reinforcements for him, and by signals general Halsted requested that Sladerlinia should begin to fight his way forward to meet him. Delighted at having the opportunity to assume the offensive after their long defensive action, Sladerlinia's troops assaulted the enemy with great fury and carried two strong lines of works, and then dashed on through a great orchard and despite the resistance the enemy showed carried all before them with the bayonet. At Sunbeam Farm the defeated enemy was reinforced heavily, the christian troops met a terrific fire that destroyed whole divisions of troops by the score, and drove the remainder back, defeated themselves, and with general Sladerlinia badly wounded.

It was seen by both sides that it was utterly impossible to cut through each other as both were undefeatable in the whole battle. yut the enemy was slightly more victorious. Not one stronghold of the enemy which had fallen which had not again been recovered by the enemy, and the enemy elsewhere were pressing on all along the line, and general Vivians army, temporarily leaderless was threatened with defeat. and disaster. The loss of the relieving column for Sladerlinias army was far less than that which had befallen Sladerlinias army in its advance upon the foe-but it was heavy enough it ammounted to one hundred and twenty two thousand men and officers slain, and three hundred and fourty five thousand wounded severely and mortally mortally, and a million with other wounds. Sladerlinias loss was in that one action four times worse. The loss of the enemy considerably exceeded far less. Because of the enemys insane resistance and the fierceness of their fire, the relieving force did not advance as far as it should have, or could have but were stationed along the lines of positions they had captured between the Vantura stream and the city itself, for the enemy was far from unbeaten, other parts of Tamerlines army had come to his assistance, and the enemy threatened to cut the line by which the christians had penetrated and give them an awful infilading fire of artillery and machine guns.

The first operation was to pour in a goodly supply of provisions from the long lines of provision wagons. White bread, fruits of all sorts, tea sugar. all articles were sent forward, and these to those who had for over four days existed on the boarest and coarsest food, not even to obtain bans beans were luxuries indeed. An even greater pleasure was afforded by sending in the mails which had accumulated, and thus affording the christian troops the intense delight of hearing of those loved ones at home from whom they had been so long cut off, and fortunately not one in the army here had lost any loved ones in the Abbieann disaster, though whole armies elsewhere had, especially Hinsons.

The time there was in the vinicity of Sladerlinia's position a sort of lull in the frightful battle Gertrude Angeline went to investigate and see how the refugees had fared within general Sladerlinias camps. It was singular to Gertrude to ride leisurely across the open space in Sladerlinias camp, where before it would have been certain death to show herself for one third of a minute, and to glance about rather as unconcerned than as formerly with nerves on strain for days and nights to repel assaults, which if successful meant terrible death, to the whole army and every refugee on sight. In the battle walls of the small farm region, the shattered roofs of general Sladerlinias headquarters, the destruction of nature everywhere visible by shell fire, he or she saw how the terrors of the battle here had increased increased as she had left aid i and in view of the general havoc that met her view Gertrude was greatly astonished that any one should have survived the long continued bombardment of hundreds of enemy guns. In some respects the change had been somewhat favorable. The increase of strength after the arival of Halsted and his force had enabled Sladerlinia to maintain his position and to enable his troop great and beneficial alteration in the internal arangements and external and the extension of the bloody battle lines held had also aided in improving the sanitary conditions. But the change in the appearance of the battle zone was trifling in comparison with that in the faces of the many hundreds of thousands of wounded, and the defenders themselves. These were it is true still pinched and thin for the supply of food had been reduced so terribly, that the rations had been lowered to almost the starvation point.. But in place of the expression of deep anxiety or of stern determination seen once before on every face, all now appeared joyous and glad, and relieved, for the end to the terrible trials had arived even whether the battle was over or not, and it seemed long before it would be as it couldn't be decided by either side..2

As Gertrude moved along men gl gave her curious glances, almost as if they had seen her spirit, and then as she dismounted and advanced with outstretched hands and proved who she was, greeted her with cries of astonishment and pleasure for it was naturally supposed by all soldiers that Gertrude and her followers to the last had fallen

in the terrible massacre at Vantum Road. Very hearty were the greeting greetings which Gertrude received especially from those whom she met who had been acquainted with her for over two years. This pleasure however was greatly dashed by the answer to her questions reps respecting many friends and acquaintances among soldiers and officers."Dead," dead" filled, mortally wounded were the replies,,,, that came to every one of the inquiries after those she had been so well acquainted with and the Mason family in whom she had been chiftly chiefly interested had suffered heavily.General Mason was mortally wounded and was expected to die any minute, the elder Mason girl was dead,, and really Mrs Mason, Hunny and Edie were the only survivors, and hundreds of refugees had succumbed to the confinement, privation and by shell fire or by being burned in fires. After briefly telling how she and her comrades had succeeded in escaping in disguise, after having been cut off when Gladerlinias assault had been so disasteriously repulsed the day or so before, Gertrude Angeline hurried offto the house where she heard that the survivors of her friends were quarted.. quartered. It was some distance to the rear of Gladerlinias army position, for the battle line too had since the arival of general Halsted been greatly extended, and the Mother and her remaining children had two rooms assigned them in a partly battered farm house.With some hesitation and an ache of heart Gertrude rung the door bell----the servant opened it, glanced at her, gave a scream, as if she saw a spirit, and ran into the room leaving the door open crying"It's the spirit of Gertrude Angeline."

Gertrude seeing that it was a sitting room followed himtin her in. Mrs Mason alarmed at the cry had just risen from her chair, and Hunny and Edie ran in from the inner room as Gertrude entered... A general cry of astonishment came from the mother.

"Angelinia Aronburg "Mrs Mason exclaimed. "Is it possible .Heavens be praised.My dear girl, it is gratitude I havefor God and His Blessed Mother I see you again.And your comrades?"

"They escaped too."Gertrude said.

Mrs Mason took her in her arms and kissed her as a mother would have done, for during the time she had known Gertrude, and remembering well how she restored her lost children to her, Gertrude and her companions had become very dear to her from their unvarying readiness to aid all who required it, from their self devotion and personal bravery. Nor were Hunny and little brown haired Edie less pleased less pleased,, and they warmly in turn threw their arms around the young girlscout general whom they had come to look upon as if she had been a member of the family, and for whom they had wept as dead.For a atime all were too much moved to say a single word, for the sad changes wbad which had occured since they had met the day before were present in all their thoughts.Edie the youngest of the two was the first to recover, and wiping away her tears with her apron, she said half laughing, half crying;;;

"I hate the Glandelinians" Miss Aronburg for what they all have done to my father and sisters.We were frightened too in believing you and Radcliffe and your other friends were all dead.But I never quite believed it after al for I've heard lots about you and felt sure you were safe. I said all along you and your followers couldn't be even captured by the enemy didn't I mama?and that good little Abbieannian boys and girls always got out of scrapes somehow."

Mrs Mason smiled.

"You sure put it that way exactly Edie, but I will grant that between your fits of crying you used to assert over and over again that you did not believe the enemy had captured them or that they had died in the awful battle.and now my dear girlscout leader, tell us how this seeming miracle had occured, that is how you so unusually escaped after the christian army had been repulsed..... ....."

Then they sat down quietly and Gertrude told the whole story, and Mrs Mason congratulated hi her on the manner in which she and her comrades had escaped and upon the great presence of mind they had shown.Then she in turn told her how her husband had been wounded mortally, how a shell exploding in their room killed all but herself and her two remaining children, and what she and they had gone through and suffered..... Hunny burst into tears and left the room, and his mother presently went after him.....

"Well little girl I have seen a lot since I left you when we got cornered, have I not?"

"Yes, you are a dear brave Abbieannian Girlscout general Miss Aronburg "The little girl said.

"Even though I am a "general eh?" Gertrude answered.. "and you And did you reallly cry when you thought I was dead!!!!!"

"Yes "the poor little girl said demurely"I always cry when there is danger of losing my friends.you was the dearest friend I ever had---you found my mother and father for me and brother, and saved!!!!-----"

Gertrude laughed quietly. "Ain't you a little heroine too!"she asked.

"I hope to be "she said positively."but you understand I can't help being afraid of those awful shells Miss Aronburg. Aronburg."

"Don't fool yourself, Edie I like you because I know you're true blue..I should desire most of all to have your brother and yourself as a comrade in my troops if you're mother wouldn't object."she said in lowering tones.

The little girl flushed prosy red. ."If you could get me in as you say "she said after a little pause, I should not mind it but how could I ?I

o now nothing of scout work, and there's a lot of red tape of getting in.It is quite sad"she went on pathetically to think it is so hard to get in the army as a little girl scout.".

"I am quite in earnest , Edie.2"said Gertrude."There's no hardness of getting in if I desire it.The red tape comes at the recruiting stations. You do not need to apply at the stations. You can get the commission from me through the Princesses. There's no red tape here."

"Yes"Edie said."I have always understood the ways of the Princesses, do you really believe you get you could get me and my brother in in the scout troop."

"I am quite in earnest about it"Gertrude said solemnly."It's easy when you win our friendship. You are not too young to get in."

"No reallly Miss Aronburg,we are not too young"Edie said with a great affectation to gravity.I believe we could enjoy hide and seek together or even blind mans bluff but we children now never need to play at soldier we can be real ones even though we are quite small.I remember a dear little boy he used to be---"

Here Mrs Mason again entered the room(a de boom) and Gertrude jumping up suddenly, said that it was quite time for her to be off."I shall only have time to return by the time I promised ? I heard my Grandfather general Vivian is seriously wounded.I must go to see him."

"Good bye Miss Aronburg. I hope to see you to morrow again."

There was a hearty hand clasp, except that Gertrude clasped little Edie in her arms as if she was her own little sister. Then leaving she paid a visit to where general Vivian was brought wounded, and then returned in an indignant mood to her (what is left) command.

"You are out of sorts this early afternoon Gertrude."Angeline Riches said as they leaned together against a tree."What is the matter?"

"You nothheard that general Vivian is wounded!"

"Say Gertrudes what's wrong with himHe get's wounded in every battle." Angeline Riches said almost disgustedly.

"Yes"said Gertrude."He' always gets wounded.Couldn't sometying be done to prevent that?"she demanded.

"No I'm afraid not."

"Were you ever wounded Angeline?"

"Slightly wounded lots of times!"

"And could you always persaude the enemy that you were in earnest?" was Gertrudes next request..

"Angeline Riches mediated pondered.

"Well I'm not quite sure about that, Gertrude but then you see, I never was quite sure of it myself that the enemy would believe I myself was ever quite earnest in anything, and that's rather a drawback, you know. See how desperate the enemy was?"

"But what would the enemy do supposing they would find out we were really quite in earnest, and the prisoners laughed in our faces, and told you you were a christian dog?"Gertrude demanded.

"I expect"Angeline Riches said."I should shoot him down as if he were to me a maddog, and let them understand we don't stand for such insults."

"Oh nonsense "Gertrude exclaimed testily "That would help none."

Angeline Richesthen said;

"Being christians we have to stand for what we get if we wish to get to heaven.The Glandelinians don't care a rapt what we do or say they' ll do it anyhow.. We have to watch out for ourselves that's all.See how we fared when we tried to rescue the refuses on the road.We lost more than three quarters of our troop and haven't had the chance to pay the enemy either."

"I think "said Penrod mischievously"The right thing to do would be to put your right hand on your heart, and hold your left hand up with the forefig foreg forfinger pointing to the heavens and say;' Glandelinia Dear I'll leave you now.When years have rolled our cloudsof battle over our heads and when you have massacred enough of us I will return, and prove to you my fond affection and my constancy."

Gertrudes eyes opened the widest, and it was not untill he went off into a peal of laughter that she was certain he had plas played a foolery on her, and then with an exclamantion of "confound you Penrod" she made a rush at her boyscout friend and comrade, who dodged her assault, and darted off, closclosely persued by Gertrude. And as they dashes round a small barn, their light hearted laughter for Gertrude soon joined in the laughter against herself---rose on the late afternoon air. and the slightly woundee wounded soldiers smiled as the sound came to them a and one of them said;

"Those two girlscouts are playing hide and seek, just as they always do when at home."

General George Gingigore had considered it posis possible that the enemy would upon finding that Gladerlinia was relieved, and the prey of those destruction they had felt so sure of, slipped from beneath their fingers leave their positions not yet carried, and retreat toythe open to fight there, which case he would at the advise of general Vivian after restoring the ripped prtions of the christian lines have left astrong body of troops to guard the captured positions, and have sent forward other troops to carry the rest and bombard the city.

It soon became apparent by the sqythe battle still raged so wildly everywhereelse, that not only did the enemy have no intentions of deserting their strongholds but that they were apparently just as unbeaten in the battle as when it first started. To carry the city itself seemed impossible without blowing all the surviving buildings and the smouldering ruins into the air.The city abounded with a Palaces and and all sorts of big buildings each of which had also been turned into a fortress, while everystreet not hit by the conflagrations werr were barricaded, every wall loopholed, and house tops had innumerable riflemen on them aided by rapid fire guns.As from fourty to fifty million men in the city alone including many millions of well dripped sharpshooters stood ready to defend the town foot by foot, th should the Glandelinian armies be driven from their positions outside, it was clear that the fighting forces of general Vivians army was without Hansons support, utterly inadequate to attempt so serious an operation as a reduction of the whole city, except by destroying it by the heaviest artillery fire that could be mustered against it. and to leave a prtion of the force only would have submitted them to a sad disasterous seige, with the necessity for advance advance to their relief.Despite his being wounded general Vivian from his cot of pain still reained his retained his command, and ordered the generals to

retreat from the captured positions, to carry off all the woundee an wounded and all provisions, and to renew the contest on the old scale untill the reinforcements from Hans ns army should arive, and he should be able to attempt the destruction of the enemy in the city with a force strong enough for the purpose. In the meanwhile he had ordered seige operations to be begun so the enemy in the city couldn't escape in case the troops in the positions were finally worsted. His intention too was kept a secret untill the last moment of the retreat lest the news might reach the enemy who from the batteries in their possession along Vant, Vantura Run could have opened and maintained an annihilating fire upon the rods roads and fields through and along which the women and children refugees would have to pass and who would have made such a terrificonslaught along the whole line to be traversed, that it would have been next to impossible to draw off the troops.

In order to decieve the enemy guns of all the batteries were placed in position to play a terrific fire upon the towj town and a heavier fire of long range batteries was opened on all the strong positions of the enemy untill the noise of the cannonade far outrivaled the cannonading of any big volcanic eruption. In the meantime preparations for retreat of gladerlin in and the others who had advanced so far were quietly carried on. All the army covered wgon trains were prepared for the carry away the women and children refugees, and every one were warned they must prepared to leave that evening, and that no lo luggage beyond a few personal necessaries could be found time to be removed. The order a aroused mingled emotions ---there was f gladness at the thought of leaving a place where all had suffered so much and round which so many sad memories were centered,, there was regret in giving back to the foe positions which had been captured at such an awful cost of lives. Among many too there was quite a lot of dismay at the thought of giving up all their movable possessions to the enemy but there could be no time to remove much. One small satchel was all that could be allowed to each or am small true trunk and as each tried to put together the most valuable of his or her possession, the whole of the shatter ed houses of the refugee camp were littered from end to end with handsome dresses, silver plates, mirrors, clocks furniture and effect effects of all sorts. A short time since any one would have gladly resigned all that they possessed for life and liberty, but now that both were assured it was felt hard to give up everything.

Gertrude went in to Mrs Mason to see if she and her followers could be of any service, but there was comparatively very little to do for that poor lady had lost all her portable property in the destruction of the country bungalows and houses on the estate owned by her husband, which had been x swept away by the flood, and had come or were sent to St Ethelreda for refuge, not believing at the time any force of the enemy would bes concentrating here, when the clouds of battle began to lower heavily. he had no baggage whatever except the clothes she and her two surviving children had on. Gertrude had not been able to see them since his first visit being incessatnyl incessantly on duty.

"I am so sorry I couldn't come up before" she explained "but each of the officers have been up to hav e a survey of the enemy lines, as we may suffer from another storming assault at any moment--general Gingigore expects them to rush forward with all their men. The battle is far from decided yet ."

"Shall we get away without being fired at?" Hunny asked.

"I'm afraid you will have to run the gauntley in one or two spots" Gertrude said. "The enemy is maintaining an incessant fire, and although we must hope they will not have any idea that any number of people are passing along the road,, and their fire nevertheless may only be directed at our contending troops it may be a little unpleasant, but you I believe are all accustomed to that now! must be off again Mrs Mason I really only came to explain why I did not come again so soon to see to things, and only have got time for half an hour, so I had made my horse go his fastest all the w ay.

CHAPTER TWO....".". RETREAT. A SAD PARTING.
OVERLAUGHTS GALORE.
A DESPERATE DEFENSE.
GENERAL TAMERLINES STRANGE RETREAT.

AND so Gertrude made off again, and as she shook hands with them he could feel that poor Edie was regreting her departure. Upon the previous reaction of the terrible battle all the ill and wounded were being removed from Vantura Junction. The guns were sent forward to cover the retreat of the shattered troops while at half past three in the afternoon the emigration of the women and children refugees began. All had to trot and wal to the dangerously exposed Vantura road, a road strewn with debris, bloody bodies, of the fallen, and ankle deep in dust, and in some places exposed to a heavy fire, especially of high explosives that tore the earth up into terrifying eruptions that seemed to reach the heavens. There was danger too from the noise of these explosions of all who ventured on this road to suffer shell shock. At one of these points a strong line of covering troops with artillery was posted, along which Gertrude was on duty, and acting as their director and commander. As each party of women and children arived to the spot, they were advised to stoop low, and to run across at full speed, as the road being a little sunk they thus escaped observation by the ruthless enemy, whose battery was at some little distance, but the grape and bullets whistled as if there was a hurricane overhead, added by the great earsplitting bellowing thunder of high explosive shells, and many were wounded, ore more l or less as they passed.

Gertrude had been on the lookout for the Masons party, and came forward and had a tal with them before they started across the open spot. All the noise was as if a great hurricane and thunderstorm was raging simultaneously, fires were burning fiercely among brush and briar and high grass and as h she was in conversation an exl explosion tore and ripped up the ground about three hundred feet away from them, and they recieved a great shower of earth and stones and other debris, but were unhurt.

Bang, went another explosion more close, then two or three simultaneously. The situation was getting worse. Gertrude was however, rather serious now at the prospect of the danger they were about to run,

"Will you let me cross with you one at a time?" she demanded.

"Certainly not Miss Gronung Aronburg" Mrs Mason said. "you could not do us a bit of good, and would run a suicidal chance yourself with all those high explosive shells booming round us. Now Hunny, Edie are you ready.?"

The children hesitated as a great crash split the air and all was dark from the cloud for a moment.

"Stoop low for heavens sake!" Gertrude urged.

Mrs Mason started at a desperate run followed by Hunny. Edie would have gone too but there came a mighty rending roar dangerously close, and she was hurled spr sprawling off her feet by the concussion . Gertrude lifted her by the hand, found she was not hurt but nearly crying.. and ran across, keeping between her and the enemy..

"Down low please" she cried as when they w re half across a hea heavy gun fired. As he she said this she threw her arms around Edie and pulled her to the ground. Just at the edge of the road the ground burst out into a frightful eruption and a storm of shell fragments swept past them while the great explosion sent a shower of earth and debris so heavily over them they were almost buried.. Another half minute and they were across on the other side..

"Good bye" he said to them all. "You are over the worst now!"

"Good by my dear girl scout friend. Mind how you cross again. Goodbye God and his Holy Mother bless you and care for you!"

and Mrs Mason shook her hand and turned to go. Edie held out hers to him Gertrude, but she lifted her in her arms and gave her a good hug, and then setting her down when the little girl said

"you have saved my life Gertrude."

"Oh nonsense" said Gertrude.

"you did Gertrude,, and yes, I am coming mamma---in answer to a word from her mther. mother and she waving her hand ran off to join her.

Then Gertrude returned to her post, and they all went on tward the refuge assigned to them. At a Cross road near Sunbeam junction a long halt was entailed untill all were gathered there to waitfor the coming of the wagons in order that they might be escorted by a strong guard on to the Strong section of the christian lines. Then for them all came an anxious journey. The Masons rode horses for the a x anxiety was less when moving on foot than if shut up ina conveyance. Several times were there were long halts in expectations of assaults, and a report that a great movement among the enemy at one time delayed them untill reinforcements could be se nt for and arived. But about four in the afternoon all reached the strong christian lines, where a number of tents had been erected, and refreshments prepared for the many fugitives. Later on the retreating troops came tramping into their newly selected positions and in regular order had gone away off from the positions they had captured from the enemy leaving big fires burning and moving in absolure silence absolute silence, so that it was not untill tward the next morning that the christian troops had evacuated their positions, and that their expected prey had escaped from them, and that all the troopswere again in their own positions, and concentrating heavily against all portions of the enemy's lines in preparation to give forth sledge hammer blows from another direction. The evening itself had been spent quietly, all enjoying intensely the open air, the relief from the long pressure, and the good food, wine, and other comforts now attheir disposal. Gertrude brought Jack and Jean to acquint them with her Mason frien s friends and a pleasant eveningwas spent together.

Thatevening a heavy gloom fell upon all, for onthat day the gallenga, gallent General Hardrove, was shot and mortally wounded. and in a few hours breathed his last. He was a very good man as well as a gallent soldier and his death just at the moment when the safty for allthose for whom he had done so much was assured, cast a gloom not only over his comrades and those who hadfought so desperately under him, but on the whole christian nation. All thatevening afternoon since the start the great convoy had been on th4 move. Half of general Currens division served as an escort, while the main christian lines were still in fearful action between them and St Ethelreda but the enemy though he maintained an awful fire did not come out to do any more "storming." The whole road under fire too between the two towns and the battle was throughout that afternoon covered by a continuous stream of army wagons provision and store wagons. Mrs Mason and her little boy and girl were on horses with their servant, and as the girlscouts had given them baskets of refreshments the long weary march was borne not only without inconvience but with some pleasure at the novelty of the scene of battle, and the delight of air and freedom

General Jack Evans had intended to allow a half at four in the afternoon but as a continuous heavy firing was head in the direction of both Vanruna and Ethelreda, and fearful for the safty of the all important post of Vantura, the commander determined to push forward his army at once. Gertrude had by this time rejoined her little regiment.

"There is bad news"said Angeline Jenning"The news is from Vantura. "We will have to push on with the refugees or we'll get into another scene as at Vantura with the refugees not so long ago. I expect it will be a terrible three hours march with this convoy. pray See that you all have enough provisions with you for two or three days. The confusion ensueing there is something awful, but if we have everything with us we will be able to manage. I am sure that the tents will not be got up."

It waswell that they were so prepared, for the first part of this retreat owning to the immense length of the convoys had lasted an hour or so, then there was a half halt for an hour, and then the journey was continued. Many brigades accompanied the convoy, but Gertrude had seen nothing more of her friends. Colonel Daniel Evans however with his troop had moved along the line at intervals, was in conversation with them, and was able at a halting place to assist them to alight.

The news that had aroused the christian army, and worried general Vivian was bad indeed. General General Hobert Bowenin command at Vantura had been defeated by a reinforcing army of the enemy, aided by the troops of Tamerlines reserves, and part of the town had been recaptured. General Calahan himself had pushed forward with all speed with a large body of troops with heavy guns so as to secure the safty of the bridge of boats across the stream, for had this fallen into the enemys hands the situation of the great convoy would have been serious indeed.

However the rebels had forgotten to use measures to secure the bridge until it was too late, and the approach of the bridge on either side was guarded by many christian guns. The passage of the convoy then started, and for three hours a continuous stream passed across the river. The whole force which had accomplished the relief of general Gladerlinia had not come, as it was considered very necessary to retain some troops to watch the movement of the enemy, and to prevent the great body of Glandelinians from undertaking expeditions.

Therefore three hundred and fifty thousand men wereaccordingly held there with a strong artillery artillery force.

As that long afternoon had went on and asthe thunder of the guns at Vantura grew louder and louder, general Evans ordered his troops forward and pushed on. The divisions asthey arrived were hurried across the bridge to take part inthe defense of the position guarding the bridge, where general Currents troops were defending themselves desperately against immense forces of the enemy.

"What in the world has happened?"was the question the officers of Evans troops requesedof those requested of those of the defending troops when they first met.

"Oh we have been fearfully threashed, routed to the four winds."

"What caused it?"

"A series ofblunders and mismanagements. We have lost our position all the camp equipageall the stores in fact everything you could imagine. It is the most disgraceful thing that has happened since the battle began. We lost heavily yesterday, frightfully to day. They say the Sixty fourth, the Ninty First, the Fourthy eighth, the Nintenth, and the Sixteenth divisions, and general Calahans Fourteen Corps are all cut to pieces."

It had indeed been a wretched business, and was the only occassion even when the christian troops were in any force defeated throughout the the war. The affairwas believed to have happened in this way. General Curians troops near Vantura had been stationed in a long intrenched position, so placed as to overawe the city, and to command the river and the bridge of boats, which it was all most important to retain open. The general in command recieved news that general Tamerline was swining a big new division of troops in that direction to recapture the town. Unfortunately they were approacig approaching on the opposite side of the city to that upon which the christian force was [illegible], and the general determined therefore to leave a portion of his force to to protect the intrenchments and the bridge, while with the rest he moved forward to repell the advance of the enemy in the open at a distance on the east side of the city, as it was very important to prevent the city from again falling into their hands. He pushed on first across the stream, the enemy made a vigorous defense here but fell in retreat in great numbers, and a cross canal covered the christian rear. The christian force on this advance consisted of one million two hundred thousand infantry with one hundred thousand cavarly, and eighty guns. The troops advanced in a series of long lines, and with a rush, carried the position, defeated the enemy captured many guns, and then other portions of the army pressing pressing on found themselves in the face of the main body of the enemy army. Then for the fir first time it appeared to have occured to the general that it wasc imprudent to fight so far from the city. He therefore ordered a retreat, and the christian force fell back, closely followed by the victorious enemy. He halted near the road and tried to

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retrive his error, but he was forced to continue his retreat, and halted for the afternoon a short distance from the "Massacre"scene of a few days before. Even no preparations appeared to have been made in case of an overwhelming assault by the enemy, and when at three that afternoonthey came on in immense force and with wild fury, the christian position was seriously threatened on all sides. For five hours then the troops had held their ground nobly, and prevented the enemy from advancing to storm them directly. A large body however moved round to the christian rear, and entered the town, thus getting between the christian forces and their intrenchments. The enemy hurled a fearful assault upon them, and unable to withstand the onslaught, the orderwas therefore given to retire, and this had to be carried out in such haste that the whole of the camp equipage equipage consisting of five hundred thousand tents, quantities of saddlery for eight divisions of cavarly, uniforms wfor the whole of general vivians army and a vast amount of valuable property of all sorts besides plenty of munitions, artillery and rifles and pistols, and a wagon train loaded down with supplies fell into the hands of the glandelinians glandelinians. All these stores had been placed in an immense camp on a plain outside the fortified intrenchments. It was a most disasterous affair, and Vantura blazed with great fires lighted by the victorious glandelinians. During the retreat a great number of big guns had been overturned, and left in the fields, and at dead of night twenty thousand men of the Seventhy Forth Division accompanied by a detatchment of men with rapid fire guns, movedsilently forward, and succeeded in righting the guns, and succeeded in bringing them off from the very heart of the enemy's territory.

On the following morning general Evans whole force moved up and went into position to prevent the enemy from approaching the intrenchments. The enemy commander general Turpen and Fred Marry advanced his troops to the storming. One christian division remained in reserve. The left wing of Evans line succeeded in repulsing the Glandelinians coming against it, but before it was reported the enemy had succeeded in capturing two eighteen poundes, a pounders and one big centermeter sil sheild gun.

The assault fell heaviest upon general Turpe and after maintaining his position for several hours, in which he inflicted a loss upon the enemy ten times as big as at Gettysburg to the Confederates was compelled to ga give way, because one of his generals retreated without orders--a proceeding of which the latter officer was severely censured by all the christian generals, and by Angeline Riches in particular, who riding on to view this action of the battle, reached the scene of action when it was in full sway. She had said to him"Sir sometime you'll do that too much and I'll request your resignation."

But it was the division under general Mic Cantler that suffered most heavily Seeing that general Curren was hard pressed he led his own army against fourty four guns which were playing with great effect. With a roar of cheers this christian troop who numbered fourteen generals, and one hundred and sixty five thousand men, advanced to the suport of Curren. Their way led across meadows and farms and as they moved forward a storm of shot shrapnell, grape and canister from all the enemys smaller guns was poured upon them, while from the fourty guns came highexplosives. Faster than any one could count them by the hundred men fell, but there was no wavering on the part of the survivors on at the double they went until within fifty six yards of the guns and then burst into a charge at full speed. Gertrude the little dare devil that she is, dared to follow the charging column to cheer them on by her presence, yet as accustomed as she was to fire she yet felt somewhat bewildered at the iron storm which swept the christian line like a comb does through hair. All around her men were fallen, a shell fragment threw off her cap, and a grape shot smashed her little sword off short in her hand. The Glandelinian artillery men stood to their guns and fought most fiercely and sana savagely as the Angelinians rushed upon them. Gertrude caught up the rifle of a man who fell dead by her side, and bayonetted a gunner, she saw another man at four paces off level a rifle at her, felt a stunning blow, and fell, but was up in a minute again, having been knocked down by a stone hurled by some Glandelinian who was out of ammunition and had no bayonet a blow which probably saved her life. Ten of the guns were captured and turned on the foe while along a line of action five miles a terrific hand to hand conflict raged.

Major general Henderson fell dead, captian general Turner, and Captian general Horner died fighting nobly beside him, and the gallent general Trycone recieved three bullets through his body... From all sides masses of the enemy rushed forward to repell this terrific christian assault of Jack Evans army, and a Corps of Turmeranian cavarly swept upon them. General Hanson in Gainsbury was now incommand, and seeing the troops couldn't go any further as the enemys defense was too desperate gave the word to fall back, and even faster than they had approached, the survivors of Evans first division retreated literallly cutting their way through the crowds of astonished Glandelinians, which surrounded them.

Gertrude was scarcely conscious of what she was doing, and few could have given a detailed account of the events of that most gallent charge. All the men as they retreated remained well together, old veterans in desperate fight they understood that only in closed line could they hope to burst through the equally desperate enemy, striking, shooting, bayonetting and clubbing musket against musket and using pistols and always running, they at last regained the position from which they had issued. Of the fourteen general, seven were killed and four wounded, of the one hundred and sixty thousand men, eighteen thousand killed, and fourteen thousand wounded, and ten thousand captured, a striking testimony to the valor with which the generals had led the way.... Such slaughter as this among the general officers is almost without parallel in the records of the christian army

order general Vivian, and many lads and men who went down or went into the fray low down on the list of lieutenants and captains were all dead and wounded. Every Regiment lost its commander. It was not untill they halted breathless, and exhausted, wounded and bleeding, that Gertrude Gertrude discovered that she had been twice slightly wounded for in the the wild excitement of the fight she had been unconscious of any pain whatever. A bulet had made a cut in the fleshy part of her right arm, while another had cut a clean gash just across her hip. Neither was in any way serious or enough to lay her up, and having bound them up with her bandage of her emergency kit, she remained untill she could go to the military hospital to have the wounds properly properly cared for. She found the hospital camp crowded with badly wounded men, and women and children who in flight had been hit by shot or shell fragments, and Gertrude seeing the pressure upon the surgeons, obtained a couple of supply of better bandages the medicines for wounds, and went to her regiment to have Bright Eyed Mary dress the wounds for her. As she reached the troop Penrod sprang forward.

"My dear Gertrude, I was just hunting for you. We are going to cross to night. I heard general Evans's troops suffered frightfully. I see you are hit, but Blessed be to God, only slightly."

"Very slightly dear boy, nothing worth being frightened about. It has been an awful business though, the battle is frightful everywhere else all along general vivians line so they say and the enemy is pressing on. And how are you. And how is Jack Saunders with his wounded leg and Jean?"

"They're getting along quitewell Gertrude. "They'll be soon able to assume their duties.

"And Mrs Mason, and her two little kiddies.?"

"Mrs Mason and the little girl and boy are all right Gertrude, and will be sent to general Vivians headquarters to morrow. All the rest are gone."

"Gone? Gone where."

"Gone to the christian rear."

"Gone...ear. Dear, I'm sorry. Now Penrod you are well acquainted with it come and properly bandage up my arm, and you must congratulate congratulate me Penrod dear boy, for by the battle to day I have regained my way nearer tward general Vivians headquarters."

"Hurrah" Penrod exclaimed joyfully. Indeed that is good news. What good piece of news."

Fearing that something would come amiss however because the enemy was storming general Vivians whole line something beyond description now, Penrod suggested that all the refugees in the rear would be safer somewhere else in case the enemy force the christian line to retreat that it was best for them to go further, and therefore at her and Penrods' orders the whole of the convoy were found gathered in tents, and orders was issued that in two hours, the women and children would proceed tward general vivians center which was the strongest of all the positions, and under escort of what remained of Gertrudes regiment, and of five thousand mounted men. It would be a very long march for the convoy would be encumbered by the long train of stores and munitions of war too while a large number of wagons were available were available were available for their transport.

Angeline Riches heard the news early, and understanding how interested her comrades were in the matter, she rode round the camp and told them. Leaving them to follow she rode round to Mrs Masons tent. They had just heard the news and short as the time was badso few preparations to make that they were ready for the start. A special army baggage wagon, now emptyy was allotted to them, which their servant riding outside would hold them with some comfort. these wagons being specially constructed to allow allow the occupants, when there were even ten in them to lie down at full length. It was however plenty of room for the Mother and two little children as no one else but Gertrude was to ride with them. The civil and boyscout escort soon arived, and while Angeline Riches was discussing the arrangements with Mrs Mason, and seeing to it that provisions were in the wagon for them, and they for a moment sauntered off.

"It will be quite a long time before we can get to the christian center" Angeline Riches said, "and I hope we can pass through the "storm" saftly. I know I'm one of the leaders in the main and a good guide as I know plenty of the country, but I do not seem to be acquainted with the enemy as I wish to be, even though I have gone through a whole lot, buteven if you laugh at me Mrs Mason I must tell you I even myself feel I m going through a most dangerous territory."

But Mrs Mason was in no laughing mood.

"My dear girlscout general" she said "I am not going going to laugh, laugh, I'm too sad at the parting of my last beloed ones in death. But you must understand even when the war began I and my two little ones here have seen a lots of the war and am very well acquainted with the enemy. You know We love you and your troops as if they were all of us, very very much. It would be absurd to say less than that now. We go forth on these terms Miss Angelinia Riches. We now we face great peril even on this journey. Well yes I will say terrible danger if you say so, but we cannot tell the least in the world, what we shall even encounter five minutes hence. It seems so absurd that we had to be caught in a battle but we are, and in such a battle. so we won't stop praying during all the trip, we will be content with what we understand noq now, and if there is no change from bad to worse, there will be no blame and misery. Do you believe that is true, Miss Avobru Aronberg?"

Gertrude agreed very readily.

All was now ready for the start, everything in its place and the servant on the seat with the driver. Then came the parting from the friends an and a very sad one. Mrs Mason was much moved, and her children kept unrestrainedly, while poor general Gingigore who had prepared his troops to go forward to a defensive line, and was a little to the front in his horse lifted his eye [illegible]

as he saw the farewell embraces of Gertrude and the two little Mason children.

"Humph" he muttered to himself. "Our girl scout girlscout comrades are do love their friends. Well" he looked at the girlscout leaders and thought of the qualities they had shown "I should not be surprised if the two girlscout leaders still go through it, but whether they'll all arrive to the center saftly through the storm remains to be seen. It would be a bad thing though if the Masons would have a bad fate. I'll see that they'll have my cavarly for support."

The women and children refugees once sent off from the danger zone, general Gingigore was able to direct his attention to the efforts before him--of for good and all of clearing out of Vantura the enemy army composed of the germanmanian divisions, and the zimmermannian troops in all believed to be twenty five million men. Against this large force he decided to concentrate his own reliable divisions and these well led were ample for the purpose.

General Evans position was seperated from the city by the stream that ran east and west. The enemy were entirely on the south of this stream their center atthis section occupying the town. Outside the town lay the right of the rebel army, while his left occupied the spav space fronting Evans. In the rear of the enemys left was a strong position on a long low hill. The operations of this eventufl eventful day were simple.

A demonstration was made against the twon town from the right which occupied the attention of the enemy occupying the town. The main body of the army were quietly massed on its left, and crossing four bridges over the stream, assaulted the enemys main right with great impetuousity. These cutoff cut off by the position that war carried in their rear from their comrades of another another position were unable to withstand the christian onslaught, and the terrible crashing destruction by Baldwins guns, and after fighting desperately for three hours fled precipitatedly persued by the victorious troops for four miles along the Vantura road. Every gun and ammunition wagon of the enemy at this section on this side fell into the hands of the christian voc vit victors. As the victorious christian forces swept along past the city, general Hulsted detatched a force under General Gurbania to assault and occupy the position of the Ventura Junction which was captured after fierce and desperate fighting. Thus the christians were in a position in the rear of the enemy's right. The enemy seeing that their left was utterly defeated, and the retreat of their right threatened, lost all heart andcas soon as the christians pressed forward fled, a disorganized rabble from the city they had entered as conquerors only the afternoon before. The christian cavarly started in persuit cut up large numbers, and captured the greater part of their guns.

The threatening army of general Hair thus beaten and scattered, and Ventura again in their hands but now for good, general Gingigore was able to devote his whole attention to cleaving the pisition positions north of the road, and in preparing for the great final blow against St Ethelreda which now that Vantura Junction too had fallen, was the headquarters of the main Glandelinian army.

The next two hours were passed in a series of assaults upon general Boobheads position. In some of thes the christian general Walter Starring was the special director and leader and the glandelinians here too fled before him after desperate fighting.

During these two hours of terrible conflict large reinforcements had arived, and general James Gannon had arived with the rest of his army of 10,000,000 men. The tre men dous trains of artillery ammunition and stores had been already massed in teeming lines upon the enemy positions and the city proper, the long waves of assailants began to cross tye river and the battle line moved forward with tremendous fury..

The effort for the army was a most difficult one. From all the various points from which the christians had driven them the glandelinians retreated to the positions near St Ethelreda, and there was now in a long battle line sixty million glandelinians. Fearing and understanding the storm that was preparing to burst upontheir heads they had neglected no means for strengthening their positions during the days before, Great lines of earth fortifications had been thrown up, enormous quantities of guns placed into position every house barricaded and loopholed. In the hopes of destroying the christian force under general Laderlinia which had been athorn in their side for so long---a series of desperate assaults frightful in violence and fury had been made upon them, but these had been uniformly defeated with dreadful loss by the gallent christian force under general Blain Lightlinger. At nine that morning the advanced division occupied the advanced position, after meeting insane resistancem resistance at which two generals fell. The assault was almost simultaneous upon all sides of the town, general Evans on one side, general Hindernine upon another, and general Gingigore on the third., and the main assault under general Hulsted himseld on the fourth. Great was the excitement along the whole christian line during this tremendous struggle of the long and bloody battle. Gertrude Angeline, and her officers met while the battle was raging in the distane distance.

"Well Gertrude" said Penrod after a long conversation upon the prospect of tye the battle "Did you do as you said you would and send some one to watch for the approach of Hansons army and violet, and her sisterw.?"

"Most of it has been tried "Angeline Riches said "We could not get anywhere however. The attept is too dangerous."

"I can supply you with a strong cavarly force" said Gertrude. Now what do you want to watch Hansons approach for. you would not tell me before?"

"Well Gertrude during this battle too there was lots of lott secured, quantities of valuable thinigs, and yet the enemy couldn't lose anything. I heard Hansons army had tore up Hanleys army at Lebtotheua Lebanon and is coming for us. so Radcliffe and I determined that when this storming business is over, we could go out and see if he is coming to our aid."

Penrod laughed.

"There is nothing like forethought Girls and I have no doubt that you will be able to find them sooner or later if they're really coming. Do as you wish but we careful and watch out for the enemy artillery and cavarly.

In the meantime the fighting raged on, with general O en Onens division which advanced round the big city, and repulsed heavy assaults of the enemy destroying each assault successively..General G ingingore also had advanced , t captured a long line of positions after meeting stubborn opposition crossed the river, and occupied the outside of the city---the scene of the tremendous fighting on the previous advance. The left of the enemy at this spot was also stormed and after very heavy fighting carried. Here general Wr igley was mortally wounded. Gene General Hilstede force had by this time moved up into position on th the other side of the river and this enable him to storm the enemys position in the rear, and so greatly to assist the advancing army. But the enemy sure gathered in terrible strength th to press forward further seemed impossible, the enemy rallied, and hour by hour fought their way forward, and the positions recaptured. The panic filled troops fled through the fields followed hotly by the again v ictorious landelinians. such Was the violence of the counter assault that a panic also seixed the advancing troops under genera ' general Parson, and these too fled, deserting the fortified positions captured at such big loss, and the landelinians poured into these positions. For a few minutes a sharp conflict raged the christian soldiers soldiers remaining being annihilated, the victors cheered and yelled. . They captured even the houses within the christian line position and from the top o to the bottom the buildings were found crowded i with valuable articles no doubt collected from all parts of the world. Attic ian furniture, clocks and looking glasses all sorts of beautiful porcelain gorgeous draper ies, all sorts of articles studded with jewels, costly weapons inlaid with gold, enormous quantities of jewelry---in fact wealth of all sorts to an almost fabulous value. The wildest scenes of confusion ensued among the Glandelinians. According to the rules in these matters being captured by storm, these places once occupied by rich people were considered by the Glandelinians as lawful plunder. Ar large things the fierce Glandelinian soldiers did not care and set to smash and destroy all that could not be dem carried away. Some put on head bands and did with jewels, others hung necklaces of enormous value round their swarthy nec s, or covered their arms with bracelets. None understood the close costly value of the costly gem they had become possessed of, and few indeed of the officers could discriminate between the jewl jewels of immense value, and those which were mere worthless imitations.

As scon as the news spread that the Glandelinians had driven all befo e them again, the Glandelinian guns fired a salute in honor of the triumph and the christian armies had to again fall bac to their own positions.

All christian officers who could obtain an hours leave who were not in the action of the battle hurried away to see what was to be done next. Gertrude Angeline, and all her boy and girlscout troop were near the spot when the news came of the disasterous defeat and they were able to et get away and met at the company street a mile from where the disaster occured with a number of soldiers.

"What do you believe about this defeat Miss Aronburg?"a soldier asked of her.

"I have no idea of how it will result." Gertrude said. "I never saw a Glandelinian army fight more determinedly."

"No more have I"said the soldier"It may be that these Glandelinians soldiers were more better trained and disciplined than other armies or it may be something else. We shall have something worse happen yet."

"Very well"said Gertrude."I'm ready for it.But what's wrong with general Hanson. Why don 't he come?"

"He'stoo far"said the soldier."He's still a hundred miles away.He won't arive till three days I'll bet."

In the meantime onward the Glandelinians went securing everything in the way of jewels. Any one who would have penetrated into the headquarters of general V ivians, and the camps there which had been abandoned, they would have found all was wild confusion. soldiers were smashing chandellers and all sorts of looking glasses destroying destroying furniture, tumbling the contents of chests and wardrobes and caskets over the floor, eager to find, equally eager to secure what they had found. Bitter were the exclamat ions of the G landelinians in their disappointment when they couldn't find wines money and other luxuries.But they did find strings of pearls the cheapest worth a thousand pounds in english money.One officer secured all he could and his pcO pockets and breast of his coat were stuffed with all he secured, and each had had a bundle in his handkerchief.

"I wonder"said Gertrude as she watched the scope of robbery at a safe distane distance"whether we have been fools.I have not the shadow of an idea what sort of Glandelinians these are.I never saw Glandelinians fight so desperately and determinedly.They're bravery is worthy of a better cause..

"It was worth running the peril of engaging Tamerline anyhow s to show him we are not afraid of him"said Hadcliffe."But its still raging and its only a matter of endurance.Anyhow Gertrude let's hold our tongues about it. It's no use expecting to win a battle if it can't be done.Just let's go ahead continue the battle as long as we can and send a message to Hanson telling him to try and get here within twenty four hours if he cannot come by rail.He must find out the truth, and then he'll go the advance hard.Maybe he's totally ignorant of what's going on here or he'd have not bothered with Hanley and come to our aid.When we have time we can ask Violet and her sisters about Tamerlines army.They may know something which it can be to our good."

"I believe it could be calculated that a million or more of the enemy is obtaining loot of more or less value which has been abandoned by our refugees from the case of jewelry, valued at one hundred thousand pounds in English money"said Jean. I'll bet the value of all the treasures

there was seized by those Vandals is estimated at $100,000,000 of money at the lowest amount."

The demolition of this portion of the christian line for a time had utter ly demorilized the christian troops, and even as overwhelming numbers massed against them they began to leave their outer positions by hundreds of thousands contesting however however every inch of the way with the same desperation as the enemy had shown.Numbers were cut off and slaughtered by the Glandelinian cavarly, and artillery, or by infantry during the retreat retreat but large bodies succeeded in escaping to give the Glandelinians fresh trouble in corn and other fields and in glens. Hour by hour the glandelinians desperately fought their way from position to position, and from field to field, losing a hundred thousand men an hour. Every hour the cannon and mortat and centemster gun batteries thundered against all portions of the christian positions still uncaptured, andvthe christian batteries answered incessantly with a mighty roar, and great fires blazed in many quarters, the battle started some of the foesats ablaze and the scene of carnage and confusion was awful. It was not untill the afternoon by which time it seemed that everything began to settle down order was somewhat restored, that Gertrude Angeline and WaltervStarring and her bands again met.

"Well Gertrude"he said"Do you or have you heard that general Vivians army in the left wing is broken up. The battle is terrible now, at its highest fury.Many new men well drilled, who understand their geographies well and so forth and who are well acquanited with all sorts of military affairs have been appointed to Regiments and Brigades whose commanders are down dead or wounded mortally, and the refugees are overanxious over anxious for fear the whole army will be swept away by the enemy and then they left unprotected.But I know general Vivian.I asked him in the hospital tent.Your Excellency are we going to retreat?"and he looked at me as if he thought I had too many wheels in my head. He answered"I'll stay in purgatory before I retreat from HERE. What you should have said is"Is Tamerline going to retreat"And I say YES.I'll capture the scoundrel if I can.I retreat.Ha." I am going to assume command of a new division of troops as soon as they come.General Bernard Dunn and Fred Parsons goes with me as my aide.General Jim Scanlion has been badly hit, and goes home for a time. The greater part of our reserves will march down to St Ethelreda or die.The cavarly forces will be seperated into flying squadrons and assault the enemy in many different and unp unexpected points.I'm to go through ne Delheidi if I can.We must stop the enemy if possible. I have seen Captian Andrews Gertrude, and got good news for you.You are to go down to Calcutta Stream Junction and assume command of a new body of girl and boyscouts. They have formed regi recently from among the braver boys and girls of refugee camps."

Gertrude and her followers at the prospects of again having a new command and Gertrude indulged in a wild dance, expressive of joy.

"Well Gertrude how about the approach of the Vivian Girls, did you hear anything of the ir coming.!"

"We tried to scout out but couldn't do much, therefore we have not the least idea whether they're coming or not.We captured something from a Glandelinian we secured as a prisoner though.This red bag is full of it. He was no doubt one of the Vandals."

So saying Gertrude emptied a large handbag upon the top of a stump which served for a temporary table. Walter Starring gave a cry of astonis astonishment as a great stream of bracelets, necklaces and all other sorts of jewelry poured out of the bag.

"Good gracious Gertrude do you mean to say you got all this from the prisoner.!"

"I sure did.Do you believe they are all real.!"

The general grasped one or two articles from the flashing flashing heap of d iamonds, emeralds, rubies, opals, and pearls..

"I should say they are indeed" Some of them are for certain. But have you any idea what these are worth, and to whom they belonged.!"

"Not the least in the world"Gertrude said"If they are real though I suppose they are worth some many millions of dollars."

"Gertrude I should indeed say so."General Starring said turning over the heap"They must be worth many millions if they are worth anything at all!"

Gertrude and Hadcliffe glanced at each other in astonishment."

"Really Gettttt General."?

"Really Gertrude. "

"But whom are the Refugees who can come and claim them!"

"If we can find any to claim them all right.But if not the prize is yours indeed.You found them from the enemy."

"Nonsense Walter."Exclaimed Hadcliffe and Gertrude together. And then began an amical contest which could not be finally concluded for many a long day.

"But in order to give them to their rightful ownerswhat had we better do with all these things Walter."Gertrude said at last.

"We will get a small chest and put them in Gertrude. "If no one claims them you can give them to Violet, and her sisters as a Christmas Pres present. No jewels would turn their heads.They're too good for that I'm sure.No goodness shown tward them could or would spoil them."(he was right)

"But how can they recieve them!"

"Why I will give it to General Jack Evans--he is sending a lot of precious articles captured down under a strong escort---and could request him to let it go to Angelinia Agathia to their father first, and he could give them to him on Christmas. I will direct it to a jewelry center in Angelinia, and will tell them to forward the jewl jewelry to my trusted agent there to w hom I will give my directions to sent it to Emperor Vivian Who will have them valued."

"But when do we set out to scout and see when they're coming Walter."G Gertrude asked after they had talked a short time longer about the treasure.

"No time"said Walter."We cannot do a thing untill Hanson comes.It's too dangerous and sure when recieving your warning from Gladerlinias camp they'll not come nless Hanson comes up."

The next twenty minutes Gertrude and her friends spent in investigating the situation, admiring and yet horrified at the vast extent of the battle and its disastrous consequences. A great portion of the christian army had retreated quite a distance from their former positions, a great portion of the refugees of St Etheldreda had fled by now, and a good portion of the christian positions nearest the city had been cleared away and ripped into the air by the Glandellinian guns. The entire districts of the country through which general Gladerlinian army had fought its way and suffered severe reverses had been cleared by the enemy of the christian soldiers and of hid : former headquarters only a wall was left standing. Elsewhere the fierce fight, the din of cannons and the perpetual rattle of rifles and machine guns still continued with the same dreadful fury and of the retreat there was no order, no regularity, though the attempts to rally them was very striking.

Late that afternoon while the battle was still the same old crazy "Storm" Gertrude Angeline and all her force of scouts including Walter Starring were soon on their horses with a troop of irregular cavarly commanded by Colonel Arther George and joined the flying column which was setting out to scout as near to the enemys lines as possible to see his next movement, for the enemy was reported gathering in still greater er strength, while simultaneously other portions of Tamerlines army which had been so far seperated and which now had joined him for fearing he would be smashed at So St Etheldreda these troops were now warming to his rescue. It was only three thirty in the afternoon, when the column started for when any one had to do scouting in battletime the custom was to do it right away so as to watch the movements of the greater part of the enemy columns before the heat of the battle fairly begins to reach its highest fury--and Gertrude and her followers were in the highest spirits at the thought they were on their way to see something thrilling for a change, and hoping that the cruel and dreadful battle would soon be drawing to a close almost at the cost of no matter who won for sometimes even during a battle it is possible to have too much of a thrilling adventure, and never before did she see Glandellinians as fierce as these were. yes an army that large possessed every man to the last with a thousand devils per man she thought would be tame compared to these Glandellinians in their method of fighting. She had requested of one Zimmermannian prisoner who seemed willing to converse with herm and he had said;

"Military training which we have recieved is responsible."

At four in the afternoon a halt was called at the edge of a large wood and after preparing for meetingwith in adventure they continued on. They were fortunately not cumbered by any baggage and they all trotted swiftly but gaily along, and accomplished about two miles to the rear of the christian lines here they halted to inspect a hill they wished to descend. The country through which they passed or had passed, had strangely an almost deserted appearance, but nevertheless the region seemed fairly good for any enemy to form a terrible ambuscade. There was no sign of the battle having raged here, but the confusion and alarm of the sound of battle had created such a fright and panic among the inhabitants of the rural districts that the farmers and their families for the most part had forsaken their farms and driven their animals with all their belongings to the edge of half burning woods or other unfrequented places, there to await in fear and agony of suspense the termination of the terrible struggle.

At about ten after four the girlscouts and their cavarly escort halted in front of one of the big deserted farmhouses which had in the center a large dome shaped roof. The doors were fastened on the inside, but one of the men got in by one of the windows and opened it. Walter Starring proposed to Gertrude that as it was far from the christian lines, and as nothing was in sight and all was so quiet they should use this place as their headquarters for the late afternoon and for the night,,, and especially in the lofty interior instead of sleeping in the hot pungent night air, for the temperature was terribly high, and yet it was cool inside the building... it was evident by the appearance of the interior that some pretty well to do farmer had owned this place but they wondered why for some of the rooms seemed to have been used as the headquarters and storehouse of some body of either the christians or the enemy, for a great quantities of stores military saddles, harness, coils of rope munitions and barrels of powerful explo ex plosives were piled against the wall. A large space was soon swept and preparations made for some supper. Outside the troops dismounted some proceeded to a wood some distance off to fetch fuel to light a fire to do their cooking, other brought their horses to a small stream to water them... To Though it was not so late in the afternoon it a was already probably because of so much smoke in the air getting dusk, and inside the big farmhouse it was already nearly dark.

"The outside camp fires sure appear cheerful."general Starring said, as after seeing that the men had been properly placed on guard duty, and their horses had been placed in perper barns and had made all their arrangements, the little group of officers returned to it. One of the troopers had already prepared their meal, which consisted of beans and fried Frankfurthers, a large bowl of oatmeal and some griddle cakes, some tea and coffee was placed by each, and spreading their clacks on the ground they set to with the appetite of travelers. supper over a bottle of brandy was produced from one of Walter Starrings holsters, and they prepared for a cheerful evening.

"I'm very sorry sorry poor Jack is not here and Jean too"Gertrude said. "It would be jolly to have had them come but he is not able to be on his feet yet. However it is a satisfaction to see that his wound is doing well and that he will be all right in another five or six days."

"Yes"said Walter Starring."At first I was afraid he would have to leave the ser service. But he'll recover all right. We feared his left leg would be shorter than the right but it didn't turn out so and he'll be all right. But he did sure suffer some awful pains."

" I don't suppose he will mind remaining."Gertrude said."Jean said that sh she thought he would have had enough of boy scouting to last for his life but he doesn't want to go home. He says he even want's to get satisfaction for his wound and get it out of the enemy."

"Colonel George"Gertrude said presently to the officer in command of the cavarly"Will you tell us your adventures in this war? We know all about each others doings."

"So they sat and continued their conversation untill about seven in the evening or early night when Arther George went round to see that the sentries were properly placed and alert.. When he returned the door was shut to prevent the coat of the weather from coming in, and the whole party rolling themselves in their cloaks which kept them cool, and using their saddles for pillows laid up for the night. It was some time before Gertrude slept. Her mind was very active, and when she at last dozed off she was planning what to do in case the enemy would come here and surprise them. It was just about ten after seven when with a sudden start the sleeping party in the big farm house were aroused and leaped to their feet. For a moment they stood bewildered, for outside outside was heard on all sides the sputtering noise of volleys of rifles, wild yells and shouts, and the trampling of a large body of cavarly.

"Surprised"Exclaimed Walter Starring."The sentices must have been caught napping or were asleep ."

There was a rush to the door, and the sight that met their eyes showed them the extent of the disaster. A whole wall of forest trees were all aflame, and by the glaring light they could see a large body of glandellinian vaca cavarly, had fallen upon the sleeping troopers, while the heavy rifle fire showed that a strong body of infantry were at work on the other side of the farmhouse.. Colo Colonel Attttther Arther George rushed down the steps with his sword drawn, but fell back dead shot through the heart.

"Back, Back!"shouted Walter Starring."Let us sell our lives here."

They closed and bolted the door in an instant, and every one in the place there being about one hundred set to work immediately to pile barrels and boxes and and furniture against it.. No one said a single word while this was going on. By the time they had finished the loud up roar without had changed somewhat into a different tone, the firing had ceased, from another sound came the face that those who had been surprised had been forced to retreat and the victorious shouts of the Glandellinians showed that their victory was complete. Then there came a loud thundering noise at the door, and shouts of"Come out and surrender you dirty christian Christian dogs or we'll come in and massacre the lot of you."

"We have only succeeded in delaying these Glandellinians for a few minutes"Walter Starring said."We have fought our fight children and men and it seems our time has come. Would to God that I had to die alone."

"Look, general"Gertrude said"There is a small door or something there. I noticed it three hours ago. I believe there is a staircase leading upward to the floor above. At any rate we may be able to show a good fight there, and have the advantage. We can i'm sure hold out long enough, for those who were forced to retreat will surely bring a large force to our help. in no time."

"Said. "Radcliffe said.""We may fight it out to the last on the stairs if no help does come. Run Gertrude and see. "

Gertrude found as she had suspected, that it was a larger opening and from the doorway a narrow winding stair da staircase led to some room far above, from which the roofed dome rose far into the air. The stairs were lighted by three windows on both sides. She was thinking as she ran upstairs of the ideas that had crossed her brain the time she had first observed the door...

"It's all right"she said as she came down again."See Walter"if the men bring up barrels and boxes and furniture we can form a barriac barricade on the stairs, and defend them for any time almost."

"Excellency idea"said Walter..... "Get at it men. Hurry. No time to lose they' will be less than a quarter of an hour forcing in the door .Form the top barricade first, a few feet below the terrace....""

Each man seized a box a barrel, a bureau or some other heavy artiel article, and hurried up the stairs. They did not have as long a time even as they had expected, for the glandellinians did not feel sure of their prey and were therefore in a hurry, and finding how strong was the door had increased their banging and violent hammering with the butts of their rifles who while Gertrude had heard one of the officers outside shout;

"Get two heavy cannons and hurry. We will blow that door in."

"Will the door yeild ?"some one said.

"If it don't we'll blow up the whole she-bang and them in it."

This got every one inside who heard this feeling quite apprehensive.

Thus the defenders did not have hardly a ten minutes grace, but so many men accomplished the formation of the barricade at least had constructed three of them. Each was placed a short distance above some opening for light so while theythemselves would be in the heavy gloom, their assailants would be in the light and be exposed to their fire. They left a sufficient space too at the top of eac each barricade for them to scramble over leaving some spare barrels on the stairs above it therefore to fill up some of the space after forming their position.

"No bring up the remains for our midnight meal which we may need"Walter Gertrude said"and that big water jug and the wine bottle. Radcliffe will carry them up as soon as he can get them. Jean Anderson bring up that long coil of long rope."

"What for Gertrude? "

"It may be very useful Jean,"Ropes are always useful. Ah their guns are up.""""HHHGGFD

As she spoke a round shot crashed through the door but only left a hole through which it passed, but a shrapnell shell followed and the explosion crashed the door into a thousand fragments and sent splinters of furniture

barrels and wine cas s. all over the place below and sent up to them above a strong"aroma de la "Moonshine"

"Now every body come along"Gertrude said."and followed by Walter Starrin and the rest,,, the girl and boy scouts entered the little doorway and ran up the narrow steps.. At the first barricade which was some thirty one steps or so up, the girlscout officers made it a stop, and proceeded to fill up the passage that had been before left open, while the child scouts continued up the terrace.

"Let us investig te the place Radcliffe,"those fellows will be some minutes before they will come in yet, and that barricade will l believ e puzzle them..."

A great red light was seen outside now probably from the burning fir forest, and two of the girlscouts peered over the parapet which ran round the terrace.

"There are a frightful number of the those Glandelinian soldiers, G ertrude, ten or fifteen thousand of them at least, and they have got at least thirteen big guns. I'll bet they'll shell the house if they can't capture us by an assault."

"Hurrah Radcliffe"Gertrude said, glancing round herself at the great big dome"This is just what I had hoped and expected."

She pointed to a flight of narrow steps only some twelve inches or so across, fixed to the left side of the dome which rose some distance almost perpendicularly. By the s ide of the steps was a low hand rail. They were evide evidently p aced there permanently to enable laboring men to ascend to the the top of the dome to guild to gild the long spike which surmounted by some sort of a cross f rose from its summit or to do any repairs that were needful.

"There Radcliffe I noticed these sort of steps on some of the dones of domes of our great Catholic Cathedrals.. W hen the worst comes to the worst and we are beaten from these steps or hard pressed, we can climb up that ladde ladder steps, anyhow it's more sort of a ladder than anything else, and once on the top whether they shell the old building or not we could laugh at the whole army of them.I see they're Omrians too.Now Radcliffe let's go down to our c omrades --by that cheering below, the artillery had shattered the door open,"

The Glan delinians cursing an d swearing because it had forced them to us use ten shells to force open the door burst through the opening into the great hall ,heralding their entrance but not a a storm of rifle fire but by a sudden tremendous volley of hand grenades tward the top of the barricae withthe purpose to shatter it for they well knew too well how desperat ely even a few christian soldiers would seel sell their lives and there were more than a hundred up there.There was a shout of disappoint ment at finding at their grenades fell too short of their range and only brought down a shower of pl aster from the wall. They then poured through the door each longing to be the first to get at the christians and have a good hand to hand fight for they were f ull of it just now.The light in the interior was but somewhat faint, and it was as gloomy on the stars as An Ere Erebus cavara cavern, and were only wide enough for three men to go up with comfort although four could just stand side by side.Without an obstacle the leaders of the Glandelinians stumbled and grouped their way up the staire, untill the first of them came into the glare of the outside fire light coming through one of the windows in the wall. Then from the dense gloom above came the sharp crack of a revolver followed by a severe rifle fire, and every one of those who had came up the steps fell shot through the head of body.

There was a pa use from the survivors below for the spiral was so sharp that not more than eight or ten at a time were within sight of the defenders of the barricade..The next of the men hesitated at seeing their head leader fal., but pressed from behind ab and being defiant beyond measure with his rifle at his shoulder in readiness to fire when he saw his foes but the instant his head appeared round a corner a ball hit him, and he too fell.Still the press from behind pushed the rest forward, and it was not untill three score had fall en, and the narrow stairs became impassable from the man y dead bodies, than a high officer of the Glandelinians, who came the next on the line succeeding by shouting in halting the advance.Then orders were passed down for those crowding the doorway to fall back and the officer with the men below descended the rest of the steps, and the former reported to the main l eader that three score of men had fallen and that the stairs were chocked with the dead.After much consultation orders were given for the men to go up, and remain below the very spot at which one after another their comrades had fallen, to stretch out their arms and remove the bodies. This was done but with difficulty as knowing who the Glandelinians were the defenders fire just the same and once some of the Glan delinians approached with a flag of truce, and Walter Starring only cried out;

"You don't give us quarter.That's a disgrag.Beat it or I'll fire."

An angry consultation then took place.It was positively clear to the leading Glandelinians that moving fast as they did only four count mount the stairs at a time, that there was over a hundred defenders up above, and it seemed equally certain that any number could and would be shot, on reach ing a certain spot by their invisible foes.Large rewards and great honor were promished by the cle chief leader to those who would be game enough to lead the assa ult armed with dangerous hand grenades and not rifles, and at last volun teers were found, and another rush attempted.

It failed as had the first but almost succeded. Each man as he passed the lop loophole or the open window fell and again the dead covered the stairs but some of those behind had hurled their grenades, and each explosio explosion there being six of them had slew and wounded twenty persons pervgrenade. Six of the enemy had not fallen at the first shot, and had got up a few steps further or highter, and before they were shot and badly wounded, they had landed a grenade among the child scouts

and killed ng about ei ight of them and wounded thirteen.
Again the assault ceased, and for a few minutes only however there was a pause.Glandelinians tried to get in by the windows next but were shot or bayonetted.Six got in but were slain in the hand to hand fight. One grappled with Starring but Starring was as strong as an Ox and he lifted that soldier over his head and threw him out the window. Another reached the l window sill and threw a hand bo m bomb, of tear gas variety but he aimed wrong and it went out the window on the other side, and exploding routed the Glandelinians below f on that side by its fumes..The officers of the Glandelinians deliberated and even quarreled, the men set to work to try and fire the h ouse, but discovered it was a fire proof structure and wouldn't burn.The officers then went in and proposed a plan, which was at once app roved off, and a han dsome reward immediately paid him. Before enlisting he had been before been a carpenter and an enginner and an eletrician too, and as there were many others among the Omrians of the same trade no time at all was lost in carrying out the suggestion, and they first searched to find whether several boards from the door remained unj uninjured and finding them, they cut those and nailed them together so as to construct a sheild of exactly the same width of the staircase, and six feet high, on one side several straps and loops were nailed to give a good hold to those carrying it, and then with a cheer the Glandelinians again prepared for the assault. The sheild of course was very heavy, but steadily and with much labor it was carried up the stairs step by step, by two men, others pressing on behind. When they reached the loopholes again a volley of pistols and rifles rang out, but the door was of heavy seasoned wood, four inches thick, and the bullets failed to penetrate. Then it ascended step by step untill it reached the barrier.There stopped for the strength that could be br ought to bear upon it was altogether insufficient to move in the slightest the solid pile, and after some time spent in vain efforts, some of the Glandelinians suggested a bomb and it was flung, but this time the defenders scattered and it exploded harmlessly. The sheild was removed and taken back again as gradually and as carefully as it had advanced untill out of range of the w apons of the defenders..

"What will be the next move on their part I wonder now!!!!!" Walter Starring said, as some of those who could sat down on the stairs and waited for a re newal of the assault.

"I'm not crazy about that sheild."Gertrude Angeline answered"It shows there is quite a number of unusually intelligent men among those scoundrel,s and he will be up to some new sc heme.""""""""

This time an hour passed,,,, and then there was a noise on the stairs, and the shield was again seen to be approaching.As before it advanced to the barrier and stopped.There was a sort of grating noise against it, and the door trembled as this continued.....

"What on earth are those Omrians up to now."Walter Starring exclaimed.

"I don't understand as I see nothing"said one of the soldiers.

"They're piling piling fagots against it"Gertrude said"Or I am seeing things .I've been afraid of fire right along.If they only lit a pile of damp wood at the bottom of the stair s, they could have smoked us out on top , and then as the smoke cleared below they could have gone up and removed the barricade before the upper stairs were free enough from smoke for us to come down.There I thought so.Let's get while the getting is good.They're coming up with te-r gas bombs."

"Quickly as they ran upstairs the smoke ascended still more rapidly and they emerged upon the terrace half suffocated and blinded. A volley of tear gas bombs, and poisonous gas bons also with them came but to no avai avail some who were brave enough rushed to the bombs and put their fuses out, and Gertrude lifted one whose fuse was about to explode the thing and hurled itdown the steps. It exploded among the glandelinians killing all among which it fell. However the enemy had managed to rush up.

"So ends barricade number one"Walter Starring said, when they had recovered from their fit of c oughing."I suppose it'll be pretty nearly an hour before the fire is burned out.We'll retain these other bombs for an em ermergency."

"The door would not burn through in that time." said Radcliffe"B ut they will be able to stand pretty l close and the moment the fagots are burned out they will drag the screen out of the way and with long poles with hooks or something of that sort haul downthe barricade... They surely may do it that way and may remove the barricade that way as they removed the first, but they cannot remove the fire last one so.""

"Why not Radcliffe?"Gertrude asked....

"Because its only six steps from the top, Gertrude, so that however great a smoke they make. We can be there again the instant they begin to pull it down.Then we can create some real carnage."

It was now past nine in the evening.The smoke continued for some time to pour out of the door of the stairs in dense volumes, then became lighter. Several times some of the soldiers tried to descend a few stairs but found that breathing was impossible for the smoke from the green wood was insup portable. At last it became clear enough to breathe and then the foremost of the party ran down rapidly to their second barricade. That at least was was intact but below they could hear the fall of heavy bodies, and could ing understand that the lower barricade was destroyed.

"I don't suppose that screen of their was burned through Gertrude, so very soon they will try the same stunt again.Of course maybe they're not conscious conscious of the fact whether we have another barricade, or where we are so they will come on cautiously.It seems to me that if you Starring and one of the other strong men were to take your places a bit lower than this, stopp stooping down on the stairs, and then when they come were boldly to thrown yourselves with all your weight suddenly against the sheild you would send it and its b earers headlong downstairs, and could follow them and cut them up tremendously."

"Capital idea Gertrude,that would be just the thing---don't you believe so George?If they haven't got the sheild, we can shoot them down so either way we may as well make a sortie...""

"I believe you're right,"the man said."Here goes then...."

Half way down they heard the trampling of steps again.The Glandelinians had put out the fires, with pails of water, had put straps to the door again, and were pursuing their former tactic tactics....

The two t strong officers sat down and awaitied the coming of their enemies..Slowly the latter ascended until the door was still within two steps of Walter and his strong companion George.Then the latter simultaneously simultaneously flung all their weight against it..... The glandelinians had not expected an assault and were therefore not prepared for it, and the bearers were hurled backwards, with the heavy shield upon them, who in turn fell upon those below.Sword in hand Walter Jean Starring sprang upon the hindermost of the falling mass, while pressing behind him and firing over his shoulder, George followed.Yells of anger and dismay rose from the Glandelinians who r crowded the stairs, as the bodies of those above were hurled upon them pel l pell mell flight or defense was utterly impossible, turning to descend they only leaped upon their comrades below.. A frightful scene ensued--such a scene as sometimes eu ensues his sometimes been seen on the stairs of a showhouse or theatre on fire.What What was the danger above, none thought, a wild panic seized all, over each other they rolled and leared, making the stairs impassable, and obstructing all movement,untill the last twenty feet of the stairs were packed closely with a solid mass of human beings laying on such other as if they were sardines in a canand stifling each other to death. On reaching this mass Walter Starring and his friend paused.There was nothing to be done.Over fifty nine human beings lay crouch crushed together, those on the top of the heap were shot, and th en the officers retraced their steps. Many lay on the stairs but Starring had passed his sabre through their bodies as he passed them.sixteen rifles were picked up and all the ammunition or cartridge belts, and then with the rest who had followed closely behind them they ascended to the terrace and sat down...

"We are safe now for some time. "Walter Starring said."It will be a long time before those glandelinians will be able to clear away that heap of dead, and they surely won't try the shield scheme again."

It was not untill half past ten or near eleven in the night before the glandelinians made any fresh move against the defenders of the stairs, though now they believed there were only two of them.The time however had not passed idly with the latter.One of them man maintaining watch at the barrier, the others had maintained a steady rifle fire through the open work of the parapet upon the enemy below who had returned just as brisk a fire, and even in the dark had picked off thirteen soldiers.

The Glandelinian sharpshooters had answered with a scathing fire, so that the def enders had to continue their firing and yet at the same time not expose themselves as their loss already was heavy, though of course they could have moved from point to point unobserved, but not without danger of being hit while too their steady fire did so much execution among the throngs of Glandelinian that these had to move their seige lines a couple hundred yards back from the farm house.

It was much dar ker now, as the glare of fires outside had subsided when several men bearing large bundles of straw, and fine pieces of wood, pine tree needles and branches ran across the open ground, and entered the farm house, and the besieged guessed that another attempt was to be made to rout them out by smoke. However there had been much consultation on the part of the engaged in Glandelinians, and this time six men with their rifles leveled at th eir shoulders led the advance.V ery slowly they made their way up untill a pistol shot rang out and one of their leaders suddenly disch rging his rifle before him fell, but the shot nevertheless hit a soldier by the defense and he pitched down the steps among his enemies and was bayonetted.There was then a halt, ano ther rebel with fixed bayonet, choosed the place in front and over the shoulders of him and his com rade those below or behind threw bundles of straw mixed with the w t pine needles a light was applied to this and with a sheet of flame between themselves and the beisged they had no fear whatever.Now they pressed forward, threw on fresh straw, and then feeling sure the besieged would have fled higher, reached through the flames with a pole with a hook attatched to it and hauled down the barricade.The moment the fire burned a little low two men lighted lighted a fresh burn bundles, and stamp ing out the fire advanced up the stairs carrying before them the blazing bundles as if they were torches the volumes of smoke from these of course preceding them. The force on the terrace had suspected the smoke dying down and had prepared to descend again when a fresh addition to the smoke convinced them that the enemy was still piling on bundles, and there was nothing to fear.So they sat quietly chatting untill Gertrude who was sitting next to the door exclaimed;

"Listen they're pulling down our top barricade."

Pistols at the ready every one rushed out.just as the foremost of them turned the spiral which would bring them in sight of the uppermost barricade a great number of rifles were fired, and hand grenades thrown, and all the foremost of the christian soldiers, and a number of girl and boy scouts were slain, and Jane Wellfort also hit would have fallen forward had not Gertrude who recieved a glancing blow on the head by a shot seized her by the collar and pulled her backwards. With the others the fight was desperate the Glandelinians had gained the terrace almost and closed with the soldiers in a hand to hand contest.

"Hold the terrace and stairs"Walter"Gertrude cried"They are also at the barricade, but are not through t yet,.One of you men carry Jane up. she's hit in the shoulder."

Wh e the battle raged fiercely on the stairs one of the men carried Jane to the platform and laying her down for she had lost unconsciousness rushed back to assit to hold the stairs for the fighting was fiercely, only to recieve a ball in his own head and go tumbling down below off the platform.The advantg advantage however for the rest was so great for them standing above the others and so placed as to be able to fire at their enemies, that the glandelinians after losing three hundred of their number ceased their desperate assault for the time being.. The foremost of the def enders led by Gertrude hurried up to Jane confident tho the that the enemy would not renew the assault for the moment, as they could not t tell whether there was not another barricade to be stormed..... ..2.2

Ge. Jean Anders stood sentry at the door, and Gertrude and Mary examined Jeans wound.

"It's a very serious wound"said Mary.

"Where's she hit?"demanded Gertrude.

"Why the ball had entered her chest below the collar bone, had it been fired from a lower level it would have been fatal but the enemy having stod stood so much below it it had gone out near the neck smashing the collar bone on its way.Jane has become unconscious from the shock to the system.she sure is "Calamity Jane."

"We must retreat to the dome at once."General Starring said."The next assault and those Glandelinian fools were sweep us off the terrace.I will carry Jane up!"

"No General", will carry her up"Radcliffe said."I'm sorrii its true but I can carry her over my shoulders as easy as possible and won't clog up so much room on those small steps.Y ou're too big and would."

"Well Radcliffe, you are the younger child scout so I will hand hand her over to you.I will put this coil of rope round my neck, and will bring the water, and the food.. It's so dark now that they will not be able to see us from below.If those fellows had but waited for about half an hour or so we could have gained the top without this sad business of losing so mant many of our comrades and the wounded badly.Will you go first Radcliffe."

Radcliffe who was very powerful, for(her years) lifted Jane on his soldiers and began to slowly ascend the narrow steps to the big dome. It was very difficult at first but as she got on the ascent became less steep and the last part was comparatively easy.Gertrude Angeline and all the child scouts who had not fallen mounted next, some of them also heavily laden.Jean Anders remained on guard at the door untill she saw the last one pass the shoulder of the dome out of sight from those on the terrace, she then slung her own rifle and cartridge belt on her shoulder, swiftly climbed the steps, and was soon by the rest...In three or four minutes time the whole of what was left of the party were gathered round the central spike of the hi huge dome! Suddenly a loud cheer was heard from be below.

"They are out on the terrace."Gertrude said."I will go down a bit to guard the steps, you will be more use to Jane than I would be."

The shouts on the terrace were answered by a great cheer of exultation from the Glandelinian host ground, who had been cheated almost to madness at the immense loss which had been caused by only a hundred men and fifty child scouts, for they were not sure of the strength strength of the party.The shouts of exultation however were silenced when rushing round the terace the enemy found their foes had again evaded them... There was no other door no hiding place nowhere in fact that the christian besieged could have concealed themselves but the ladder sort of steps soon met the eyes of the searchers.A yell of anger and disappointment then arose.

Not even the bravest among them thought for a moment of daring to climb the stairs for indeed it would clearly have been utterly impossible for men forced to climb single file to win their way against well armed christian defenders who would simply shoot them down from above as fast as a head appeared over the shoulders of the dome... The position therefore was indeed practically impregnable impregnable against assault although exposed to heavy artillery fire, and to distant musketry.It was for this reason that the defenders of the stairs and terrace had got taken to it at once. They felt almost confident in their ability to defend the stairs an vterace for over twenty four hours, and to inflict heavy loss upon the desperate enemy--whereas by climbing up the dome and being there in daylight they would have been a target to all those below while climbing and would have been exposed all day to a distant heavy fire.That they probably would have to support it for a full night was nearly certain, but clearly the less time the better.

The enemy below consoling themselves heartily with the thought that on the morrow their heavy guns would finish the contest which had thus far cost them so dearly, and feeling feeling sure that sharpshooters in the nearest trees could pick them off like flies placed a guard of one hundr hundred and fifty men on the terrace at the foot of the steps lighted a large fire there in order that they could see anyone attempting to descend long before he or she reached the level, and then retired below.

By this time Jane having recovered consciousness, and having recieved a drink of water was able to understand what had happened.Gertrude had cut her uniform off her shoulder and arm and also having cut off one of her own shirt sleeves had soaked it in water and applied it as a bandage on the wound..

"I'm very glad we have proved that Radcliffe only should go"Gertrude said"Otherwise I should have blamed myself for detaining the rest of you here." We seem to be coming to our help and I believe the party who were surprised by the enemy or the outside have been annihilated."

"No none of us could have gone in any case"Walter Starring said"as there would have been no one to have lowered the rope here besides which it is only a sailor or a practiced gymnast who can let himself down a rope some one hundred and sixty feet.."

"When will Radcliffe try?!!"

"As soon as the enemy camp gets quiet.The glare of outside fires will soon be cut and he must be off. I'm sorry for that.Are you in much pain Jane dear.It too bad we haven't sufficient here to nurse you."

"Not much Gertrude."But I do feel numb and stupid."

"Cap. Angeline Ridgeway fall one"Walter Starring said,"Will you relieve Jean on guard at the steps.And you may as well say good bye to Radcliffe.It's about eleven now and in a couple of hours he'll be off. After he is gone I will relieve you.Then a four hours watch each will bring us to daylight, if we ever see it, there won't be much sleep ing after that.The enemy will no doubt assault us fiercer then...."""

By eleven oclock the fires in the enemy's camp had nearly ceased. Groups Groups of Glandelinians still sat and conversed around the campfires, but the circle was pretty large round the house for the enemy had fallen back when the rifle fire was opened upon them from the parapet, and had not troubled to move again afterwards.....

"Now"Ludcliffe said"It's time for me to be off."It's not so far from the christian lines.It is of no use for me to even imagine of going after the christian cavarly for they may be somewhere where they couldn't be found.If I can get a good horse I may reach the christian lines sooner than ever had an hour.The enemy horses all have had a good rest to day and if I can secure one all right.General Evans I'll try to find and he will I'm sure send off at once, and the troops will march well and fast to fast to effect a rescue.They can go easily enough thirty five miles before they halt for the rest of the night, and will be here before morning I hope."

"We must not be too sanguine, Ludcliffe."It's just possible dear scout that if all goes well you may return easily enough as you say probably in a very short time but we will make up our minds to twice that time.If you get here sooner all the better, but I don't expect they will hit us, and after firing a bit the chances are they will not desire to waste their precious ammunition, and will try to starve us out."

With a tender farewell of all his comrades Ludcliffe prepared for his desperate and dangerous expedition One end of the long rope had been fastened round the large mast which rose from the big dome.Holding the coil over his shoulder, Ludcliffe made his way carefully and noiselessly down the dome on the side opposite that which they had ascended,untill it became too steep to walk, then he lay down on his front, and paying the rope out gradually turned on his rear and let himself carefully slip down. The lower part of the descent was almost perpendicular, and Ludcliffe soon stood safely on the terrace.. It was as he had expected confidently that it would be quite deserted on this side. Then he let go of the rope, and Walter Starring who was watching it, saw that the strain was off it, pulled it up a foot to be sure and then unfastened the knot. Ludcliffe pulled it gently at first coiling it up as it came down untill at last it slid rapidly down.

He caught it as well as he could but he had little fear of so slight a noise being heard on the other side of the great dome that he was almost overcareful, then he tied the rope to the parapet, lowered it carefully down and then when it was all out, swung himself over the parapet and slid down the rope.The height from the edge of the dome to the ground was one hundred feet but the desdent descent was a more nothing for Ludcliffe as he was accusam accustomed to all this.

He crouched perfectly quiet for a minute or two after touching the ground with his feet, but outside everything was still.Through the open stone carve wooden work of a window he could hear voices inside the farm house and had no doubt that the leaders of the enemy's force were there.

From the parapet in the afternoon he had gained an accurate idea of the position of the christian army and toward this he at once made his way.He removed his boots and went lightly untill he approached the enemy's bivouac. Then he went on more cautiously.The ground was covered with sleeping figures and although the night was dark as pitch it was easy in some of the camp fires to be seen.Even had one not been asleep Ludcliffe had little to fear except near a fire he could not have been seen.There was no difficulty when he neared the spot in finding the horses , as the sound of their paring the ground, eating, and the occasional short neigh of two quarreling was clearly heard..

Their position once clear, Ludcliffe moved round them.He had noticed that four off horses belonging to some officers were situated some easy easy distance away,beyond the general rank of the mass and these therefore could be more easily removed, and would moreover be fast and sound.. They had too the advantage of being placed close to the road accessable toward the christian lines. Ludcliffe was some time in locating the horses he was searching for but when he discovered them he observed they were all saddled and bridled. Before proceeding to swap them he investigated the ground around. to be sure none of the enemy would be aroused..He found the way to the road which was but twenty feet distant, and discovered that some of the horse guards were asleep by the horses, a little further off were a regiment of sleeping Glandelinian troopers. Ludcliffe now cast off the heel ropes by which two of the horses were picketed, and then leading them by the halters moved quietly toward the road. To get upon this however there was a ditch first to be passed, and in crossing it one of the horses stumbled.

"What is that"he exclaimed one of the Glandelinian sentinels who had stopped in his beat at the sound? He peered into the gloom. "Halt who goes there h"he commanded."Hallo"he continued"Two of the horses have got loose."

A number of sleeping men leaped to their feet and ran in the direction whence came the noise which had aroused them and the sentry believing the horses had drawn their picket pegs. By this time Ludcliffe was in the saddle and giving a jab with his heels to the horse he was on, and seizing hitting the other with the halter which he held in his hand dashed off into a gallop. A short burst from another sentry, and a number of the troopers running to their feet and seizing their arms ran up to find out what was the the matter.

"Some thief has stolen our generals horse"Exclaimed one of the guards.

The troopers did not desire to open fire in the gloom which would be of no avail and so grumbling that the guards in charge of the houses horses would have to answer for it in the morning they went off to sleep again.

Ludcliffe discovering he was not pursued pulled up in half a mile and gave the loud shrill cry known by the child scouts.he understood this would be heard by Gertrude sitting close at the top of the dome and she would learn that so far he had succeeded.Then he set the horses off again in a hand gallop and rode steadily down the road.One thing he needed to do was to avoid being seen by any enemy night cavarly patrols. Every quarter of an hour or so he changed from gallop to trotting thus giving them a conservative rest by trotting.Occasionally he allowed them to go slowly for a bit to get their wind, and then again rode on at a gallop. It was about

lever thirty when he started on his ride..In another quarter of an hour he was at the spot where the first massacre of the battle had recently occured and of the fierce fight for the safty of the refuses.After that for fear of meeting with enemies here he went more slowly but it was well right toward twelve when with his two exhausted horses he rode into the christian lines nearest St Ethelreda, where his appearance created quite an excitement.Ludcliffe's story was briefly told to Ned Perkins one of the well known christian officers. and friend of the Vivian Girl Princesses, and the two horses which were both splendid animals, were brought off to be fed and rubbed down, while Ludcliffe accompanied by the general of the cavarly regiments went off at once to general Jack Evans. General Evans listened to Ludcliffes story in silence.

"This must have been a part of the enemy who assaulted our rear without success this late afternoon"he said.Som"Something must be done at once.There shall be no delay whatever, my lad, a force shall be ready to start right away as all are prepared.I now you will want to go with them.I advise you to go back to general Perkins tent to get yourself equipped with the proper weapons.By the time you are ready the troops will be in readiness. get some midnight meal if you desire. "

Ludclife left general Evans but delighted at the readiness and promt promptness of the fine guardian soldier of the Vivian Girls, while Evans called his military secretary, and at once arranged for the dispatch of a large body of troops.

"There must be no delay whatever"The general in chief said."If possible and it is possible these scoundrels must be assaulted at daylight to morrow morning, sooner if possible.They will see the rope the brave child scout has escaped by but they will not dream of an attack so early and may be caught napping.I Even if they are alert I'll send enough troops to vanquish them anyhow.Besides it's all important to rescue those child scouts, Gertrude Pyrod and the soldiers and all who are besieged whom they will have been making a target all night especially as one of the girlscout officers is badly wounded again, ah that little Miss Calamity Jane"we always call her and will be in the full blaze of the fire. Fortunately for the beisged the house is fireproof and won't burn.See that a wagon and an ambulance accompany the column. Send a Corps of Abyssinkilian cavarly, eighteen field guns, ten rapid fire guns, and thirty thousand infantry in light marching order.Let wagons and horses fast horses be got together to at once take the infantry as far as they can get to the scene without noise, and then let them on a forced march the remainder of the way. The cavarly and guns can go on at once, let them march about half way, then unsaddle and rest.If they are off by half past twelve they will catch the infantry off before day time and assault just as soon as it gets light.Those light Winnie Aby kilian horsemen can do it. And remember as they're charging, and as child scouts, including Gertrude are unfortunately among the defenders, a number of them have been slain Jane is wounded, and other things have happened"and he said this with a tone of great bitterness in his voice, "Remember do not give the Enemy no quarter.Do not take prisoners. "So w

From above.

"Are you all right O Gertrude."

"Yes Thank God, and His Blessed Mother; but Jane is delirious.Send some water up at once."

Ludcliffe was too nervous in consequence by the severe cut he had received in the head, to attempt to climb the ladder, but the officer in command of the company at once offered. a second.Several of the men had a little water left in their water canteens and from them one was filled and slung over the officers shoulder.

"I have some brandywine in my flask"he said and started up the steps. In a few minutes he descended again.

"The little girl is wildly delirious"he said. "They have bound her injured arm to her side with a sash but they cannot leave her.How is she to be got down.?"

"There is plenty of good rope and sucking down below"Ludcliffe said after a moment's thought."I believe they had better wrap her up in sacking so that she cannot move her arms tie a rope round her and lower her down close by the side of the steps, Gertrude or a soldier coming down down side by side with her so as to speak to her and tranquilize her."

A soldier was sent down for the sacking required, and with them the officer accompanied by a sergeant to assist him in lowering the wounded child from above was in mounted.In a few minutes Ludcliffes plan was carried out and Jane was lowered softly to the terrace.. Then Walter Starring carried her below and she was soon laid on a bed of sacks in the great hall under the sing of the gas on, with cold water bandages around her head... then Ludcliffe had time to tell Gertrude how the rest of the night had passed.

"First tell me Ned, by what great miracle you returned to us so soon.Two days from to morrow afternoon was the very earliest time I thought that it was possible.To morrow and a wonder work."

Ludcliffe gave a graphic description of how it was accomplished, and then Gertrude related what had happened to them on the dome during the remainder of the night..

"As soon as the glandelinians discovered we actually were up here, they put a big wooden close by on fire to light up the scene plenty, and then the opened a heavy rifle fire upon us, from distances and from the nearest trees, but fortunately they were obliged to go so far off to get a fair

"Which Corps shall we send."

Immediately after bugles were blowing, and by twelve oclock mid night thirty three thousand Cavalry Indian Infantry were crowded into a long wagon train, and the cavarly and guns were drawn up in readiness. The men all of them were very much gone and hurt because of being aroused from a well needed sleep, and blamed the enemy for it, and though what they'd do to the Glandelinians for it. Radcliffe chose his place in the ambulance wagon, as although greatly refreshed he had plenty of riding for a time and in the ambulance he could lie down and get through the journeywithout fatigue. General Evans himself rode up just as they were starting, and shook hands with Radcliffe and expressed his warm hope that he would find his friends and comrades safe at the end of the journey, and then the cavarly started. Radcliffe has always asserted that never in his life did he ever make such a short journey as that. Though he was worn out by the excitement and fatigue of the proceeding thirty hours, and despite the heat of the night he fell asleep in the ambulance before he had gone a mile, and did not awake untill the surgeon shook him by the shoulder.

"We are as far as we can be sure of, about half a mile from the farm house you mentioned. I would not arouse you when we halted boy because you needed the sleep bad. We have been halting for over half an hour here and the cavarly has just now come up. It is about an hour before daylight. The leader of this corps wants you to act as guide, as you know the way."

"All right I sure will" said Radcliffe leaping out "Just to think that I have been asleep for six hours".

A hasty meeting was held, and it was determined that as the country here was heavily wooded beyond the farm but perfectly open on that side, the cavarly and artillery should wem in where they were, that the infantry should make a "detour" and assault the foe at daylight from the other side, and then as the enemy fell back, the artillery and cavarly should deal with them. Not a moment was lost. The Infantry who were sitting down after their long tramp got cheerily on to their feet again for they new they were going to attack the enemy, and Radcliffe led them off the road by a considerable detour so as to come upon the enemy from the other side. By a light from somewhere the farm houses was visible and served as a center round which to march but they were too far off to enable Radcliffe to see whether any damage had been done to the dome... Daylight was coming on when the infantry gained the desired position, then throwing out three thousand men in skirmishing order, while the main force moved on, too while one thousand men remained in reserve the advance began in a long angular line with fixed bayonets. It was not untill they were within three hundred yards of the enemy that they were percieved by the Glandelinian sentires. The challenge was answered by a rifle shot, and as the rebels sprang to their feet a heavy fire was poured in upon them. The enemy resisted desperately, but their losses became so heavy that soon all was wild confusion among them. They had been taken completely by surprise and entirely ignorant of the strength of their enemy the Glandelinians after a last wild fire in the direction of the advancing foe, began to flee in panic.

could be more easily removed, and would moreover be fast and sound.. They had too the advantage of being placed close to the road accessable tward the christian lines. Radcliffe was some time in locating the horses he was searching for but when he discovered them he observed they were all saddled and bridled. Before proceeding to grasp them he investigated the ground around. to be sure none of the enemy would be aroused.. He found the way to the road which was but twenty feet distant, and discovered that some of the horse guards were asleep by the horses, a little further off were a regiment of sleeping Glandelinian troopers. Radcliffe now cast off the heel ropes by which two of the horses were picketed, and then leading them by the halters moved quietly tward the road. To get upon this however there was a ditch first to be passed, and in crossing it one of the horses stumbled.

"What is that?" he exclaimed one of the Glandelinian sentinels who had stopped pacing his beat at the sound! He peered into the gloom. "Halt who goes there hi" he commanded. "Hallo" he continued "Two of the horses have got loose."

A number of sleeping men leaped to their feet and ran in the direction whence came the noise which had aroused them and the sentry believing the horses had drawn their picket pegs. By this time Radcliffe was in the saddle and giving a jab with his heels to the horse he was on, and smartly hitting the other with the halter which he held in his hand dashed off into a gallop. A short burst from another sentry, and a number of the troopers sprang to their feet and seizing their arms ran up to find out what was the the matter.

"Some thief has stolen our generals horse" Exclaimed one of the guards. The troopers did not desire to open fire in the gloom which would be of no avail and so grumbling that the guards in charge of the brutes horses would have to answer for it in the morning they went off to sleep again. Radcliffe discovering he was not pursued pulled up in half a mile and gave the loud shrill cry known by the child scouts. he understood this would be heard by Gertrude sitting close at the top of the dome and she would learn that so far he had succeeded. Then he set the horses off again in a hand gallop and rode steadily down the road. One thing he needed to do was to avoid being seen by any enemy night cavarly patrols. Every quarter of an hour or so he changed from horse to horse thus giving them a comparative rest by turns. Occasionally he allowed them to go slowly for a bit to get their wind, and then again rode on at a gallop. It was about

The officers tried repeatedly to rally them, and as the small numbers of the advance guard of the foe fleeing before them became visible and following that was all of them, the Glandelinians with their old habit of discipline began to reform into line and continue a fierce fire. But at this moment the main line of attack suddenly came into sight, and let go a general fire of musketry and at the same time the christian guns loaded with grape and canister, poured a storm of fire into their rear, and with a cheer the Winkie Abyssinian cavarly burst into their midst. Thenceforth there was no longer any idea of desperate fighting it was simply a rout and a desperate pursuit. The enemy own guns at once fell into the hands of the christian infantry, and were quickly turned upon the masses of Glandelinian refugees or fugitives who moved down by the fire of these guns also, and cut up by the cavarly who charged hither and thither among them, who while volleys of rifles swept through them, threw away their arms and fled wildly. Some rose or threw their arms up to surrender and were shot or cut down. Over six thousand of them were left dead on the farm and not had not the horses of the christian cavarly been tooo exhausted to continue continue the pursuit, a far greater number would have fallen.

Radcliffe had no part in their fighting, a company three hundred and sixty strong, with an officer had been told off to assault and carry the farm house and out buildings under his guidance. Disregarding all else, this party with leveled bayonets had burst through the throngs of the enemy and rude straight for the doors of the farmhouse and barns. Many of the enemys troop had run into these buildings and for ten minutes or so there was a fierce fight in the great hall of the farm house, and within the out buildings, then when the last foe had fallen, Radcliffe led the way to the stairs up which many of the enemy had fled.

"Quick" he shouted. "Follow them close up."

Some of the enemy were but a few steps ahead, and Radcliffe quickly followed by his men burst on the terrace at their very heels.

It was sure well that he didno for the guard upon the terrace seeing that all was lost below were preparing to sell their lives dearly, and to give forth a long desperate resistance at the top of the stairs. Radcliffe and his men however rushed so closely upon the heels of their own comrades from below that they were taken completely by surprise. however they never the less fought desperately causing a great loss among the soldiers who assailed them but all this opposite opposion was useless. Two or three of the Glandelinian officers calling their men to follow them made a rush at the christian soldiers, and Radcliffe suddenly found himself engaged in a hand to hand contest with a rebel colonel. He was a powerful and most desperate man and with a swinging blow he managed to beat down Radcliffe Radcliffes guard, and inflicted a severe wound on his head, but Radcliffe leaped forward and ran him through the body just as the bayonet of one of the soldiers pierced him in the side... For twenty minutes or so the fight was as desperate as a fight could be, but every moment added to the avenging force, and with a cheer the soldiers rushed at them with the bayonet. In twenty five minutes all was over. Many of the glandelinians leaped over the parapet and were dashed to pieces chosing to die that way than by the bayonet. While on the terrace no single ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ the glandelinian at the end of that time remained alive.

When all was over Radcliffe gave a loud shout, which was answered from above.

"Are you all right Gertrude.?"

"Yes Thank God, and His Blessed Mother; but Jane is delirious. Send some water up at once."

Radcliffe was too nervous in consequence by the severe cut he had received in the head, to attempt to climb the ladder, but the officer in command of the company at once offered to ascend. Several of the men had a little water left in their water canteens and from them one was filled and slung over the officers shoulder.

"I have some brandywine in my flask" he said and started up the steps. In a few minutes he descended again.

"The little girl is wildly delirious" he said. "They have bound her injured arm to her side with a sash but they cannot leave her. How is she to be got down.?"

"There is plenty of good rope and sucking down below" Radcliffe said after a moment's thought. "I believe they had better wrap her up in sacking so that she cannot move her arms tie a rope round her and lower her down close by the side of the steps, Gertrude or a soldier coming down down side by side with her so as to speak to her and tranquilize her."

A soldier was sent down for the articles required, and with them the officer accompanied by a sergeant to assist him in lowering the wounded child from above again mounted. In a few minutes Radcliffes plan was carried out and Jane was lowered saftly to the terrace.. Then Walter Starving carried her below and she was soon laid on a bed of sacks in the great hall under the care of the women, with cold water bandages around her head... Then Radcliffe had time to tell Gertrude how the rest of the night had passed.

"First tell me Rad, by what great miracle you returned to us so soon. Two days from to morrow afternoon was the very earliest time I thought that skills if was possible. To dome was a wonder worker."

Radcliffe gave a graphic description of how it was accomplished, and then Gertrude related what had happened to them on the dome during the remainder of the night..

"As soon as the glandelinians discovered we actually were up there, they got a big woods close by on fire to light up the scene plenty, and then they opened a heavy rifle fire upon us, from the woods and from the nearest trees, but fortunately they were obliged to go so far off to get a fair

view of us that the smooth bore would hardly carry off pr up and even had we been hit, I question if the balls would have penetrated though they might have given a sharp sting. Half an hour later the artillery fire began and they opened with thirty cannon.

We agreed that Penrod and I should by turns agree to lie so as to command the stairs, while some of the girlscouts remained with Jane on the other side of the dome..The enemy divided their guns and put them on eac h side also.Lying down we presented fortunately the smallest possible mark for them but all night indeed it was very hot.Not a single one of their shotsever went over the dome.The spike was hit one hundred and twenty times and lower down and good many holes were torn in the dome. but the shots that hit nearest us all glanced and flew over. They must have fired about four hundred and fifty shots at us altogether, and at the beginning of day they stopped altogether----for breakfast I suppose I believe and did not have time to begin again when your assault came upon them. I hoped also they were running short of ammunition.Once when the firing was hottest, believing I suppose to catch us napping, an attempt was made to climb the ladder, but Penrod who was on watch put a bullet through the first fellows head, and by the yell and blasphemies that followed I suspected that in his fall he swept all the others off the steps or ladder. The heat produced by that terrible fire the enemy made to reveal us in the glare was fearful, and we all suffered a good deal from thirst, for not one of us had much water left in our bottles, and we wanted that to pour down Janes throat from time to time, and to sop his bandages with.... Poor Jane got so delirious above two thirds this morning that we had trouble in holding her down, and in her ravings she imagined she was routing the devils out of hell.The last drop of water was finished in the night and we should sure have had a most terrible day of it if you had notarrived.I saw Glandelinians approaching with many long ladders which was evident they were going to try and scale the bould building and the dome and grenade us. And how let us hear what the surgeon says about poor Jane.""""

The doctors report was now cooling, the wound was a very severe one, the collar bone had been smashed to fragments but the high state of fever increased by the terrific heat was even a more serious matter than the wound, and that if she lived it would be a profound miracle."

"What will you do Gertrude? "

"I must carry out some means to do the proper things Radcliffe.I and Angeline Riches must go on soon with violet and her sisters and Starving to continue our investigations of the Abbieana horror, and then to have charge of my new regiment.Jane of course will have to be brought back to the christian lines, and you must give up your trip and stay with "Bright eyed Mary and Mildred and nurse Jane.Of course if she gets over it poor girlshe will have to beinvalided home untill she's well enough to return to the command and you can travel with her down to Angelina Agatha, and when you get we need not wear your disguise any more while with her untill you come back, then assume the role as a boy again. I shall sent all our wounded girlscouts and boys home too by the first opportunity for those wounded at the battle of Vantum road between us and the enemy who were murdering the refugees will be a very long time in recovering sufficiently enough to be able to serve in the military again, Calverinia will be no place for any of us either for a long time as it's getting mighty hot for us, and the battles are getting more terrible. The army under general Vivian shall have moths of bloody fighting for months to come and maybe longer and it'll be years before we,ll be able to see Glandelinia down on her back. There will sure be immense armies of wounded going down under heavy guards on wagons and ships and all the wounded child slaves shall be leaving at the first opportunity.It's very sad dear sister Angea to be leaving you and Jane and all the others at such a time;but for Violet and her sisters I and Starving must do our duty, what whatever happens.I must accomplish something to take it out of the enemy for all this..""""""

General Evans's force encamped for that day around the farm house in strong force while the battle again renewed along general Vivians army for the animals had been so much exhausted by their tremendous march and by their exertions in such fierce fighting round the farmhouse that it was thought better to give them rest. Jane continued delirious delirious but she was more quiet now as her strength diminished.Fortunately the ambulance was well supplied, and cooling drinks were given to her and all was done that attention and care could suggesa.There were thousands of christian of christian wounded in addition to those of the boy and girlscouts, and of Jane and of all the men who had fought so desperately around the farm.many were dead also. Early toward evening when the sound of deadly conflict in the distance had died down the column started in motion.

"THE fourtiths four miles to the Vantum Crossroads were done in a very short time, and here Radcliffe and Gertrude parted from poor Jane who had to go on to the Base capital camp with the rest of the wounded.It was a sad parting, and it was doing no injustice to Radcliffes and Gertrudes girlhoods to say they shed many tears..An immense body of cavalry were all in waiting at the crossroads, where it was approached the enemy had again pierced and drove general Vivians army out of shape and position but that for some reason or other the fighting had stopped or been stopped by the enemy at half past four that afternoon.

Jack himself told how he had fared from his own in a brief way. For more than ten days he himself had been hovering between life and death then the fever had left him, and the rest of his illness hindered by the wound had arrived. It was so bad been for days a question whether he had strength left really to rally from his exhaustion.Jean had recovered far sooner than he had been expected and had nursed him and watch, and a good come [illegible] care and nursing had won the victory. [illegible] he recovered he

had recovered sufficiently to be able to walk but had to limp.

Jean had delegated to Princess Violet and had obtained leave with her wounded boy scout comparion, and had started forward to rejoin general Vivians army with Jim.She herself had had a sharp attack of fever from her own wounds and the exertions she had undergone, but she was now well and strong again, and kept in Jack convalescence..... The journey had been easy and pleasant. When reaching the flood they went by the raft which they found and by the time they finally reached the army of Hansons at Lebanon Jack had sufficiently recovered to walk with his arm in Jeans. The use of his left arm for a time seemed gone, and for a time it was a question whether he could ever recover it, but he did.At Hansons army the two famous child scouts had the delight of meeting the Vivian Girl Princesses, their two Aunts and a cousin who had arived there when it was heard that Hansons army was at Lebanon.At this time there had been no engagement either at Lebanon or St Ethelreda. The next four days were happy ones indeed, and then there was a parting from Violet and her sisters for the two child scouts started onwout toward general vivians in disguise as ragamuffins as the Glandelinians never bothered these sort of children.This enal enabled them to reach general vivians army ever before the battle began but they had remained in seclusion for a time in general Bicknells christian army which alone had not been in the "STORM" for the first few days. Jack however had found a surprise for him. He had found that he was no longer a "common officer and he had found when he had arived in general Vivians army that he had found his name included in the high honor bestowed upon all Colonel Captains of his regiment for distinguished service.Jean couldn't recieve any higher commission as she had been chosen some time before as "Biscot"by the Vivian Girls, and despite how that word sounds in our country, in Abbieannia especially among child scouts there's no comission higher. She had been immediately appointed to that rank as a reward for all her our distinguished services.

The details of this day of the battle need not be given in many words but it is enough to predict that during the height of the contest which had been fiercer this day than any other. the enemy had broken up the christian line seriously, walled up one of its wings, and penetrated deep far into the center, so that general Gingigore had to mass all his available reserve possible to stop their terrific assault.

After that which was then four thirty mysteriously all array on the part of the battle ceased. and no further onslaughts came from the enemy after that. During the night despite his wound, general Vivian sat up in bed, and had all his generals gathered around him and held a council on how to pursue the battle for a final issue .on the following day. Finally general Vivian said;

"This is what you had better do general Gingigore. Miss our whole army and move it at once in a grand general tremendous assault upon the whole of the enemys lines at once, close in on St Ethelreda and smash all before you.We must win. I won't move from this territory, and will continue this battle if it takes a whole year.We MUST WIN."

"Can I pleasesee general Vivian in a hurry sir.I have some very startling news for him.It's important."

It was morning.The sentry glanced at him and permitted him to go in.

He was ushered before the general.Gertrude was sitting by the bedside of her grandfather.

"What is it?"asked the general rising half way out of bed.

"General Gingigore send me to tell you sir he cannot make the attack this morning."

"Can't make the attack!"Gasped Gertrude."Why is the enemy gathering too strong sir ?"

"No it's not that"Miss Aronburg, of course general but there's no enemy to attack.Jamesline left us all behind during the night.He slipped away like a fox."

General Vivian looked searchingly at the man to make sure whether he was in his right mind.

"Sure "he final" said"sir it's impossible."

"No sir."

"But after almost having my army worsted steadily for three days and driving us out of position James-line's army couldn't have run away like that, a hit and run battle.what in the world have you been drinking sir."

"The man turned to Gertrude.

"Miss Gertrude"he said"If you don't believe it you may go scouting to the highest hill and see for yourself.There's no enemy in sight. St Ethelreda and Vantum is abandoned and the enemy left lots of camp equipage behind and plenty of cannons. I tell you it's no dream on my part and I have not partaken into anything intoxicating. Why all the generals are flabbergasted and are in exciting conversation about it. It is all very strange."

Gertrude was silent for a time.Then she said;

"Where is general Gingigore. "?

"He's gone to see if he can discover the enemy anywhere so as to pursue. It's true Miss Aronburg.Cross my heart and hope to die.There's no enemy in sight."

"I'm going and see"said Gertrude."You come along."

Forward rode followed by the soldier and ordered her horse and sent a courier to summon a cavalry escort to accompany her.She invited Angeline Rickon, and all her girlscout and boyscout officers to come without."

As soon as all was in readiness, and not even waiting for a morning mist to lift, the whole party set out at a lively gallop. The road was quite a distance over but the sun now still smoking ruins of St Ethelred. It took them two hours or more before they reached any rise of ground sufficiently high enough for the purpose of obtaining a fairly good view of the surrounding country. The day again as usual was hazy, in the far distance and twilight in stead of proper daylight but she had hopes of being able to see far in spite of it. It was quite a long distance to the top of the rise as it was quite high, but as soon as they reached it they were surprised to see in the distance a large party of general officers on another rise of ground and observed by their uniforms to be Abbiamnians.

They couldn't hardly see anything else however. As far as view would allow all was clear country, not any sort of a moving army was in sight but at some distance there was a long line of wrecked wagons but no horses were around, some abandoned cannons, and their caissons and a score of debris stretched a long way. Gertrude was flabbergasted. She could see with her own eyes that the soldiers news was a true fact.

"How come it to be" she demanded of the soldiers."Those sentinels either must have been cockeyed or asleep on duty to allow the enemy to slip away so easily. This is the worst ever, the most unusual. Tamerline yesterday as general Benligin told me had our army almost whipped, and yet this to happen. It's as if a boy would fight me, throw me down on my face and then run away before I could regain my feet. I'll have all those sentrigen tries give an account of themselves. This will have to be settled. General vivian was outwitted by general Tamerline."

"That general Phellinin is as foxy as that as he looks"said Angeline Richie."But those sentinels ought to have been more watchful. I'll bet the Glandelinians played a trick or something on them. Was last night very dark?"

"No but it was very smoky like an awful fog and a wind was blowing from the east."

"That must not have been the fault of the sentinels then"said Percyd. "It was too smoky to see anything. But that Glandelinian general Benligin did give us the slip and no mistake at that. He's gone to Fell, but he's lost and unless we can have our main trail so we can find the trail easier to be able to follow. We must bring the news up to the Vivian Girls by signal of telegraph and tell them what happened and have them advise us."

They hastily rode back to the camp and reached there considerably late in the morning. Morning. General Vivian was notified by Angeline Richie that the enemy had given him the slip and was even out of pursuit. General Vivian was furious over that, and claimed that it was like a person striking him in the back and then running away.

All the generals were excited over the news, many made out excuses for themselves, and many said it was most unusual for the Glandelinians to make matters worse for some reason or other couldn't get any communications over with General Hansons army, and therefore could not notify them. However learning the distance general Hansons army was, a swift swift messenger was sent there with the message. It would be over a day before he could get there, and therefore pursuit really was out of the question. The enemy had given the christian army the most clever slip ever known on record.

BATTLE TIME.

THE GREAT DEMON GLANDELINIAN AND OTHER ACTIONS OF THE AWFUL BATTLE.

HERCE'S DELAUGHTER ALL TO THE DESTRUCTION!

PROBABLY greatest bloody battles in Calverinia before the Big Civil War cool horror were the two battles of St Ethelreda and Lebanon, but the latter one was a fierce as all of St Ethelreda and in one day. Fortunately, it lasted only one day. This town was or is in this story, seated on the same river. Because of its existence and its possible liability to the approach of the dangerous Glandelinian armies as it was in the heart of the fiercest of the war Zone, fully two hundred and fifty small battles having been recorded within its territory since the war began. Greatest of these was that which is now on record. Hansons army had followed after the retreating armies which had been wounded in the battles of the just until general Hanleys army advancing to try and join with Tamerline threw itself in his way. Before the approach of the enemy the city itself was as usual, gay careless, busy its people attending to all sorts of business pleasure with their ordinary vim as all inclinations led them, and not a single person dreaming of the horrors that had already been raging at St Ethelreda and which also was coming in store for them. As no reports of the enemys advance had come to them they were as heddless of coming peril excitement death and peril as the inhabitants of St Ethelreda had been.

The night before the approach of the enemy was found out the people went as if retiring or occupying to their beds, rich and poor, sick and well alike... Did any of them dream of a battle going to come to them as it did at St. Ethelreda? Maybe it was so, and maybe not not even though the poets tell us;

"Coming events cast their shadows before."

But whether they were forwarned by dreams or not doubtless not a soul of the beautiful city was prepared for the terrible and exciting event so near at hand, no more than those had been at St Ethelreda, and when at thirteen minutes past five o'clock in that dread morning of one of the days when St Ethelreda had its second days duration probably on the 5th of October [illegible], felt their beds slight, lifted beneath them continually as if a concussion was bumping them up and down, and the noise of a frightful cannonade and exploding shells some distance away terrible sounds besides this which they couldn't understand, heard the crash of high explosives, and saw everything in their rooms tossed madly about by the vibrations, while through their windows came the roar as if as if of some awful battle far away without. It was a matter not of minutes minutes but of hours yet on all that location in oth other towns no concussion life it has ever been felt, no such sudden terror awakened no such terrible excitement and peril occasioned as those fearful hours of the day.

This was occasioned by a sudden sudden and most unexpected "storming" attack upon a certain part of general general Hansons line near the left. The enemy covered it with the dreadful cannonade that trembled the city. The Glandelinians carried the positions, were repulsed at one point but again and again they rushed to the assault with overwhelming fury and the work of the demon of ruin and battle was done. Christian officers of other divisions were aroused from sleep to find their own troops and whole lines flung from their positions, and retreating in great disorder, many of their regiments reduced to fragments, many captured by the advancing enemy or turned in agonizing suffering under the earth debris hurled upon them by high explosive eruptions. A whole big division of troops had been utterly demolished in that half an hours time.

That half hours time of the reign of the raging battle novel horror had turned one of the most massive, yet probably careless portion of the christian line into a wreck and demolition which no words can fitly describe. The soldiers not caught in the dreadful turmoil stumbled and ran in wild panic across the fields, to get away from those heaving eruptions, regardless of uniforms or weapons of everything but the madmatic instinct of safty and rushed headlong toward the rear, to meet the other portions of the line and yielded to the energy of the terrible Glandelinian forces, and had in sections been torn and rent into fragments. Other terrors assailed the fugitives as fresh Glandelinians burst among them dealing right and left with the bayonet. Other sections of the christian line however of this [illegible] still held while the mad terror raged all around them. Then at last the heaviest of the assaults came upon this portion. It was more forcible than the other assault which caused the scene of destruction to unfold immensely to the loss of life and dread of the officers, and every man was done to reinforce the line still holding while cavarly was sent to try and stem the rout before disaster became irremarkable. The spectacle of the entire retreating columns thus roused suddenly from slumber by a fierce sudden surprise assault and most flying from their camps in utter panic in their night clothes were not all annihilated by the victorious enemy is one that cannot scarcely be pictured in words and can be given in any approach to exact realization

and, in his narratives of the officers who witnessed the horrors of such a "Glandelinian storm" and experienced the sensation to which it carried. The terrific Glandelinian assault proved that the legendary and even the least descriptive of this part of the battle. The terrified fugitives had note and there great patches of pine trees in all directions around them that into flames from flashes caused by shrapnell explosions and before tree time was up for sun rise a dozen or more conflagrations among the forests were visible in all sections of the woods and in place places great walls of trees broke out with sudden startlingness startling suddenness into flame which shot hundreds of feet into the air.

While the masses of christian troops were stunned by the awful suddenness of the disaster, and while some of the officers for a moment or so stood rooted to the ground or wandered helplessly about in dismay, there were many alert and self possessed among them who aroused themselves immediately from their dismay and put their energies to useful ness. One some of these having the presence presenceness of mind ordered up their machine gun batteries to cover the retreat of the defeated ing, hurled reinforcements in heavy numbers to the rescue. Meanwhile the noise of confusion brought the higher generals out in hot haste to the scene, and they ordered immense bodies of troops forward, and from the location of Lebanon Center came at double quick Hansonia Johnstonias force of soldiers the Ninth Corps under the efficient command of general Hanson Turner of many a battle fame. These reinforcements were at once put into position before the retreating troop, they were rallied gradually by their commanders at this sight of help and the enemy then met with more dogged resistance than had been expected, but still tried to pressed on and the fury of the battle became immeasurable.

General Turner recognized at the start the great nex necessity of keeping this glandelinian wave of insane madness back as much as possible until more help could arrive especially, in such an exigency as that which he had to face. And in all this going, general Hanson has still indeed adopt and no one had heard him a single word of hat he going to. Until an hour later general Johnstons First Division of Christinian National Guard was sent forward and these went into the battle with livel, energy. The effort to fight the enemys dogged advance was now the first and greatest duty to be performed but from the start as the enemys artillery, covered the "SLOPE" it it proved to be a dangerous and very difficult task, like set a hopeless task. With fierce Glandelinian columns moving forward at once in an immense line, general Turners army would have been inadequate to cope with the enemy even under the best of circumstance as he was yet terribly overwhelmed. As it was he and his officers found themselves seriously handicapped at the start by, nearly a total lack of heavy field pieces, and by constant use the machine guns grew hot the, had to be given a rest, withdrawn to the advantage of the enemy who however had fallen in the most dreadful teeming numbers.

The violence of the assault had disarranged and broken up the main christian left, and so far aru, as the other sections of the main christian army that outside of the troops hurled in there was scarcely any more troops to be had, so that even the divisions [illegible] been sent forward to repell the enemy proved next to useless. Reinforcements might be drawn from the center, but the centre of the christian army was six miles or more away, and even if any troops were drawn from there this gready body of the army might prove useless in the stringent exigeny exigency....The only hope that remained to general Turner and the others was to endeavor to chec the progress of the advancing glandelinians, by the use of a strong, battery of heavy centimeter guns, and to withdraw away the broken portions of the christian army in the line of the progress of the enemy advance as they were a hindrance of the defensive lines. This was put in practice without the slightest loss of time, and soon the thunder of man, of these guns began, followed by many terrific explosions among the enemys advancing masses, many blasts being heard every few seconds even at general Hansons headquarters each explosion signifying to him he was reckened by the Hin [illegible] something was amiss, and also signifying that some regiment of Glandelinians was blown to atoms by each explosion.

Forward despite the gaps torn in their lines the glandelinians advanced, and though the brave christian generals worked, and their troops fought with a desperation and [illegible] of the most heroic type it seemed as if all their efforts were to be without avail, the terrible glandelinians pushing on as steadily as if a solon, of small [illegible] had sought to stay their progress.

It was with grief and all horror that the numbers of general generals gazed on this steady march of the army of ruin. They were seemingly seemingly half crazed by the magnitude of the battle disaster, indeed strangely passive in the face of the ruin and defeat that stared them in the face, [illegible] stunned by despair and not yet awakened to a realization of the horrors of the situation. So many however at any time carry more than a few months of supplies, provisions and ammunition, and with the victorious enemy in possession of all this and a vast camp the shortage of ammunition made itself apparent from the start, and artillery fire was opened upon the christian left from three sides and everybody seemed a still a storm of shot shell shrapnell, grape and high explosives...2.2.2.2.2222222

The proper ammunition which could have stopped the advance of the foe was even more difficult to obtain, and the left wing was nearly cut off from the main christian army. Those who possessed supplies of ammunition advanced it as fast as possible, but in the face of grave peril. Thus an Abbleanian Officer sent fourteen wagons loaded with munitions, and the drivers were obliged to pass through a zone of fire, and a number of wagons were blown up before the train reached its destination.. The conflagrations started by the battles sudden fury, the swaying and tottering trees burned through, the frequent shell explosions, the dreadful noise of hundreds of cannons, the incessant roaring crack of rifles each followed by terrific yells of the victorious enemy rendered the fields and lanes very unsafe for scouting christian officers, the city of Lebanon itself was under fire, and the inhabitants fled in almost a panic. The ferryboats were crowded with those who wished to leave the city, and a constant stream of the homless homeless carrying such articles as they had rescued from their homes was continued all day long any they fled in the direction of the north to get away from the terrible battle.

A strange feature of the battle was a rush to the forward positions by the Sixteenth Corps who wished to try and stop the advance of the enemy swinging round in this direction. The enemys advancing columns was yet distant from this location, which seemed destined to be assaulted. The assault came with dreadful violence, and all that morning till ten long lines of christian troops stood before the enemy in fierce desperate resistance. On their side generals Montgomery Watsonia and Sansome were wounded, but the christian troops held on, braving in their desire to not maintain the position. the fiercest of the enemys assault, and tearing whole lines of assailants to pieces with their withering rifle and cannon fire. Their effort was vain, the Glandelinians turned their right, and drove it to the rear in all wild confusion. As for some of the fleeing people of the city, some of them in their panic and confusion in stead of fleeing northward wildly fled into the very danger zone they wished to avoid, but their confusion somehow or other for a time stopped all egress of the enemy in that direction and it became even necessary for the christian cavalry to drive them out of the territory before the enemy would fall upon and massacre them.. and thus with incident manifold, went on that fatal Fifth of October, the first drama of that dread battle of Lebanon.

Drama two.
Official record of the violent Glandelinian
Onslaught.

It is very important, here to give the official record of the shock of the violent Glandelinian onslaught, as given by some of the officers who witnessed it, and who send timely and laid in the end. General George Grose said in his writings to general Hanson Vivian.;

"The Glandelinian assault came from north to south, and the only description I am able to give of is terrible effects that it seemed like a storm wave lashing a kind torne shore city..I was in bed, but roused from sleep by the first terrible crash of firing. I thought at first that some explosions by accident must have occured within the christian lines, and I began to count the seconds, but as the noise increased I rapidly dressed, went out mounted my horse and rode off to see what was wrong. The shock of the attack came at five twelve oclock in the morning..... The first portion of it seemed at first the most severe and it carried all before it. From that time on it decreased gradually because of fresh resistance it met but did not stop. The on onslaught continued for two hours beingslighter in degress at that time than in any part of the passed hours, but the battle raged then with an indescribable fury and general Turner seemed to be holding his own but with great difficulty. There were two slight concussions from somewhere afterwards which I did not pay much attention to. At 8.14 I recorded a shock of an assault upon Montgomerys front front, which continued for quite long a space of time, and another one two minutes later somewhere else. The battle then was extending and it was evident Hanley was determined to sweep our big army aside. I saw many fires, but nothing wrong just then seemed to happen in Lebanon though the people were abandoning the city in panic."

General Rufenatus recorded what he observed....2.2.

"The principal part of the terrific Glandelinian onslaught came in two waves. One was led by general Alimanii Shoenamii, and the other, was led by general Jesipine Jesain and Benia Moltis in [illegible]....I saw those Glandelinian columns took to fragments by Turners first fire, the first series of vibrations from the cannonading of both sides continuing without interruption, and the din was in a grander sooth conceiving, to that of a great Volcanic explosion going on continuously. I suspected or believed the vibrations would climb when gradually, during the time the christian left was routed, but artillery fire occured again renewed vigor at some other section. Then the noise extended to the east, and the atmosphere was full of smoke from explosions and flames burst burning in forest, which soon obscured [illegible]. The [illegible]table feature of this violent,,, glandelinian assault while

[illegible] great intensity [illegible] irresistible forward rolling. A [illegible] from the observation point [illegible] of all displacements of the christian left wing [illegible] present [illegible] the weather form." [illegible] of observers [illegible] indicated that the heaviest shocks of the Glandelinian assault came from the direction of the [illegible] to northwest. General Jenkins was the first to drive his line through that of course. In that respect the records of the three heaviest blows were entirely. But they had several other [illegible] in common. One of them is that while they were pressing on, they were covered by an artillery fire that made the christian position untenable, that [illegible] the retreat more than the assault, and while the displacements of the christian left wing were very large, the enemy advance by [illegible] resistance finally turned out such slower, and I could see that [illegible] still increasing as the Glandelinians were suffering terribly from the fire of cannon and musketry along [illegible] defense defore nine lines.

[illegible] the reader desirous to discover the actual damage done by [illegible] fierce Glandelinian surprise assault, the fact stands out that the enemy followed so close upon the retreating columns of the left wing that the traces of its ravages were in many cases obliterated during the battle by so much smoke of the wild firing, and of conflagrations set by the battle. So many regiments of troops fell a prey to the advancing enemy or to the dreadful Glandelinian artillery fire that the actual work of the christian officers in restore order in the shattered lines was made difficult, and the full nature of the disaster in some cases impossible to discover. This fact was or that led to considerable despute and delay when the question of how the christian left wing got so easily surprised by the enemy, many of the officials having also confined their risk to attempting to stem the disaster, and yet claiming exemption from liability as to what the battle might result in the case the enemy pushed on through very obstacle. Had not this been, there was sure believe belife the enemy could have been turned back sooner than it was done. Among the chief victimes of the battle disaster was general Woodson's Fifteenth Corps standing ground at Structure Juncture.

His right grand division was left still intact but the other sections was reduced as a man would be reduced to a skeleton with his flesh gone and his spirit gone. The exposed to the searching air. His center recoiled before the enemys advance and artillery fire in frightful disarray, general Peter St John was mortally mortally wounded, his assistants generals San Pedro and Michael Good child were seriously wounded, and his lieutenant general fell dead from his horse s hot through the heart while trying to rally the panic stricken troops. General Woodens division therefore was reduced to a miserable wreck the enemys artillery fire having aided the Glandelinian assault in its ruin. General Post Johns division a handsomely formed Corps and usually remarkable for its behavior in many a battle also suffered a wreck from the shock of the enemys assault, its left being badly shattered and injured one to the center while its leader was wounded.....

One observer who was a foreigner stated that the enemys line of assault seemed to have advanced in a very irregular course. Had the enemy come on in a straighter course its being halted and driven off in later hours would have been utterly impossible. He related to general Ben Lovania "The enemy advanced in a long line but twisted up somewhat like a serpent in advancing the line never straight, and the christian lines had fallen to the rear dealt the confusion in a more straight line which fire cut big gaps in the enemys columns for every volley. General Canters divisions hardly felt the the assault of the enemy upon it, while in other places the christian lines were all shattered. The enemy hurling himself against Canters position met obscene resistance, the after line of Glandelinia were mowed down. They failed to turn his left wing, and got flinged themselves and called by an infinding fire that swept all before it. General Aldron Costellio pushed the "storm" with all available troops, but he fell at the head of his troops and his line of battle was shattered, and by eight o'clock in the morning facing an annihilating fire failed to advance any further and was [illegible]. This probably enable the rest of the christian army to hold the enemy back on. At this place the Glandelinian loss had been unbelievable. Scores of brigades had been swept out of existence in an hours time, twenty generals were killed, fourteen wounded and the main Glandelinian troop stormed Canters without a leader, and lost forty standard colors and six [illegible] captured, and 100,000 men in casualties. The division had been a million strong, and had only from reduced its good left. It did not retreat but gently at the battle, standing its ground one intend of advancing.

Holding the right of the christian left wing northwest from Mount [illegible] Lebanon Church which was so curious that it would have to be replaced not the Ferry, the right of the left wing, the first line observed was the [illegible] to read article of the course of of the advancing Glandelinian troops. General Francis Pierce divisions for instance was in the brunt of the "storm" and was left a mass of wounded wounded and killed while general Bud Hernsons division on the left of it, the was hurled from its position in a disorderly retreat and General Hundrew on the other side, either in his rear and in heavily stormed was partly undamaged and were able to retreat safely without being caught in the enemys helcane [illegible] of artillery fire.

Position on general Companies division was reduced to fragments and part of its left Guard wing was captured and annihilated..... General Gates Brigades also suffered seriously from this great were battle shake up, he was wounded, and his artillery was captured. The same was with General Andrews Corps, his line was rolled up, and his his field pieces rendered, useless. It cost much time and dreadful efforts to sent reinforcements to this undercover point and restore the shattered lines,, The most of the christian line that collapsed before the enemys at that time irresistible advance were the ones mostly caught off guard and unprepared, the divisions hit later and given time to be pre prepared escaping the disaster in full and though also forced to retreat giving the enemy far more fierces resistance than ever expected. expected. Of the former divisions general Valencia Johnstons was shattered to a complete demolition, a four divisions Brigade which were reduced to fragments before the enemys fire and advance. The loss of life was appalling. In facts sir, as the report of damage and defeat was brought by this tremendous Glandelinian onslaught came in, the convection grew convection grew among generals who were watching the scene close to where I stood that one of the saftest places during the enemy "storm" to throw in troops to try and hurl it off was on Lebanon Hill, and Tabor Mdre two low hills on which seemine lines of cover or could safely and rapidly be massed. As a matter of fact this however was not attempted though I didn't see why for I believed the enemy could have been cut to pieces at this spot. The loss of life during this fray was caused in almost every case by the terrible curtain of artillery fire from the enemys advancing batteries. The manner the manner in which general Canters corps withstood the shock of battle was complete vindication of the strongest claim made for his troops and it was made doubt. Let results from the fact that this was the first occasion on which the effect of a violent Glandelinian onslaught of any proportions against a christian division of troops could be studied. Of Canters Ninth Corps and Sixteenth Brigade under general Bordon Francis had been hard [illegible] was repulsed with reinforcements its denure being done wholly by the violence of the assault. The line everything remained intact, although the position of the line had been shaken while the attack lasted. It held its position. Other sections of the christian line under Canter were at as little off effected as to admit reinforcements more or less extensive were the Fourth Corps under general James Flooding, General Charlie Wilson, general George Gill, the Eighteenth Corps under General Bowie Hanson, the Twenty Fourth Corps under General David Jones, and the 20th Corps under general Dorgin Post. All of these firmly held their positions supported by a terrible artillery fire that made an advance of the enemy upon it must close range utterly impossible without annihilation..

A peculiar feature of the effect of a battle scene on christian troops under this fighting general was also reported in the case of General Fairmonths Light First covering also of Canters division. The first and left wings of this corps enveloped their assailants and so damaged their line of advance that they fled precipitately for cover. Hanley afterwards said, that General Canter position was the "Corner Nut of the Christian lines" and had a impregnable position. Various explanations have been made of the surprising successful resistance of Canters army.

The great strength and the powerful artillery support combined with this division of the army not loosing from earth unprepared, and the fierce unyielding resistance given in the face of great odds, and the reliability and enthusiasm of their generals and well tried commanders are the main reasons given, besides also the strong positions they maintained. Their artillery fire cut the enemy to pieces while the infantry presented a solid impenetrable front while the result that the Glandelinian army was shattered to pieces and unable to advance. Whether there was or is any other military basis for the latter theory or not it seems reasonable enough in view of the description given to me by those commanders themselves of the manner in which their divisions recieved the onslaught and withstood the bloody battle. All things considered general Canters division has afforded the christian army the most convincing evidence of its [illegible] and [illegible] Hanson Vision to crush the army of the foe entirely during the later part of the battle. General Canters Guard was most marvelous."

From General [illegible] Fifteen Corps some of the total destruction of general Bellows last division which stood like wound of on a portion of the Lebanon Childrens Childrens big county playground.. The whole line of battle were shattered beyond reformation, the center was driven in and rolled up, and the destruction of the left was complete..... From the force of explosions the heavy [illegible] cover for this line of battle were [illegible] from their foundations [illegible] in the positions some of them [illegible] in the [illegible] but shifted [illegible] upward as though they were made of cork. [illegible] it is plain that the smaller artillery such as rapid fire and machine guns, and rattling guns of this division [illegible] escaped without disaster or being captured except in the case of the Irregular General [illegible] battery [illegible] on the left of the Childrens Park [illegible] displacement...2..2

In this connection a position of extraordinary character could be narrated. Among the christian [illegible] under General Bellard Stanford all of which were captured or overthrown and disabled [illegible] Bridge Commander Childrens. While and [illegible] "[illegible] by infiltration" [illegible] Childrens Playground, and [illegible] the grounds [illegible] the playground and behind it [illegible] the road beyond, from which [illegible] the general direction of [illegible] the enemy. The singular thing was that when recovered it proved to be without any injury or scratch. Though it had [illegible] the [illegible] in the stone wall. This position of the christian left [illegible] to be [illegible] in the battle the destruction of many brigades and [illegible] being almost total though they had [illegible] in positions formed with the [illegible] of resisting the [illegible] onrushing and fierce glandelinian [illegible] .....

Such indeed was the general character of the terrific Glandelinian onslaught at the opening of the battle of Boberon and in its vinicity. It may be said further that all, or nearly all the defeats were more due directly or indirectly to overwhelming [illegible] than to the invincible resistance resistance by shell fire. As the enemy was pressing on and another and yet another and ever fresher force of Glandelinians concentrated against General Carters. The enemy came with a slight "stumble over" [illegible] sufficient to cause a temporary check. Then half an hour later came another and most severe one strong enough to roll back of position a portion of the line but it was repulsed with dreadful loss. On the christian side severe General Wilkes and Christie Wilson were wounded...

The terrors of battle disasters sometimes are only momentary. One fierce disastrous onslaught and it is all in over. The dreadful fear then had has passed on, and the two foes go into [illegible] shaken the territory for many leagues with a dreadful cannonade.... Rarely does a Glandelinian onslaught leave behind it such a scene of destruction and to go on completing the terrible lowering [illegible] in the case of a [illegible] almost total left wing of the christian army under General Hanson Vivian. All seemed to lead toward such a [illegible] carnavil of ruin of [illegible] as one war has rarely seen. The whole Glandelinian column stretching for many miles followed close upon the heels of the recoiling christian left wing and ran too naked through the [illegible] Childrens Playground, while for [illegible] the motor stricken people looked on the scene from a distance stood aghast in terror, while the christian officers seemed as helpless to combat this Glandelinian army under Joseph Jenkin and Columnia Sheeman as they would have been to stop the ravages of an earthquake itself.

The main christian batteries were too far off to be brought into position in time to do any good at this spot. A sweeping glandelinian onslaught of the most terrible character and the batteries not there to stop it. The situation of the generals was a maddening one and one of them rode his horse as if he was crazy to get to general Hanson Vivians headquarters and tell him of the total [illegible]. Thousands of the refugees from the city gathered on some high ground and looked on at the seething battle in blank dismay and fitful misery, wondering why the strong characters the [illegible] of their generals couldn't do something to stop the progress of this devouring Satanic army. They were forced to gaze helpless, and helplessly upon the destruction of many regiments of a vast christian line and it was no marvel if many of the people grew frantic and lost their reason at the sight... In a dozen a hundred places the Glandelinians broke through all obstacles.

[illegible] christian [illegible] the irresistible Glandelinian advance. The [illegible] General James Spree (?) [illegible] aides by artillery and for a time also received the [illegible] Glandelinian onslaught and still remained in his position. But it was cut off from the rest, and the Glandelinians gathered in over whelming number around it and assailed it from all sides. From three sides came their fierce attack.... The Glandelinians pounced on victoriously and this a vision too was soon flying in rout. All that morning the enemy advanced continued unchecked all efforts of [illegible] all efforts of rallied troops and reinforcements to stay the progress of the Glandelinians being futile. All of the christian left wing [illegible] totally routed. [illegible] division was left in position except [illegible] brigades and [illegible] in a [illegible] of dead and dying before the Glandelinian artillery fire. The scene was [illegible], more so than as if the [illegible] had [illegible] on a [illegible] vastly [illegible] scale. So [illegible] again the [illegible] and [illegible] of General [illegible] and all this was one of the most [illegible] incidents of the war so far. And as fierce as his army had been assaulted it passed through the inferno of battle with little loss though its lines several times were badly displaced and shaken. All the early part of the morning the Glandelinian army [illegible] taking in its prey every [illegible] and [illegible] around it being destroyed, and in remaining the [illegible] army that could not be forced from its position and holding the enemy from [illegible] within the [illegible] range, because the cannon fire [illegible] many brigades of Glandelinians [illegible] before it. The [illegible] division [illegible] accord [illegible] activity of its generals and other commanders. [illegible] "Stand" first started, General Leach Sumbam reached the scene of action shortly after the crash began and found the whole line already in fierce action, and he brought up a seeming line of rapid fire guns and [illegible] these [illegible] the enemy and [illegible] them down in whole [illegible] as fast as they came on. General Minto [illegible] corps [illegible] was brought up [illegible] the christian [illegible] was killed in smoke and [illegible] General Christie Wilson [illegible] of a

[illegible] period [illegible] and [illegible] the enemy [illegible] at [illegible] over [illegible] people for a time [illegible] critical. The left wing of Santeve line was almost overlapped, and also General Smelb, virles division, and the enemy for a time poured across the position and almost drove the defenders out. General Christie Wilson however sent a [illegible] cement that extended the left wing beyond the left the length of the assailant and in turn now [illegible] overlapped. And [illegible] way. The center also was [illegible] pressed out the men within their position fought like fiends with bayonet sword and pistol and efficient aid was given by General Otto zink and in the end the enemy was [illegible] back a considerable distance with the loss already mentioned, though considerable damage was done by the christian artillery fire upon general Carl Staleys division of Zimmermanians who came to the aid of the assailants at that moment Carl Staley was wounded. The total loss of christian soldiers in Santeve army was only 150,000 in dead and wounded and prisoners, the prisoners being few.

During the progress of the enemy's advance [illegible], the Glandelinian battle front continued [illegible] to Mechanics Pavilion Junction near where general Hanson had thrown a new and strong battle line, and where General Fred Kerye's Four Corps were preparing for action. Ambulances wagons and automobiles were [illegible] carrying away many wounded soldiers rescued from the battlefield when word came to General Fredkerye that it was impossible [illegible] impossible to stand [illegible] and that the position would have to be vacated in haste as the retreating column coming up suddenly would only throw them into hopeless confusion. Every means was at once pressed into service, the wounded were removed as rapidly as possible. Finally, and the last regiment [illegible] hope lost on the way out of the trenches when hardly after ards the whole [illegible] of the retreating christian troops appeared into view.

While the battle raged and took on with sickened rage, and it fury was [illegible] were increased than [illegible] influenced, general Hanson made plans to storm the enemy's center and left with the purpose to [illegible] Hanleys [illegible] off his own [illegible] so that Hanson could make a [illegible] attack upon the rear of the advancing enemy in the region there. He new he must do something soon [illegible] for the work of destruction and loss of the left wing was already immense. In each of the St Angeles [illegible] division of Mc-Alpine [illegible] movement of Vanleys road [illegible] defeat and rout of the christian troops was becoming complete. From Mechanics Pavilion Junction and St Nicholas Creek down to Oakland woods the results of the enemy's irresistible advance was heartrending, in the scene of carnage was appalling.

On each side was ruin and disaster nothing but disaster.

At about ten [illegible] thirty that morning General Hanson ordered the [illegible] upon Hanleys left and center, and while this was started [illegible] distance to see how it could crush the assailant of his left [illegible]. He observed that in the center of the battle hill rose a good elevation [illegible] could be used as a strong position in which to rally the retreating left wing. It ascended so abruptly from the south that it was almost impossible for any sort of vehicle to go up even if pulled by horses. The slope being at an angle of a little short of fourty five degrees. It was [illegible] and steep on the west side and the only approach by carriage was from the south. To this hill in face the defeat of Hanleys victorious right wing. Here the divisions of Standford, Hoppings, Hutchinson, and Crocker were brought up as fast as trains could go at the forced march and double time about more than 2,500,000 men each division. Numerous artillery was placed higher up, and cavalry was sent forward in a strong body to try and rally the retreating forces. Then the new sound of more distant and steadier fire, to a heavier degree showed that Hanson plan was being put into progress. General Hoppings troops were Angelinians and were old time veterans and splendid fighters. The division under Stanford were Bombelians and [illegible] Stanford. The [illegible] were Acres [illegible] and farmers. The Crocker division were Angelinians and Acrillians. Many other Corps stood in [illegible] Stanford and Hoppings division [illegible] Stanford and Hoppings division [illegible] the fourteen Corps under General Lightman. The [illegible] was [illegible] of heavy [illegible] and another battle was practically completed. On the northeastern slope [illegible] the now famous "Gopher's Nest" of hill through which it was necessary for the enemy to pass to [illegible] from the principal section of the hill.

While these were placed [illegible] General Andrew Hodgens Bicknell was sent with an enormous force [illegible] round Childrens Play Ground and Dennison with the purpose to move in [illegible] of the advancing foe [illegible] with [illegible] force. This region was the next [illegible] prey to the [illegible] battle. Because of general Carters successful resistance, a change of direction was forced upon the advancing enemy and the left of the foe curved westward moving toward Hobb's Junction. This was what general Hanson actually hoped for. It gave him more chance to carry on his place, though however it didn't at that time show any chance of the enemy's assault upon the left being stopped. The cavarly managed to restore order, after two hours efforts among the retreating left wing but still to stop stop the advance of the Glandelinians was very unavailing. Steadily but surely, despite the dreadful fire poured down upon them the Glandelinians climbed the slope, and Standfords and Hoppings divisions could [illegible] even although [illegible] against the Glandelinians [illegible] there were [illegible] of them. These divisions too fell victims to the fury of the enemy whose charge or advance now was covered by long range batteries that fiercely shelled the hill. Others of the Christian Brigades followed. Six brigadier commanders fell wounded one mortally. Huge clouds of smoke from so much firing, from so many cannons, and bursting shells and from big fires enveloped the hill and there was a general feeling of horror when General Fairmonter division of troops was overlapped and seemed about to be driven from the position. To it the Committee of Refugees, [illegible] which were somewhere distant had retreated before the battle raged here, but the advancing part of the line of enemy opposite this section reached this portion of the christian line and the committee once more migrated in search of safe quarters but still remained close enough in their desire to watch the progress of the awful battle.

Four Fort repulse this portion of the christian line escaped only with a little damage, its line of battle remaining intact, and stopping the progress of the enemy along their front. Some of the first line of artillery was captured by the Glandelinians, but the guns were recaptured by prompt and most savage counter charge. In the district of the hill extending northwest ward from general Hansonia Kearney and Montgomery Hooligans divisions were touched by the first of this wave of assault the Glandelinians advanced forward as if they were bent on parade instead of hurling themselves forward in a terrific onslaught. It was like Pickettes Grand and glorious charge at Gettysburg but a thousand times greater and more furious. This section of the hill was held by general Later Quartere's Abnsinkilions, Winkies, and machine, Angelitions and Tripocrilians. Once the enemy would gain a foothold here they would sweep onward on a front making their way through woods and forest fires pierig, but the christian fire willed up the christian line here in a dense mass, pierced by innumerable flashes, the Glandelinians were swept away like chafe before that withering fire. Whole regiments were cut away by hundreds, the general leading the onslaught was shot dead from his horse, and appalled by the frightful slaughter, while they couldn't get within rifle range of the defenders, ~~came~~ the Glandelinians fell back in retreat in dreadful confusion. General Clammer tried to rally these panic stricken columns but was laid low by a shell. General Andrew Dononi took his place, grasped the Glandelinian National colors, waved the flag into the faces of the christian defenders, and fell dead shot through the heart. The loss of brigadier commanders was awful, the Glandelinian wave of attack in this quarter, was mangled, shot to pieces, and though it bravely and desperately tried to rally and go on with the assault, they only again fell in scores of lines and the could't stand it. Finally the remainder despite the distant long range Glandelinian artillery covering them, fled precipitately down the slope in awful panic and disorder, throwing away their arms to escape that awful christian fire.

Here at this section of the enemy line of advance the Glandelinian wave was dangerously gapped.

Yet it advanced onward elsewhere. Any recryphal incident was told of the battle storm in this quarter which may be regarded as an unusual incident. It was stated too that at one portion of general Quartersion line of defence fe where for a time the battle was rotten, the ammunition for machine guns was sadly short, the only available ammunition being used from many cartridge belts belonging to dead soldiers who did not need them and which fortunately fitted the cartridge runner. At a critical moment these too gave out being exhausted, and still the enemy had come on. The soldiers were not yet conquered. Some of them ran to wagons which were full of munitions, and calling for assistance began to roll out barrels of T.N.T and Gun powder. Barrel after barrel appeared untill fully five hundred of them were in a long line. Then fuses were inserted into the barrles barrels timed lit and rolled tward the edge of the ridge and pushed over. The postscript of this queer story in that every barrel exploded among the enemy tearing huge avenues in the enemy lines. The story is worth relating indeed for had the fuse been made too short the barrels would have blown up within the embattled christian lines than among the enemy.

Shaken by the concussion of so much heavy artillery fire, and shell explosions, bearing up before the onslaught, swept by flames starting among trees on the hill, the artillery supply cut off by the enemy getting around them what could be done to stay the fierce march of the enemy which were sweeping irresistibly over the hilltop. Proper artillery was not to be had what was to take its place. Nothing remained but to meet bayonet against bayonet or to use rapid fire and machine guns or do something to stop the march of the enemy. They had long range guns, dynamite bombs, guncottom explosives and other blasting materials, and in the frightful exigency therewas nothing else to be used. Only for a brief interval did the American generals yield to the general feeling of helplessness. Then they aroused themselves to the desperate demand of the occasion and prepared to do all in the power with the aid of God in the effort to arrest the stubborn advance of such a dogged and irresistible force of Glandelinians under the two irresistible leaders Josipine Jensin, and Colmannis Shormannand others.

The big guns were rapidly formed into a sort of semi circle by the orders of General Jake Marcus, while all the infantry troops put themselves themselves in the face of the advancing Glandelinian soldiers, determined to do their utmost, to ~~stay~~ stay them ~~th~~ in their course. Cut off from the support of their well needed machine and rapdi rapid fire guns which might have been effective if brought into play at the beginning of the desperate,..... struggle there was nothing to hope to stop the enemy except by rifle fire long run guns and bayonets, and to roll pon the enemy dynamite cartridges cartridges and gun powder mines and they set bravely to work to do what they could with these. On every side the roar of many terrific explosions could be heard mingled with the continuous crash of rifles, and the crash of the enemys own exploding shells viberated the air. Many of the city's refugees who were more bolder had come close to the rear of the christian lines just to see the battle and therefore when the enemys shell fire grew too hot the people were forced to leave the locality. Frequently a terrific caraplitting crash, a fearful eruption of smoke dust and earth and stones gave warning to the overbold refugees that destruction was going on in the forefront of the christian lines and that to come too close in such localites was unsafe.

All through that early morning this desperate fight went on, hopelessly but resolutely. During all this time a terrifid terrific roar of battle could be heard in different sections of other wings of general Hansons army. The Battle raged fiercely everywhere now, and twice it happered that when the the Glandelinians counter charged Glandelinian troops not destroyed by the christian fire were blown to atoms by the shell explosions, and the same occured on the hill but the enemy only closed the gaps and continued on, and the disheartened christian officers saw their troops gradually driven from their positions step by step but they continued the fighting with little regard for their own safety and with unflinching desperation.?.?.?.???

the very machine guns themselves from the very start had proved useless from shortage of ammunition and were either abandoned or moved to outlying districts of the hill in the vain hope that munitions might arrive in time to permit a final stand against the "Whirlwind "march of the dare devil Glandelinian soldiers.. The cloud of despair grew gloomier still as the report spread that over for the infantry and the long range cannons the supply of munitions was giving out...

"No more ammunition. No more ammunition." Screamed one of the officers, as he rode up to one of the ci chief generals tears standing in his eyes.

"No more munitions. Oh God have Mercy. We are lost." Moaned the many officers that heard his despairing words.. words.

So indeed at that desperate hour, the supply of munitions for both almost exhausted, and dot a dozen volleys being poured upon the entire advancing Glandelinian army, the stunned christian officers, and even the stupified non combatants watching the battle stood helpless with their eyes fixed in despair fright and terror upon the swiftly advancing Glandelinian soldiers.

And it been this way the entire hill would have been captured but there were those at the head of the commands who never for a moment gave up their resolution. Reinforcements and plenty of ammunition were to be had from general Hansons center and not far away either and a requisition upon the generals of that portion of the army was made. The louder reverberations of fresh cannons, and explosions, an increasing of rifle firing and even the noise of machine guns showed indeed that a fresh supply had been obtained, and that a new and more desperate stand against the enemy had been started.. Quite to the most of the fighting had been from confusion and disorder and panic had been ignoran tly and carelessly done, and more harm than good had been occasioned. As the enemy continued to advance in spite of the heroic work of the christian troops, the chief generals called a council and decided to retreat till the troops got to the absolute summit of the hill to place the biggest guns immediately in front and to blow up if possible all of the Glandelinian columns which had carried the position between Summerdale Glen and the Minder near the summit a distance of two miles. Summerdale Glen was one of the most magnificent scenery spots on the hill and had a width of one thousand feet a fact which led to the idea that a safe defensive line of battle might also be made beyond here and a resistance given which would be too strong for the enemy to withstand long and face. The generals therefore although exhausted from over seven hours hard efforts and lack of food determined to make a most desperate stand at this section.

They decided that should the enemy cross through this beautiful glen [illegible] would be ruined, and the destruction of the left wing would be virtually complete.. Therefore the flower of the christian troops was placed into a [illegible] supported by a teeming line of machine guns loaded with grape and canister. Here also was placed the Machins, the Winkies and the Abnsinkilions and this resolution to stop the enemy now was a most desperate one.

Brigades of militia, police, regiments of soldiers and scores of volunteers were sent to warn the refugees who were too near the battle field as if the enemy carried the position they too would be involved in the disaster and suffer lessmore themselves. They therefore hastily responded to the sound of law and went bravely on their way.

The exploits of a grizzled Angelinian officer standing by general O'Farrel beside an bridge but now blackened cannon may not have been as famous as that of Sergeant Bunkum in the Wat Clap Battle plays of 1[illegible] but have been just as great. In answer to the question as to what the generals proposed to do, he said:??

"Wait for the Glandelinians to come on within range. When they get here we will stand once more. If we cannot drive them out of the glen and hold them off the battle is altogether lost and Hansons plans will be all."

[illegible] AND ACCOUNT OF [illegible] IS SUPPED.."."

[illegible] fighting [illegible] doubtless much too important to be left to words of [illegible] [illegible] fighting troops were needed, and artillery [illegible] handling of the heavy artillery and it was men of this sort [illegible] left wing of General Hansons army from total defeat, and destruction. The fine disciplined divisions of troops [illegible] [illegible] fighting [illegible] consisting the main defensive battle lines [illegible] fiercest Glandelinian assaults [illegible] the [illegible] Glen. When all portions of the embattled christian [illegible] [illegible] dismayed, general Tom O'neil and George Lamford [illegible] troops with orders to stop the Glandelinian onslaught at any cost. With them came great cannons [illegible] of explosives. [illegible] artillery fire, and the frightful resistance of these christian [illegible], and the manifepower of their dogged resistance was equal to the resolute determination of the enemy to press on.

General Mic-Cantler and George Mic-Bridge was in charge of the troops Chief Chief general Anderson of [illegible] opened with the artillery and [illegible] fire tore the first wave of excited Glandelinians almost out of existance entirely.

Stationing themselves on [illegible] above the glen, which the Glandelinian troops were [illegible] machine [illegible] leaps and bounds but without falling, they went systematically to work, and opened a cross fire of the [illegible] and when they had to stop their fire a moment or so to give [illegible] time to cool, only a few regiments remained of what had been the [illegible] Glandelinian [illegible] in this locality. The thunderous detonation of [illegible], the hearing roar of so many cannons to which the terrified non combatants listened all that dreadful morning, the incessant crash of [illegible] [illegible] one whose ears, were deafed

defeating them. A large of million men in that assault, noble divisions will colums of Zimmermanians and Omarians were blown to pieces, that death column of Clandelinian column broke the "Storm" and sent the [illegible] Clandelinian soldiers back panic stricken and in confusion and disorder over their dead with sharp pain, followed by whole lines of red coated soldiers who at once sprang forward to the counter charge, and won all the ground they had lost and even went further and drove the enemy from his own position / The whole right grand division of the fierce Clandelinian right wing from Golden Glen to Greenwich Junction, a distance of three miles and a half was shattered to fragments by the christian fire and counter charge, though most of the rear portions of the line tried to stand ground and repeall the counter charge.

Not one battery had failed. Not one Clandelinian column withstood the counter charge. And unless some second miracle of the bloody battle should reverse the direction of the rest of the foe line it was felt that the christian left wing, teaming in the rear with fugitives from the battle threatened city of Lebanon and illuminated by except h a disasterous glare of fire from burning trees, was safe... Every christian brigade did their best, and though the enemy still advanced along the center it was but feebly. From Golden Glen north, the Clandelinians penetrated the open space but in one section. That was at Gertrude Sprekles Farm, and there a long wave of Clandelinians were pouring across the fields and rushing up the rise before the christian artillery men could reach the spot. Yet they placed their guns into position. At first the opened fire had not been quite so successful from the trained view point of the gunners, but never the less their fire of grape and canister swept the Clandelinians down in whole columns, and finally they gave way, turned and fled. General Mic-Brides christian gunners had realized that a stand for the infantry was hopeless at Golden Glen except if the north without the support of this artillery fire. They could have forced their artillery forward further into the Glen but not a certain one machine gun cartridge belt could be wasted.

The situation of the Glen formed a position so strong that the enemys advance and fury wild as it was could not penetrate. Rapid fire guns pumping bullets completed the terrible disaster to the Clandelinian wave and then the whole defensive line of battle turned into the offensive.

The dreadful number of fallen on both sides, and the devastation upon the heart of this region remained a matter witness to the most heroic and effective efforts of the christian troops. Three good divisions of troops sent by general Hanson did this. They were ordered to save general Hansons left wing, and they obeyed orders, and General Mic-Bride and his artillery men made battle history that dreadful day...

They stopped the march march of general Columania Shoemania and Jenipine Jensin at that critical point resisting it so fiercely that its force was finally spent along the road region, during the height of this struggle and the hours of exhaustion and depression that followed, exaggerated accounts of the losses and of the area of the region carried by the enemy and the double region lost in turn by them were current, some estimates declaring the extent of the battle line as fifteen miles which could not be believed. It was not until two days after the battle that an official survey of the district swept over by the enemy in its drive for Hansons left wing made by Military Surveyor Johnson was completed and the total area torn by the battle was less than eight miles. This however embraced the heart of the christian left wing, and the loss of life and the number of wounded on this wing along was much greater than the percentage of the other two wings combined.

Fortunately the loss of life was not so big compared with the extent of the threatened disasterous defeat, and with the records of other sections of the army similarly engaged. As regards the whole number slain it was impossible to form a full and accurate statement for days after the unusually violent battle. While about three hundred and fifty bodies had been recovered at the end of the second week, or buried and burned, no one could estimate how many more lay under the debris of the shelled Golden Glen and how many more had been buried under debris thrown by high explosive shells, leaving no trace of their burying places. The estimate of the probably loss of life of the left wing alone ran up to 1,500,000 or more while the injured severely, wounded mortally or slightly was immeasureable, and the number of wounded dying, and dead officers and generals were very numerous. Fortunately the greatest portion of the people of Lebanon escaped, fleeing to the open country. And good for them too, Lebanon within 6t miles area, escaped damage from the battle.

This awful Lebanon battle was fought in local cataste [illegible] since the full force of the Clandelinian waves of assault traveled from Children's Playground to the Golden Glen in the north, a distance of about nine miles and made itself felt for considerable distance from there westward, demolishing large christian columns.

During the battle on the Centre general Hansons own troops also crushed through all obstacles. Of general Sandycoats Clandelinian division which was one of the most best disciplined Clandelinian armies of Tanleys great command practically every brigade and regiment was destroyed or reduced to fragments in its resistance of hangers flame onslaught. The [illegible] division, the Hungaboo Corps, the Sim [illegible], and the Omar [illegible] Corps. The Soldier division, the new Model Clandelinian columns, General Odd Fellows [illegible] Corps, all the Clandelinian brigades under Clandocio every [illegible] hangers terrific attack, his drive being [illegible] Justice [illegible] left, and the whole Clandelinian center was [illegible] in danger of being rolled up and [illegible] from the [illegible] only position that still [illegible] and [illegible] General Mic-Dernes divisions receded before general Dr[illegible] christian divisions. The christian fine badly demolishing about twenty Clandelinian brigades and dancing and routing every one of the others more or less, and [illegible] the disasterous movement of the enemy right, flames followed the [illegible] the [illegible] firing of the battle coming forth in a dozen different spots

and completing the scene of devastation. 83

On the Clandelinian side fifty [illegible] and [illegible] generals fell dead and wounded when their troops [illegible] general Dare-Not-Lies advance and the total of dead and injured soldiers was close to a million. The defeat and destruction to general Santa Lucia's division gave rise to general Sorrow and rise among the chief Clandelinian [illegible] and the soldiers of the Clandelinian armies.

His two [illegible] was one of the slow divisions of the army. General Hans Jose and his divisions almost shared a similar fate in facing the terrific advance of general Hansons center. Only the left of his line of battle still stood its ground, the rest couldn't and had to recoil. Among the divisions of the foe cut to piec es were those under general Justice, and many others. others, though they maintained the fiercest resistance. Here the death list appeared to have been slightly smaller but the number of badly wounded was not less than five million. General Agnew was wounded, and his brigade entirely wiped out, more than half the number of his officers being capt ured.

General Stele Stonemans army, and the Corps under Pulo also felt the full force of the christian assault and was badly shattered. It stood its ground however. Only two hundred thousand lives were lost as a result of this assault but eight million Clandelinians suffered injuries more or less serious. The Clandelinian left of the center under general Memorial was seriously handicaped handicapped by the christian onslaught, for the [illegible] Corps under general [illegible] although the Clandelinian front and demolished much of the Clandelinian front, general Andrew Johns Ninth Corps was divided into two sections by the force of the assault and cut up badly badly, so two were the divisions under Rodney, and the fourth corps under Ramsay. A number of artillery were captured. General Pacinis Falls divisions of Omarians in an inner quadrangle of positions were practically uninjured and the bulk of the Clandelinian troops even escaped the main force of the engagement. The Clandelinian positions which extended ten miles along the Sacramento Creek, escaped without injury, having repulsed the assault thrown against it with some rage, not a single regiment having been even reached by the assailants or a battle line displaced and no injury done in other places, they lying in a secure position which streamed so fearfully with rifle and cannon fire that the charging optional troops couldn't get within three hundred yards of the trenches. These positions also extended along a portion of the Los Angeles and Santa Barbara Railroad which portion escaped with only a slight displacement, but general Stocktons main divisions of Scoodliers north of this district felt the shock severely and from the concussion of a terrific munition explosion the Abbiganna and Santa Barbara bridge over the San Joaquin river at this point collapsed. Upon the blast was six miles away. General Bearles division only also suffered about one hundred brigades in the army being demolished though none of them were wiped out, and they were able to hold their ground.

General Alamedas own charging Christian troops carried a point of trenches in this locality, but the bravery of the general cost him his life. The munition explosion caused the railroad bar rails to be twisted from the concussion and over over seven hundred yards of the tracks of the same railroad some thi distance away however sank four feet. General Alamedas gran Indian column for the success lost two hundred thousand dead while his assistant general Pardro Complex was seriously wounded and two of his staff too. General Curcos own army was demolished in charging against the Clandelinian position in this locality with a loss of seventy five thousand lives. An explosion of a large cotton shell from the concussion caused a River Inn House to slide down the side of a hill five miles from the scene seventy people being buried in the ruins but miraculously escaping with their lives though some of them were badly injured. General Pearce Christian Ninth corps in charging against General Pa[illegible]'s front was practically wiped out by the Clandelinian artillery fire and one general was killed, and scores injured. General Perplexy's division suffered considerably from the christian assault, from shattered brigades, of its left fallen out of shape, and broken lines, the greatest disaster being the collapse of the right. General Prince Hanos Clandelinians in position here was fortunate in escaping the blow it being reported that the assault did not come upon it in the slightest degree. Another Clandelinian division of Omarians called the famous Fighting [illegible] which was equally fortunate, as it repulsed the onslaught without much loss. General Salinins division suffered severely, its aiding general Tenderer Cons being mortally wounded, and the division being to a large extent destroyed with an estimate loss of 1,000,000 lives and 10,000,000 wounded. General Spracles division and a score of other divisions of the Clandelinian left wing were reported absolutely routed, and a terrible number of lives sacrificed.

The battle scenes [illegible] of the battle stretched over a broid tract of proposer [illegible] peaceful and hilly country, embracing one of the best sections east of the Abbiann [illegible] vibrating many towns by the concussion of explosions and auxiliary fire and doing much damage to hitch horses and country residences by the concussion. Strange manifestations were of not uncommon were reported at a distance of the battle. It followed [illegible] have been caused by the concussion and from terrific explosions [illegible] in the earth were reported and many miniature eruptions from high explosive shells were seen frequently. [illegible] in some localities were blown from the concussion [illegible] lifting, and [illegible] of a vivid [illegible] failed. In fact the business effects of the battle of Lebanon immensely exceeded those of any [illegible] ever before witnessed in Columbia, and of the [illegible] battle when its destruction done by the sweeping conflagration [illegible] taken into account that battle may rank with one of the most destructive of the [illegible] dreadful way.

[illegible] of Lebanon on account of the [illegible] condition of the battle [illegible] of that awful battle and [illegible] has been [illegible] of numerous battles some of [illegible] and seeing in them

[illegible] of the most [illegible] of [illegible] most important [illegible] Lebanon was one of [illegible] terrific [illegible] activity [illegible] explosion of the munitions which [illegible] soldiers, and the explosion was [illegible] almost unknown as earthquake tremors were felt which [illegible] evident at a great distance. Along the Glandelinian [illegible] there was a [illegible] definitive flashing [illegible] seven miles, [illegible] the effects of which were felt as far as Lebanon. In several strong Glandelinian batteries being silenced and more than three thousand artillery men slain.

General [illegible]'s Glandelinian army was sharply shaken [illegible] the same time, many regiments had been badly cut up, but managed to repulse the terrific fire, [illegible] ch initiated an assault and simultaneously there were severe assaults upon general [illegible] divisions of troops. Half an hour later during an eruption of christian batteries general Vanez[illegible] army was again stormed the assault being accompanied by tremendous artillery fire so loud it raise as to be heard along the whole stream for nearly a hundred miles, and simultaneously during a violent fire from general Gandera batteries assaults f great severity were hurled upon the enemy all along the line fronting the region of Lebanon.

Passing to the enemy's center it too was one of the great battles dist[illegible] beginning with severe artillery storm. There were also terrible dist[illegible] along general Glanelli's lines extending all along the line and great fires occured, a munitions dump blew [illegible] terrific force killing more than a regiment of soldiers and daming with the debris a portion of the river to a depth of [illegible] hundred feet. From the zone [illegible] was convulsed for [illegible] seconds during [illegible] Following the explosion there fl[illegible] were mass of stone, and mud nearly a hundred thousand tons of debris being thrown high into the air by the energy of that mighty explosion.

The explosion was [illegible] terrific that it was almost volcanic in character. Throughout the whole of the Glandelinian army their various lines of battle was notable for their supreme violent activity against the christian lines, there being most violent counter onsets which led by generals Fun[illegible]cis Stromboli upon the assailing on the center, and general Vegada on the right, general [illegible] and others but these were cut to pieces and repulsed with the wounding of their leaders.

Then began a series of assaults by the Glandelinians of great severity and destructiveness including those made by general Jose Francisco Ibrenez Velarano and also by general Lincolnia and ending with the most destructive to human life of all that of the onslaught delivered with the full force upon Hansons main center. The conflict was redoubled in fury with a terrific charge of "shock troops by which thousands and thousands on both sides fell before the fierce converging fire and which the enemy had to give way. This was instantly followed by another onslaught on the part of the Nationals in the face of a destructive fire, and which was won driving the enemy pellmell from his position. This battle of Lebanon can always now have a memorable record in [illegible] contest. General Francisco's division was shattered, general Santiagos division was partly destroyed a long portion of the Glandelinian defense line being almost permanently demolished. It withstood its ground however, but was again stormed and the losses as dreadful. This was the chief point of the Glandelinian position which though so shattered practically destroyed [illegible] portion of its assailants and downed more than a thousand of its officers. The Glandelinian army was shattered badly [illegible] the [illegible] directed against it. [illegible]

[illegible] terrific [illegible] in favor of [illegible]...2.2.2.2

CHAPTER FOUR.

THE EXCITEMENT THAT VIOLET AND HER SISTERS SEEN AND OV ERHEAD IN THE GLANDELINIAN GENERALS HEADQUARTERS, AND ELSEWHERE..."."

During the terrific actions at Lebanon Violet, and her sisters had been in general Manleys lines in such complete disguises that this time no one could recognize them to save their lives, while they were in Manleys headquarters disguised as Firlecouts, they heard the bell on the side of a telephone box begin to ring most nosily as if somebody onthe other side was in a hurry or Excited. One of the Glandelinian Generals who had not yet sent his troops forward to an assault upon the christian lines was standing beside his horse forming his own plans. Violet first answered the phone and then made it evidently clear to the general whose name was Clancy that he had an urgent call on the phone.

It was general Andrew Stoneman calling.

"Say general Clancy" he said "I'm phoning you from "Children's Prairie Junction Playground near Lebanon. Yes Lebanon. No not Cannon. L-e-b-a-n-o-n-/ Yes. No we are falling. Our assaulting troops along the left of the Christian line are coming back, the christian dogs have been reinforced there, and that pig dog of a Hanson is hurling massive troops upon Manleys Center and left. General Hansons assault was late---maybe you didn't know. The Christian dogs have been crossing the stream at Centralia Bridge and are coming hot haste against general Federal Johnstons line and I'm afraid it cannot stand. No General Manley is still in bed ill from a Cold. The battle has been in favor of our right wing for a while all morning until now. I had some effort explaining how you threatened to send me against the enemys center but you have not done it yet. General Brousseau's is wounded and his troops are being recalled and are mere remnants, regiments where Divisions have been. The Christian fire is terribly hot. Nothing can stand before it. General Morris pigfnell has ordered general Turnapple to drive over to you in a minutes time."

"Thank"s general Stonemann" said Clancy.

"I've guessed you're ready to know what you're going to do."

"I believe in the strategical offensive, Stonemann." said Clancy. "Are the christian dogs driving hard."

"I'll say they are and no how.."

"What shall we do?"

"Stand groundat Children's Playground and send some one to arouse Manley. He's got to do something the old fool or we'll be thrashed to within an inch of our lives. He's got to do something cold or no Cold."

"I didn't get that" said Stonemanns voice..."

"You'r surely will" said Clancy. "I'm much obliged. I'm coming over."

He reached the outside just in time to see General Turnapple ermerge from the side of a horse de force which stopped before the door. The general appeared to be plainly disconcerted about something. He was a much older man than Clancy had expected to meet, and he seemed well toward the age of sixty one. He was dressed in the uniform of a prince with an expanse of purple piping purple cuff on his gray coat and a snow white vest which covered a pronounced embonpoint. He had fighting gray eyes, well defined nose and a heavy thready but unusually long mustache. It was a type general Clancy understood immediately "The man of the hour"

"General Clancy! believe" he said descending and tieing the horse to the hitching post in front of the building.

General Clancy saluted and then held out his hand which Turnapple grasped with some cordiality. "I be heard you was here sir" Clancy, he" said with inquiry in his tone. "did general Stonemann Telephone you?"

"Yes, Stonemann said you were here." answered Clancy. "I came to see you about the strange way this battle is coming out and to talk things over about it with you."

"Turnapple realizing the situation himself, accepted the command to hold a sort of council and pulling back drew the key out of his pocket and opened an office office door. It was a well furnished furnished little place with two large desks and revolving chairs, a set of drawers and a leather sofa. Clancy sat down at the one nearest the window from which he could see the long apparently endless line of battle squirming and twisting out of sight or shape, coming apart, dissolving into smoke and flashes and having all the other motions of a terrible battle, and also could hear the noise as if it was some great "storm storm" of another world. a weird sort of world. Turnapple removed a box of cigars from his desk drawer and offered it to Clancy, who declined. Turnapple chose one, and biting off the end lit it. Clancy could observe that his hands trembled a little. And the man was breathing rather loudly.

"Well sir" said he rather nervously and seating himself "This is the last place in the world where I could have expected to see that christian dog of a general Hansonia vivian. I have just heard from Colonel General Lamartine Pedro, that you intended to move your divisions against the christian dogs that are assailing our center as soon as you recieve the word to do so, but that order has not yet come. You didn't see general Federal Johnston."

"Two hours before Clancy would have jumped at the bait, would have hurled his divisions into the fray orders or no orders, and given Hanson his cue if possible. He however smiles pleasantly. He would retain general Hanson on tender hooks for a while..

"Yes I saw him" he answered "He tried to dissuade me from moving my divisions up here saying it was a dangerous location, but I wanted an easy chance to get at those christian dogs before they got me."

"If you had let me now" said general Turnapple "I could have made arrangements" You have come in at the worst battle so far of the year. I've never expected to see so many of our own men fall as they're falling dead and wounded now. There is very much inferno to show you, the christian dogs are whipping us to a letter T and they'll be driving us soon all over the concession. I suppose you'll be in the battle long enough to do some good fighting general Clancy. We might make a few hours of it and both get killed."

Violet, and her sisters could notice that his sens sentences were not continuous.There was a considerable pause after each, long enough to allow general Clancy to ~~repit~~ reply. If Sto Cla ncy's silence, and his strange app earing face had caused any one to suspecting something wrong they aroused positive fear in that of Turnapple.The mans smooth modulated tones began to be somewhat jerky, he breathed harder and at the end he gave the impression to violet, and her sisters of having tal ed himself out without effect.

General Cla ncy cameto the point(maybe it was sharp)

"I have been sent here to assume charge untill General Manley see's fit to lead us on general"he said"Maybe we can form plans together to break up this terrible christian dog of an army.Please let me see the map and the Geography."

Turnapple wiped his forehead with a towel by mistake."

"That's, that's a sudden dangerous decision"General Vnac C lancy"he said trying to smile.

"My decisions are always sudden. I have thought over it.

Turn apple laid one finger over the edge of the desk.."Of Course I now nothing of your affairs or circumstances general"he said with a tone of aggrevle aggrevement"But if you in tend to assume charge immediately in this impulsive wat, that means that I must step out out.You are running your army into a "hornets nest"but I won't do go to a division. This battle is not a small nor an easy affair, as you are probably aware from the way those christian dogs are crashing through everything in their way, but general Manley was satisfied with your management.I have kept our losses down to their lowest limits."

"I have not expressed any rash intentions yet."said general Clancy."Please let me see.----"

"My suggestion"interr upted general T urn Apple "is merely that you hold over your dangerous decision untill we both can go into the business together .I am well acq ainted acquainted with general Hanson.There's only one person that can whip him in a battle, and he's not existing. Frankly If if I were you I'd draw all the troops out of this dangerous battle before it is too late.There are probably good strong covering troops handy and we could give a good resistance untill the main army is withdrawn especially if we worked the best of our artill ery to an advantage, and made a showing main ain t y along our right.It was my advice to general Manley but he was a little obstinate about confessing to an error in judgement, general C lancy, and now do you see the result.Hanson's army is coming like a tornado on our cente."

"Before I see the Geography"said Clancy with a frown"I have a question to ask you."Are you not associated with the commanders of the Glandelinian left wing!!"

Turnapple wiped his face again.He was terribly worried about the situation of the battle and he could forsee almost that Clancy was a daredevil reckless fool and was going to do a blunder which would cause Hanson to gain all hi be was wishing for.

"I certainly am"he said"but---"

" nother question"How do you now that general Hanson is wi swinning.. Isn't our right smashing smashing his left wing and driving it from the battlefield?"

"How my dear sir"Protested general Turn apple raising his finger"If that is your op inion of my warning it is an unjustifable one.There is nothing in my di duties here that I shouldn't have for the interest of my cause.I am not a mere colonel not a plain major general and I have never claimed to devote all my time an and interest to a single concerned point of a battle. I have interests more what is going on at our center and left than what is going on along our right.I believe You will find that I have not neglected my obligations to general Manley.As for the situation along our right the fact that the christian left had been reinforced, and that Hanson is hammerin hammering our center to pieces causes it easy for me to see what is wrong and try to devote my time to avert the disaster if possible, so far as I can spare it from my duty on my left.The two armies are not actually in conflict, general Clancy. Quite the contrary.It's a hells tug of war it is necessary that we pull together, especially ow owing to the results that is threatening from the effectw of general Hansonesplan of movement against us. And its good business too.What helps one in this awful situat ion helps another."

"Quite s o.Quite so"said C lancy."I don't despute that we have a right to engage Hanson on our own c hosen ground.But how about the battle on our right. ?"

"At a sad reversegeneral Clancy,which shows quite a disaster starting against our own army when we almost had Hansons army facing catastrophe. We can afford to chance too big a loss of our troops, and our armies are not large enough for contention should another force of men come to the help of that christian dog."

"You mean the situation is very, very, bad along our right?"

"Far more bad, and serious than you imagine sir. Our right is being torn to pieces, a score of our generals are down.What little line of troops little line of troops that are still making a showing against the advancing tide of purple doesn't do us any good.."

"That sounds plausible"said Clancy, and then he shot his bolt."Why don't general Manley get out of bed then and forget his darn cold and fight Hanson as he used to?"he asked..

Turnapple rose up tre mbling with anger that was only half feigned.

"Do you have suspicions of my good faith and of warning you general" he said indignantly."This is the only possible intre interpretation I can put upon your question.If you do anything rash remember I'm not responsible."

"If you will answer it we can interprete it together later."

"I Am not prepared to answer it off hand.The christian dogs would give anything to crush our whole army.I should no more hear of chancing such a rash proposition with you than you should do so if he made one myself I retain my interests distinct and confidential general Clanxy.If you are are going to run your army into an inferno it's not my sorrow sir."

"May I have the Geography and the map general Turnapple?"asked Clancy.

"If you believe you an can carry i on your crazy proposition with success I'll not be able to retain my position here.I've cut up the chistian dog troops as far as I'm able, and if you make any movements with your bug house ideas you'll be on a disasterous retreat in six hours."

Clancy rose, crossed to general Turnapples desk and tapped the roll up.

"I suppose you do not refuse to produce them?"he demanded..

Turnapple produced a key from his waist pocket with fingers that could hard ly fin d it... he was so nervious about the way the battle was turning out.... He inserted after three failures(a blasphemy) for every failure, snapped back the lock as in a manner as if it was responsible, and threw the top up with a rewounding bang, revealing a pile of geographies on top of one another, as if they had just been under an examination.

"Go through them by all means-if you believe you can find a means to t stop the "Christian dog" he cried, and he flung the key on the des ..."This is the key to the office"he said.Th"The other desk contains some private papers."

"The map general?"

"What map?"

"The map of the country around Lebanon."

"The region is bounded on the west by the Vantum River.It is a straight military concession off of many miles.If you want a map you'll have to manufacture one or go to Manley.General Manley has them."

"There must be a map"said Clancy quietly.

"It isn't drawn to scale.I'm not going to give you an unscaled map when you are so mighty foolish as to run your army into a trap, and then to jump on me because the map I'll produce caused you to do the blunder.You'll find a rough plan of the battlefield among those papers. But you're a gosh dar n insane fool to dare think of undertaking the movement you wish to plan" He moved tward the door laid his hand on the handle, cleaned his throat, and glanced back.

"I have only to say that my divisions will be compelled to fall to the rear on a disorderly defeat at any moment.If you wish to renew the contest on the old scale I shall expect adequate notice."

C lancy glanced up from one of the Geographies.

"You may regard the battle as terminating in a victory for our side by this evening then"he h answered."If you wish to renew it then I shall let you know when I have completed the plan."

This time Turnapples anger was more aroused.

"You cannot expect no victory with your idea, not even now or a week week from now, nor a whole year"he shouted.. "Do you believe that I'm a man who would accept such foolish notions at the hands of a young American Greenhorn asyou are.Why'already I've thrown away many hundreds of thousands of lives trying desperatly to develope this rotten proposition of smashing general Hansons left wing, and see what's happening now, because cra crazy Manl ey remains in bed . Do you suppose I'd chance my army in this Battle warn torn crazy land to see my divi ions divisions reduced to a mere remnant or because y of your crazy plan.I can clear the region of the enemy if you would listen to reason.And what do you imagine you're go going to accomplish out of your plans.You can't understand the diversions of the Christian dog generals, whom the VERY ANGELS OF ABOVE CANNOT EVEN WRESTLE, you can't getyour troops up in time to meet them fiery devils, you know nothing of th the christian generals and their plans.You'll be routed from your position at their very first crashing onslaught, and have to retreat like a flock of rabbits to save your divisions from destruction. That is all I have to say to you, except that I'm going into this crazy squabble my own way I and if you wish to carry out your darn bamboozled plan to your own ruination that's your own business.But if my division of troops suffers disaster because of your blunder I'll sue you for resignation in the Glandelinian courts."

"He opened the door but general Cla ncy called to him.

"One moment general Turnapple"he said.

Turnapple turned and glanced at him uncertainly.He regretted in some measure the outburst of temper which had made him act foolish but he could see general Clancy was going into a disasterous blunder.

"Don't forget your cigars"said general Clancy opening the drawer and bringing out the box.

Turn apple turned purple, si snorted, then snatched up his box and made his exit.

Apparently he wished to convet the impression of a furious quarrel with a less humiliating ending for C lancy heard him shouting angrily outside. Through the window he saw an officer comi come riding up to him.There came later the confused sound of many voices in consultation.But Clancy turned his ine intention to his Geography.

General Clan cy had discovered from the many reports,,, coming,,, in, that Manleys losses so far along the left wing in dead and wounded wounded had been abould eight million, and still the counter attack of the christians was raging against it wildly, and the losses ofthe glandelinian right which had swept away a portion of the christian left was immeasureable, in menand officers. That much was what the reports had been made and yet not accurate, and as the battle was or had assumed such an immense proportions general Clan cy could not find no fault or doubt in the statement. He under stood now the dreadful fury of the battle.He went rapidly over his Geography and yet cursing general Turnapple for not having had a map of Lebanon handy. It was of c ourse imp ossible to arive at any discovery without experience ofthe practical wor ing of the plans through and general Clancy began to realize after all that little indeed was to be obtained by a prolonged scrunty of the situation.It was true after all.He did not know general Hanson ylvian.

There was however a considerable expenditure of officers and for men and provisions for troops fighting against the christians at or along the shores of Ste Marie Brook, which he assumed was one of the hottest parts of the long battle li e lines.There at an y rate the fury of the christian assault was manifest....2.

With a sigh, general clancy closed the Geography.... He would remain at this spot for a time on the defensive, but he felt that general A Turn pple was shtit led to more troops than he would be contending with against the christian line.The Christian generals were playing too deep agame of war to trouble about what the G landelinian generals may be doing to try and outdo them.He had suspected more strongly than any one else after a brief interview with general Hendro Largar the Gemini, that general Hanson had gone in person to the battles center to probe into matters, and with crazy Manley in bed with a cold because he said the doctor said he musn't get up the Glandelinian army was in a fine mess. General Turn Apple himself resolved to go to the general holding the position at the Ste Marie stream and con sult with general Hanson la Brousseau who hadc had advised a stand better than a continual offensive.He therefore mounted his horse anddparted...

General Clancy having closed the d doo K glanced about the little office, and for them fortunately he did not see Y ioiet, and her sisters..... A door led into an extens on of the one story building. He found that the key to the outer door fitted this, and opening it entered a very comfortably little living room with a small table and stand at the rear... A stairway at the rear of the house which once belonged to a fr farmer built on the outside evidently led into the bed rooms... He decided to use this building as his headquart ers untilll the battle was over, and if the army had to retreat to set it in flm flames. He had just returned into the office, and put on his hat preparatory to leaving when there came a tap or a knock at the door.

The excited face of general J ean Baptiste looked in.

"General Turn apple has gone away." he announced.

"Well"inquited general Clancy.

"He told me the christian line is raising hell wity u with us."saif said the officer.

"How's that?"

"Everybody's retreating, every brigade that's been standing ground at St Boniface Crossroads. The Christian dogs are pressing on, nothing can stop them and general Christie johns is wounded. Only the line of men standing groun d along the Ste Marie stream stay but the assault upon them is tremendous and will soon dislodge them. Our generals are very angry at Manley for mollycoddling his cold and doing nothing for the army... They say they could have torn up the whole christian army if it was not for the lunderous as'ault upon the christian left. now it i s it is too late maybe. We are going loss."

"Go and tell my generals that no body must leave the positions along Ste Marie yet--"Answered general Clancy. "Can't you get it into your head that I'm in charge here in Manleys place."

"Ah yes general Clancy. But you see Hanson Vivian he better general. No Glandelinian army had licked him yet."

General Clancy in a fury grasped him by the arm and led him tward the door... About the office were gathered a little group of general officers with sullen apprehensive faces, angrilly discussing the situation. A high explosive shell crashed near by and shook the house as if there had been a momentary earthquake/....

"Call them in here."said Clancy.

Jean did so but was met with a volley of interjections. He began half a dozen explanations and finally gave up in despair, though they came up to general Clancy.

"They say it's general Brousseau's orders, as the line cannot stand ground at St Bonifaces Crossroads"he explained."You see we understand now the situation is dreadful, but general Brousseau is the right sort of commander and see the situation, No reinforcements are coming up for us, while they are for the enemy. These are nearly all the Brigades and they're shattered by the christian dogs fire. That is why it's hard for the generals, they don't want their commands annihilated."

"Tell them in future I shall form the plans untill Manley is well. Toll them it's Manleys fault not mine. I didn't start the "Storm" Upon the Christian left."

This was met with some incredulity.

"Anyway say their positions are good and strong untill I send a strong force to support them."announced general Clancy and wondering whether he dared hope to resti restore the torn lines on that statement. W"Where's general Jesipine Jenslin.!""he added.....

"Jesip ine Jen sin!Way he's retreating too" newered general Jean.."His right grand division in meeting the ein reinforcements coming to the aid of the christian left wing is forced to retreat tward Boat's Landing. See General Clancy. There they come. Over there."

General Clancy glanced up. On the long crest of a low hill behind Ste Marie Stream against the sky line was a long heavy wave of men in blue gray uniforms on the recoil and coming as fast as a Stampede of cattle. From a strange noise heard the christian line might have counter charged and would close upon the retreating troops, glancing in another direction general Clancy, saw a long wall of white as of c loud rising up as if from a distant eruption from a vonzaic volcanic e fissure, and mingled with black smoke rising high in rolls against the heavens followed by a tremendous roar of thunders that even surprised and shocked him... .2.2.2.

Evidently the Glandelinian army under General "Smash-in-the-head" would be routed from the battlefield in half an hour, and no time was to be lost if Clancy was to stop the progress of the disaster... He leaped upon his horse, and d urged it desperately through the excited Glandelinian soldiers cursing them for being in his way. He dared not hurry the horse across the unsafe bridge, and When this was past there was a steep hill, which could be taken at only a walk. The horse was hot and jaded too, arived at the top general Clancy heard the crash of terrible firing, and saw the recoiling battlelines in the distance parting into de several sections and giving way in panic before the "Christian Tide". For a moment general Jesipine Jenslin was no where to be seen along the expanse of road visible as far as the descent to the Country hotel which also was wreathed in smoke.

Despite the peril he faced in getting into the fire general Clancy whipped his horse, something he hated to do, but now it was necessary. Without Jesipine Jenslin holding his ground, he felt that his chance too to hold or to follow out his plans would be almost hopeless in deed. He rode the horse madly along the cliff, and down the last descent. An eruption arose before him some few hundred feet away with an earsplitting crash and debris rained down about him, but he continued on. As he reached the shore the foremost of the retreating troops was coming tward him, and he dashed wildly among them ordering them to turn and face the assailants, and his desperate energy succeeded in rallying a few regiments at least, but the rest wild with terror streamed past in hopeless confusion. General Tremblay who tried to rally the others fell shot through the hear.. heart.. Clancy rode fiercely among the confused troops, and he finally rallied them also and just at that moment came riding up general Calannia Shosmann ia."

General Clancy flung himself upon him as he started to ride among the disordered troops, Shoemannia spun round and glanced sullenly and with surprise at his his long bobbed hair strewn wildly about his head. Clancy held his arm.

"What's the matter general Shoemannia?"Clancy demanded."Why the rout? Where's Jesipine.!"

"Oh shake s"said Shoemannia."Just let it go at that will you general.!

The battle is lost. We can't rally this immense confused throng. Jesipine is wounded.!"

"What are you too retreating for!"

"What's that you say!"demanded general Shoemannia feri ferociously."Who's re treating. Who's retreating. Not ME I came to try and restore order. I guess general Jesipines army doesn't have to stay here if the assault upon them is too irresitible do they, even if we could reinforce them. Just let go of my arm. If I can't rally them, they must at leat least be made to retreat in good order."

The other retreating troops were passing on, and the oncoming purple wave was very close and yelling as if they were fiends themselves.

"Come back to your senses general Shoemannia."said Clancy."We can rally them, and we can't let them run off that waywithout giving us notice. Let's hurry before the Christians come at us too."

"Last chance to rall y them."said general Shoemannia. trying to twist away. Will you leav e go of me general!"

"No"shouted Clancy. We mus must rally them or you'll lose your good reputation as an excelleny sol dier."

The last of the retreating troops were coming up now, they were as roped out off from the main string. Shoemannia flung his hat to the ground angrily.

"No suppose you tell me what the trouble is"said Clancy.

"What right you got to stop me."Demanded Shoemannia."Say if it wasn't you I wouldn't answer for what I wouldn't have done to you for stop ing me at such a critical time. Now we will have to withdraw the whole line through this dreadful territory untill we get to a new position. We are lost."

"What's happened general!"

"What's happened. Didn't you all tell me you would or were going to hold fast. And didn't you go blundering and allow the troops to go forward against the enemy without support."

"I did not do no such a thing. I gave all the support necessary,"

"Then how in the world did this all happen!"

"Ct Crazy Hanson Vivian pumped me into being out generaled. And then drove at me with his other two wings. How could I see that when no spies found any thing out."

"Hanson .Eh! If he was crazy he couldn't do this. I thought you was going to fire morris at him, and he comes out and fires me and Jesipine against the enemy, and general Hansons troops throws us off the field with terrible loss, and we are losing all the ground we had gained this morning. That's a grand way to be standing by your word of support in our assault general Clancy."

"Manley sent you against Hansons left. Not I.!"

"What!"yelled Shoemannia spinning round.

"General Manley sent you and others against Hansons left. And I guess guess he put on a front against our army and concentrated fresh troops to the support of his left before we were ar aware of what he was doing. This situation does mean a lot to me general. Tell me what caused you to go ahead on such a crazy dash across that swept shell swept field. I thought you was a goner."

"Because I wanted to rally the fool s under Jesipine"answered Shoemannia. "Because I can't stand to see the army turn out to face defeat in every battle we get into with Hanson. I'm tired of it general Clancy. That's why. I guess" he said raising his head and looking at Clancy plaintively"I guess my feelings got the better of me."

Clancy thumped him on the shoulder.

"That's all right general"he said"But you can help me bring these troops tward the rear in better order and stand ground for the afternoon if possible and just as soon as things get straightened out we shall be able to withdraw the whole army from here in safty even if we cannot win the battle."

General Shoemannia looked at him as if it was all a dream.

"General Clancy"he said, when he could steady his voice."I guess we have all been outwitted. But when general Morris told me that Jesipine was wounded and his troops retreating, I naturally concluded that my line would soon give way too and dispatched general Connley to try and repair it. I didn't sound reasonable to me either that you even meant to stay against the enemy though I did believe you when you told me you would early this morning. I couldn't see how the troops could stand groundat St Bonf Boniface's Crossroads. But I'll stay in y my own position till the last general Clancy and I'll do all I can to help clean up this awful mess and put things on a better situation if possible. I guess every one's among us generals been wounded, from Morris, to Brousseau and Loblance, down to Jean Handon."

"Jean Handon!"Demand ed Clancy."I should say that he was careful".

"General Clancy don't be offended if I give you my opinion, and its the experience based on all my life of experience--a longer time of experience experience than your's by a good sound way. This is some battle going on one of the fiercest I've ever been engaged in general. There's very few generals surviving in this army now. When any of our generals get's into the hottest of the fight he naturally dies or is wounded. I was wounded many times in this war myself."

"You maintained your position so long because you secured a good one Shoemannia."

"I did general. But that wasn't concidence, that was choice . That position is too strong for the counter assaulting christians to storm against. But I fear they'll soon infilade them with artillery and then I'll have to withdraw them.."

"Never mind general Shoemannia. You and I will rally the troops and clean up on the enemy."

"And I tell you this "went on general Shoemannia"Give fellows like Huebum McCanter and me for an example more troops artillery and you'll see they'll follow your orders and do the business proper and inngood style. It's the worst and big portions of the christian armies we want to get. We can't win the battle now but we can retain the struggle all day more and save the main army from a diesster."

General Clancy held out his hand....

"We till shake on that"He said."You accept the post, hold it and you won't allow your troops to recoil from their position!"

"Never so long as we're on the job together."answered Shoemannia."But

"But here comes the Nationals dangerously close. We'll have to ride hot for it, or they'll catch us."

Within the next few minutes,after a good portion of general "I mash- In-The-Heads army had been rallied,, general Clancy had indeed got hold of the lines of the the "Battle"business.He had spent many hours before with general Connel in his own headquarters the day before the battle came on, and now he was out in the very zone of battle itself and watched evety every motion of the defensive lines, and of the terrificchristian attacks.. It was evident that general Lenci Picknell on the christian side now in command ofthe christian left wing had been absolutely bleeding the Glandelinian column y and had hurled great "storms"against the Glandelinian positions along the Ste Marie Stream, but just then it seemed impossible to detect any facts about the dangers that general Hansons army might sooner or later mistake general Manleys army for an enmy empty eggshell.

"What do you make of this general Shoemannia?"He asked when he had summarized the situation."According to what I traced on this map I made my self, eighty five per cent of the army that moved against the left Wing of Hansons came from general Manleys best troops. That leaves only fifteen percent to hold the position at St Boniface's Crossroads.Now do ou suppose general Le. Blance with his four assistant military officials of great brains and his staff didn't send more than that against Hansons left."?

"I guess that good section of the army sent against the Chriqtian left was ours and we didn't find that out till now."answered Shoemannia."some one blundered.I was against "Storming that section of the christian army altogeth altogether.I did the same blunder at Osmondcneon because or the orders of some fool and the same result occured. I feared if Hansons left was pressed out of its position he'd throw his right and center upon us, and with the rest of the army swing a fierce assault upon our right..and it has exactly happened."""

"And the Troops standing ground at The Ste Marie River has been holding dreadfully long against many charges irrespective for the ammount of troops sent to their aid, and they're fast dwindling away.Why at this rate we have been practically running the battle for Hansons Benifit.however that isn't the main point at present.We have got the figures showing how many troops was sent against the Christian left, and how few are remaining to contend with the Christian dogs and they don't correspond with the ammount that went through earlier in the battle..... Where is that missing division that was supposed to aid the assault?????"

"In the paper mills I suppose." a said Shoemannia sort of sarcastically.

"If we can press the right point,, h ome we can have a good force of troops against Hanson. I'll send for general Leblance.He must be getting anxious about the way the christians are massing against us anyway, and he probably can hit upon some idea to frustrate general Hanson."

Shoemannia reflected.

"It's nearly an hour since general Morris was wounded. He" He answered. "He's b een holding the left wing against the christian right along the Ste Marie, Brousseau also is wounded but not seriously.Nevertheless they've got something, up their sleeve w ich sooner or later might help us out of this tight fix.. general Clancy. I wouldn'd hurry untilll they get ready. Le blance understands he can't renew any assault without Hansons storm being stopped and that don't seem possible now..

"That's "good"news" said Clancy.. "But this point has got to be settled. "We are in peril.That dog of a vilvian is trying to smash Tamerline at Ethelredre Ethelreada and if he does our own mash will be cooked if we don't whip Mr Hanson and get away.I'll send a c ourier up to Leblance and tell him to com come to me as fast as his horse can carry him....., 2

Things had indeed(you are in need) been going rather better now than general Clancy had even expected or hoped for.. Jesipine Jensins troops had been rallied, the assault that had als almost passed that dis division and caught it on the rear had been sent reeling back with bloody loss, and the other generals having recieved their reinforcements long expected had begun to realize that general Clancy had superceded Manley, and was at the head of the affairs . General Turn Appl e had not been seen along the Glandelinian center since he warned clancy of his purpose of unintended rashness. But it was reported he was golding out against the christian right.The first thing that general Shoemannia himself had done was to look into the situation himself..He found that Jesipine Jensin had fortunately retained his command despite being wounded, and had put in a large field battery before his officers forced him to the rear to be under the care of a surgeon, artiller artillery enough to have slowed up the christian persuit and to give Clancy and Shoemannia time and chance to rally the confused troops at the proper time, reinforce it with twelve hundred thousand men.The loss however in dead and wounded for his army however averaged considerably over twelve hundred thousand dead, and rose to fifteen million dead and wounded during the progress of the batle battle, and the only outstanding hope was the battety of rapid fire guns on Clancy's left which stopped the christian assault before it got well round the rear of Jesipines army while it was still retreating in a panic..

The christian counter charges, the dreadful curtain of artillery fire, that threatened or see mingly threatened to make an end of the world before the time in front of his eyes, the fearful conflagrations, the dreadful losses and the mighty explosions that occured among the muntions, and the sad dwindlin dwindling away of the Glandelinian right before the counter"Hurricane"of genera general Picknell were the principal items in an annula loss of nearly thirty a million one hundred and sixty thousand men of the left wing along in that one dreadful morning, and through some fools blunder. There w re There were also the dreadful ava lanche assaults of the Abbieannian and the dreaded irrestible and incinicible Abyseinkilean Winkie cavarly. General Dupond had hurled against the Glandelinian center four immense columns of the fierce Domdobians, which had carried one portionof the positions and tore away the Glandelinian division from the rear nearest St Bonifc Boniface's Crossroads and was hurling forward like a flood from a bursted Dam upon the Glandelinian positions at the Ste M arie.There was some blunder too between some other officers about some of the Ninth corps which seemed to have been ordered forward to the support, and to be withdrawn before they even got started apparently on account of the uncertainity whether they could withstand general Hanson picksens christian Abyseinkilians or not.

As for other sections of the dreadful battle the movements of general Dolittles Fourth Corps was also a blunder, and the artillery and cavarly which should have supported the assault with a strong force of infantry, was frustrated by the christian general Michae l Hurley who and his staff seemed to hav e their" ingers"everywhere for the actions,, and the greatest peril Manleys army was reallly facing was at the St No Boniface Crossroads.This was as bad a situation as a gigantic leak in the hold of a wodden ship in stormy heaving sea, and in itself evidence of either foolishness or gross blunder on the part of the one who had delivered the assault against general Hansons left without first seeing to it that the enemy general could not throw against the Glandelinian army His right andcenter..So far as general C lancy could judge(if he could) the christian forces a raying against the Glandelinian masses was bleeding the ch Glandelinian army along the Ste Marie White, the assault was so vigorious and strong that he doubted if the Ste Marie positions could be main tained very long.As Shoemannia had said, General Hanson was just "sitting tight" and waiting to squeeze the Glandelinian army out of existance prepartory to taking it over.

General Clancy as he surveyed the scene estimated that, with the ammount of troops concentrated against the christian assault, and the strength of of th e Glandelinian batteries it should be possible to cut through the Glandelinian line, and he was confident from his view of the limits, that if he massed troops on time he could show Hanson that he was his "equal". This meant that he would have to concentrate fourty million men, against the whole storming christian line.

But Shoemann ia and other officers said it was actually impossible to han dle the affair in this manner and to concentrate such a ernu ernormous number of men in a short time against the christians. Examining the Geography farther, he believed he could sent another division of troops down Stoney River.This plan seemed to Calmannia Shoemannia clear disaster if it was attempted, for he hand not the number of men proper to accomplish such a daring feat..General Morris's method had eve e evidently been first to bleed the Glandelinian army out of existance, second to sweep all opposition before him, and sent the whole army flying. General Clancy was profoundly disasl dissaticified with this showing of the situation..It was clear to him, that the assault upon the left wing of the christian army could have e been made to pay with r great rul results had not some one blund ered. Wha w want of sufficient support was the drawback. General Uncle had been putting all his available troops to the storming but to no avail, notyi nothing could be done there, but general Clancy resolved to increase the massing of the troops right at the spot he deemed hardest pressed. That should be the first " leak"to be stopped".He had twelve million men into position at Childrens Playground,, representing his best deployed troop massed into battle line.By close scrunty he planned a method by with this increased concentration of troops, and with the renewal of the assault he believed he might just manage to carry through the resistance untill the night when he could then move the army away out of danger. But he would have to use every desperate effort, to get up a large force of troops and put them into action before the christian line of battle pressed on too far, especially if he was to hope to get the army away without a more disasterous defeat, ad winning the battle even now was impossible.

It was a hard, difficult situation, for it meant that he must renew his awful losses,, and he saw that he would have to go it alone untill he understood the situation better. The imed iate effort was to go thrigh through the tr ouble of finding how to restore the line along the christian left.. Therefore general Clancy awaited the arival of general Leblance with great impatience, and continued to stride up and down the road...

However General Leblance came latey than he should have, though of course he couldn't help it, with his truculent air, fixing general Clancy with his eyes, saluted, sat down, remo ved his hat. and deposited it on the floor between his feet.

"You wanted to see me, and I was coming to see you myself anyway."he announced.

"I wanted to find out what you can do with your divisions of troops general Leblance"said Clancy."Acc ording to the plans you have sent four million men early this morning into the fray, that never passed through the enemy, nor came back.Where are they?"

General Leblance leaned back but appeared troubled though he tried hard to smile.

"I left them over there at the Christian lines general l Clancy."he said."General I don understands."

"But I don't."

General Leblance let his eyes wander about the officer in some apprehension.

"Your divisions are fixed pretty good into position near here."he said. "I guess you believe you'll thrash general Hanson eh?All right.Maybe I' ll sign with you inco-operation against him."

General Clancy could not determine whet her the mans manner was either peculiar or merely the evasivoness was of something which general Le blance feared about the situation. Le blance lifted up his hat and twirled it on his knee, smilingscurly.

"You see here you young fellow, you American"he answered. "You don't know the game of that general Hanson. I lost four million men in the assault early this morning, none of them came back Do you foolishly want to sent the rest of my division to their deaths. You push upon general Hansons left with the situation as it is now sir, and I'll absolutely believe you've got b atty. Y ou oppose general Lenio Blcknell of the enemy who understands his job and how to give it to us, and now you want me to force my men to commit sucide. How you suppose I'm going to cut through general Hansons tidal wave and get away without big loss eh.Are you crazy man.Or do you want to cause this to be the bloodiest battle of the war."

"I guess you didn't blunder yourself sending four million men to their ends"said Clancy. He saw and understood that Le blance was sure of the enemy turning everything topsy turvy and was getting apprehensive. No doubt that force of four million men early that morning had went to their deaths, and the rest had passed through the christian lines only to be cut up and repulsed with great slaughter accredited to the Abbieannian army fighting its way across the Ste Marie river with a taking cannon fire for the rest of Leblances army. Still he was in no position to force Leblance to do anything he did not feel sure would accomplish anything.He merely sent for him to get advice..2.2.2.

General Leblance threw back his head and laughed heartily. at what he believed was the su stupidity of general Clancy.

"You sure don't understand much of this battle business"he chuckled. "You better answer my question general Le plance" he suggested.

"Weill sir"said Leblance."you thing you can crush general Hanson.You will soo n find out for proff proof that we are losing.Hanson is recieving reinforcements.And we are not.I am not going to send the rest of my division to face destruction.I decide to remain on the defense."

"Very good"said Clancy."Good Morning."

General Leblance stared at him, got up, and clapped on his hat.

"See here young American fellow"he bellowed"You mean to tell me you don't want me to remain merely on the defensive.Where you going to get another division of troops to fill the gap my disaster will cause. How are you going to hold your own position if the "storm "gets here when I take my division and lead them to destruction.Why Man. Are you Possessed.?"

"I don't know"answered general Clancy"But I'll find out."

General Le plance appeared nonplussed.

"You don't want me surely to drive my troops to dire destruction.!"He doman ded."No one can counter charge those christian dogs noq now.Way I got my batteries of artillery ready to repell the advance of the enemy."

"Take them forward to the assault."

"See here. I got to have reason."Cried Leblance."General Manley ought to be here oncommand.He sure wouldn't do that."

"You seem to want to stand before the enemy mighty bad"said Clancy quietly."Surely Hanson is not as dangerous at that.Well Leblance if you feel it that way, I don't want to do anything rash.But you're running a great er risk remaining on the defensive. But you'll have to recieve reinforcements for you will not be able to stand ground."

They haggered over the plans.In the end clancy gave in, and Leblance was assigned a new territory indicated on a geography map which general Clancy examined. Leblance departed hopeful.He had secured a good position he thought with strong positions to be formed easily enough tward St Boni face Crossroads along the Stoney River which he demanded on the ground that there was a fine growth of swampy stretches there which could form a trap for the assailants if they stormed that way. As it was in Clancys own interest that Leblance should form positions at that spot he offered no objection, and the two parted to accomplished their objective ends. He should however have stubbornly meant to have Leblance move forward. In that he soon came to see the first disaster of the battle.Returning to his headquarters he found general Baptiste in a great state of excitement.

"General Ambrose Fuller has been here general"he said"and he says you had better move your troops forward to cover the rear of our line."

General Baptiste appeared to be a little flushed.2.2.2.

"That's correct"maybe"said he continuing. Old e General Tomas Federal has gone right up into the air general Clancy. He rode down f here for the first time since the battle lines has been all busted up, and his opinion of you is free... Heavens general Clancy you ought to see s how our lines cringed when Hansons army was set loose on us.I Guess the battle is still rhrune running pretty strong against us.."

Clancy took the matter more to heart than Batpiste seemed to. He had every reason not to arouse too much fury of the christian armies upon him too soon, and his examination of the situation, and the papers had shown him that he must strain every desperate effort, to prevent general Hansons right forging ah ahead at all costs. He went into his headquarters office, closed the door, and sat down...

"What is the trouble?"he demanded...2.2

"Why that map shows the situation of our own battle lines, it doesn't show the disaster that is threaten. The enem is enemy is cutting us up all over the whole battle field, including general Roseys divisions, and Leblances position also endangered runs through St Bonifaces Run, and Leblance has started right in there in sight and sound of the very town of Lebanon, but he sent a note to general Tomas Federal that if he is expected to stand before Hansons "Storm"very long it'll be a miracle to do so, General Tomas says so t that a blunder somewhere has been made, but he didn't have the lines of battle changed because there was danger of a big a gap in the lines if he did so and he wanted to find out if you were brave enough to move forward your own troops and try to cut your way through the rear of general Hansons right wing..."

"How are the Christian troops doing.?"

"They are in possession of the positions at the Ste Marie, and the troops of our side have given way at all points there, and are on a very disorderly retreat."

"What else.How's Leblance getting along."?

"It's also about his line of battle"said Baptiste. "You've given him a position in a wedge wedge of land close to the St Boniface Crossroads and if an assault comes upon him from two sides he's lose lost."

General Clancy indeed felt very serious, about this situation. He had found out that Le lance was one of Brousseas generals and surely could take care of himself and his divisions, and he had thought he saw Leblances game instantly.But whether he did or not Leblances game surely was going wrong for any of the christian generals had undoubyedly set some trap or follo followed some sco sc heme of their own in order to tear through the region and get on Manleys rear.If this succeeded the Glandelinian army would be "Napoleons"after Waterloos, but somewhat worse. And general Clany remembered that the position that Leblance had been forced to chose and much against his will was not even shown on any map of the geography from which Leblances district to defend against the christian troops had been plotted out.Even now an astonishing roar of battle in that direction and at St Boniface's Crossroads, and a frightful Volcano of flame and din, and seemingly the Worlds end seemed to crash and roar out near or in the location of "Childrens Playground and Lebanon.He realized the danger and meeting one of his cavarly generals said;

"Thrown your whole cavarly force on the rear of the christian line if possible. Here's a message to general Costellio.Have him train all his batteries upon the National line.Hurry.I'm going to move forward as sooj as I see general Tomas."

The great Glandelinian columns which had evidently once been in position at The Ste Marie, but now was on a disorderly retreat..."was to end in a disasterous defeat, worse than even decay if he couldn't do something right away.He dispatched general Prevosts divisions of Manraboos to go to the scene and sent general Hanas artillery to cover the retreat, while a cavarly force was sent to rally the panic stricken hordes. He saw over the approach where a garden was of good size its undulations still indicating the former

terraces, and through an seperated army of little pines a great force of men luscarlet uniforms was winning their way..He ordered Clancys division forward with the orders orders-

"Stop those christian dogs at all hazards.General Dunns batterywill support you.The battle must be won."

General Clancy rode up the road, then only a sort of forest t ack way, and stopped within easy view of the advancing christian troops. He saw the Cnacy division come up and form immediately in position behind the traces and behind every protection on the grounds and open fire. Jut Just then general Tomas Federal rode up.He wore something as if it was a gray but faded bul butlers uniform.

"His Excellency general Clancy!"

"Was"saluting."General Tomas."!

The general turned his horse a little aside, dismounted and stood before his superior, He was a tall and very strong old man with a a white Santa claus sort of beard, and apple red cheeks, still fresh a a as a boy and not wrinkled. such a frame as that must have been the product of years of systematic exercize in the open air. General Tomas Federal wore a gray swallow tail uniform coat of the style of the forties, light yellow trousers strapped under his well ploished blutchers and a spreading collar suhc as such as had not been seen since the worlds creation, and mayn maybe never will be.It might be called a "pocker smockstack. Yet there was Something about this Glandelinian general, that made his ancientte ancient custom the most natural thing. It suited him for a uniform as he suited the cause, and the me medals and designs he wore on the uniform coat, and the shoulder strappings made him appear more as if he was the Butler of some high Monarch that ruled everything but the Universe. General Clancy met him as he advanced tward him.

"I am general Clancy Connor."he said. "I heard that you had to withdraw your divisions to a new position, and I called to offc offer my explanations. right now..."""QAZ

"Have the kindliness to listen sir,"answered the general.

In the momentary time of waiting Clancy heard the increased roar of battle and wondered what in the world was wrong..

"That is a bad situation for our army to be in."said general Federal, with extreme bitterness... "Those christian dogs are cutting down my divisions of troops as they were a forest of trees which I thought I had a in a secure position.Now sir what is there to explain am I responsible."

"I am sorry it happened"said Clancy."I placed general Leblance in position near the Crossroads, but didn't know it was a badly exposed region./""

"A plague on the old position sir"cried general Federal."I understand nothing of positions at St Boniface's Crossroads but when I put my troops into position at Sunbeam junc ion I did not even believe the position was so badly exposed. I chanced the situation gra for granjed and now had to move out or see my divisions cut to pieces or annihilated. General Hilary is dead and his six officers are wounded.But you sir;;;"

"Made a mistake---"

"What right had you to make such a mistake and put our army into a situation as thi s/.Are you a foriegner not satisfied to come here be a general and from some fo lish blunder allow the c Christian dogs to eat up our armies, and that you must bring your infernal blunder within sight and sound of me."

"I shall do my best to prevent the disaster from progressing sir"answered Clancy."I was going to say that I intended to have you call to express the hope of -co-operation so that we can smash the enemy instead."

Before the general could answer, one of the Vivian Girls in disguise rode up.She wore a white waist and riding habit of the Glandelinian girl scouts,, her golden hair was sort of bobbed in disguise.

"This is our superior general Clancy in Manleys plan place."General Tomas Federal said,.

She opened her lip but did not speak. Perhaps the emotion that blazed in her eyes made utterance momentarily impossible.Clancy saw that they were of the Abbieann ian color blue which sometimes mad him believe she was not truly a Glandelinian. She carried a little riding whip in her hand, and with it tapped her riding boot noslly.

"And he has come to offer his explanation for the blunder he made this morning."continued general Federal.

"I see"she said, and then she thought to herself" "So it is not enough forbyou, you boobheaded Foriegners, and an Amerian American, that you must wic edly ta e sides of the Glandelinian cause and serve them as a general.Is it the few dollars more the service will bring him for a General in this army, or is it you love such a cause.You are a traitor to God and your own Country. Then she said aloud;

"So you blunder do you general"and she slightly giggled. "Perhaps general Manley is a better general after all."To herself again."It is on account of me that you are failing.I'll fix you enemies of Our Blessed Lord if I die for it."""""""AAQQAA

"Little girlscout you are unjust to jest at the situation? It was not of design that I put general Federal into that positionI----"

"She turned upon him swiftly.

"I do not want to hear any excuses."she said."You are an American you have come into these countries over here to eat up our land, for your fool services, and pretend to be a general and yet let those ponder"Pointing to the advancing christians "come at the army as if it was a locust swarm. Let the Christians cut down the army--hurry with your work and go, and ta e your own army and leave ours to our solitude"(he in truth meant"And leave our own christian armies alone."

"General Federal"proste protested Clancy, bewildered, turning tward the general.

"The girlscout is right sir "Thundered the old general."It was an evil day that Manley got a bad cold and you had to supercede him.You have ruined our army through your ignorance Have the goodness to end the discussion."

"At p least you will permit me to try and retify the error?"as/ed Clancy trying to control his rising anger.

"A do not listen to hingeneral"said the girlscout."Let him go ahead and get the biggest defe defeat of his life and he'll never be in command again.At least he has bought no rights to be the main commander."

"Very well Girlscout."said General Clancy. "But what I was going to say to you had better be said to the general.I had him come here for explanation and the both of you insult me.I wished to offer explanation and reparation with my troops for causing the unintentional disaster and

you have converted it into a studied insult dictated in part by greed. But whatever you may say I, I AM COMMAND HERE and my word goes. I f I still retain command sir, I'll demand your resignation from the army, and the girlscout goes home discharged."

He turned upon his heel and started for his horse, but returned to the general.

"I hold you responsible if you don't hold that position. Go to your command. I'll support you but no retreating at all of I'll shoot you down if you allow the hen to run. You are responsible."

Then he got upon his horse. As he passed Violet he saw that she cu clutched at her horses reins with fingers white to the wrist her wrath, which he understood not the real truth was uncontrollable, she glanced or looked at him as if he were a devil. The look on the generals face was milder almost regretful as if he were conscious of an offense against superior aurthority.

He moved a pace or two forward and seemed about to say a word, but Clancy rode down the road to order his troops forward. As he rode on he saw the old general standing still by his horse, staring at him as if he had seen a ghost

Another general rode up all excited.

"The battle is going against us badly sir."the rider said."

"I'm sending troops to thr front as soon as possible for heavens sake be patient"said General Clancy."We shall win, at least enough to save the army.

"Indeed if there ever was such a battle which called for everybody on the Glandelinian side to try and crush the counter christian"STOH" it was now in the battle of Lebanon the bloodiest battle in this part of Calverinia---the dreadful ugly, mauling slashing wrestling decisive battle of the near Abbieann Country and territory. Indeed even now as far as the battle raged the percentage of the well trained vul volunteers of the Glandelinian army dead and wounded alone, was as heavy as the percentage of the losses in the dreadful struggle at Cedernine and Evangeline together. This was not the first occassion that general Clancy had been fighting against christian armies in battle, but it was the first time he had ever had to clash with General Hanson the Napoleon of Abbieannia. It was up to Clancy to break up the christian assault against the center and the left, and in this scheme there was no shining light. He failed in the early morning, because of some onesplunder in the assault upon the christian left.

General Clancy put his own divisions forward near Ste Marie to oppose the advance of the christians there. He also send for general Frank Daniels divisions and Leo Buels army to come up and join in the advance. His line less than ten miles was stretched across a triangle formed by the Ventura River and the Ste Marie. His flanks were protected with by the water and swamps and by forests, but his back was too the forest in case he would have to retreat. But Clancy did not comtel contemplate any retreat. He was there to fight. He did not even entrench. There was no time. General Andrew Hatechild his engineer said it as was poor ground to fight on. B ut Clancy had no time to fall back to better ground. However he did not believe ha after thi giving this show a of array that the christian army would proceed on with their storming and assault him, even though he felt sure he was up against a christian general of his own sort, who also meant to carry all before him. General Hanson V ivian had been considered the most able gene val in the army and Emperor Vivian had said of him"If he cannot whip the enemy no one can." This indeed was the longest wickedest day of the dreadful war in the middle east of Calverinia. The christian troops insuperb confidence swept forward with a storm of deafening yells. The Glandelinians of the front line try to hold their position could not hold. The Abbieannians had come from the upperregion, from the Abyssinkilian lowlands, from Concepinia, from Dombobia, and the Triponligoullans were plenty proud, and different in their purple blue. Yet d urgent a dreadful jarg target that red and purple had been all day while the Glandelinian gray had been almost invisible. Facing the Christians were the Glandelinians of Mangaboo state, from Zimmermannia, from Mormonin, and also from Mic-Holl estinia and Hobbonlie. The battle was now a raging meringage man to man. No plain of Etheldreda no orchards and farms of Cedernine, but a big field unmapped except for the s etch that the eye of a general made on the spot in the fiercest heat of the action, studying how to turn the tide on plain badly exposed ground. No village walls as at St Etheldreda as rallying points. There were no patches of wide clearing, of plowed ground, of second growth of small virgin forest, swamps and ravines, and stump lots, no defenses as at Etheldreda in that free for all and hellish struggle. Liaison they would cal it in French there the retaining of advancing troops in unite formation elbow to elbow. The fighters of the enemy at horrible Lebanon did not hear the world nor understood how to apply the principals except in vague theory when all their parade ground instruction was shot to pieces. and the only Liaison at Lebanon was of getting ahead or of holding ground desperately without getting trapped, and of extending the battle lines as lines as long as possible. The fierce fighting instinct ruled, the liaison of the christians was the team play of "Kotpa ball gallently. When they saw there was a position that must be captured the Nationals continued to drive for it in block troop fashion along a line of attack many miles as fierce as the world war itself in one spot, when Clancy found a good point of advantage strong for holding he and his generals encouraged the troops so boldly that they held it. The christian troops forced themselves forward in waves and were torn to pieces and sent reeling back in the awfullest confusion, but again and again they rushed to the assault with inconceivable fury, Out of the clouds of battle appeared many figures that put fresh heart into the quailing, and decision in place of doubt, the figures of torn leadership among the Glandelinian. They rallied fragments of brigades, battalions, and divisions, regiments for fresh charges and fresh defense. Yet wa veaving in and out the furious Abbieannians continued on driving the Glandelinians back tward the Ste Marie.. There were scores of terrific battles making the whole battle, There were 10 ,000,000 engaged singly on both sides in every score. There were periods when all the thunders were concentrated in one spot and made the battle sound as if the world was blowing to pieces. There were no lulls for a single second. The Ste Marie was red with the blood of the dead and wounded, and there were a thousand "hornets nests". On the left of Ste Marie the Glandelinians held the low ridge, and general Leblances divisions failed in its bloody charges to gain that critical point which was holding up the whole against the

christian line. General Arthur George men exhausted themselves in desperate but unsuccessful efforts.. General Clide Lane division was ordered up. He also repulsed under the crossfire of infantry and artillery. and Clide was wounded. General Hanson sent a Glandelinian staff officer to secure the colors and not let go of them until he had planted them on the ridge. The staff officer seized them from a Glandelinian color sergeant as he fell, and sprang forward only to find to his horror that there were only wounded and dead to lead up that slope covered massively with fallen men. A regimental officer bleeding from a bullet wound in his head came up to him yelling"What do you mean by securing my colors. Give them to me. I'll carry them up." and he too fell.

"Not another inch" was the cry of officers. Here we stick/"

Each side in this battle were trying to prove they were braver and fiercer than the other. All the time general Clancy was hoping that general Meldonia Pickrell would be arriving with his division. However he must be on the sure move to be sure that vital parts of his sagging battle line held to prevent disaster in the withdrawal. He must be sure that some parts did not stay dangerously long when others gave way. Some of his commanders might be foolhardy or catelen careless where others were too cautious. So it was with general Furop who lost two million prisoners in one bang. That caused the christians to give forth their "down with Child slavery" yell. General Philliam Turners division riddled the christian generals army but paid the price in death face to his christian foe. The christians yelled fiercely over artillery and batteries and positions captured at the point of the bayone t. Glandelinian curses rose in triumph as the guns and positions were recaptured and turning strident with hateful rage as they were lost again. and General Turnapple rose on the right of Ste Marie and bearing the brunt of it. Clancy saw he did not need to worry about Turn apple fumbling, did not need to show him how to fight a battle. Appleturn was showing them all how to do it. A flaming broadsword of a general he was riding in the worst of it, putting steel resistance and precision into his division. He seemed as as if all his staff would have to yeild their horses to him for he had sixteen shot under him during this action. General Hanson was not surprised at the way the Glandelinians were fighting. He knew them of old. When they had been good people he had lived among them in the southern part of Glandelinia. He had been called crazy because he had said it would be a long bloody war, and take a vast christian army to win it. And general Hansonia Johnson Ian a magnificent chivalrous figure in bearing and energy an embodiment of the christian spirit, was also riding the battlefield. his eagle military eye and swift judgement and action pitted against Clancy and--- pple. He saw that the Ste Marie position was the door to victory. Once he had captured that he would have the christian left wing secure for good. He rode along a line forming to rush forward and press in rear, an advantage against the position. In his hand was a little cross which he kissed. His eyes glaring as if he were going on a hunt.. With this general leading no man on the christian side could falter.. They secured the position. Tru Triumphant now he was directing the further advance while bullets from the Glandelinians in rear guard action were whistling about him.

His prize indeed seemed within his grasp. Just continuing on going the way he told them, just one p more push, and his troops indeed would have their reward. Suddenly he wavered in his saddle. He was helped off his horse. There was no sight of a wound until they glanced at his foot, and found his boot filled with blood.

"Your hit general."

"I fear so, and so I owe."he replied.

These indeed were his last words. A bullet had cut an artery in the leg. In his preoccupation he had not realized his wound, and had he done so a tourniquit in time would have saved his lid life. He was out of the battl battle at noon time and the Glandelians breaking before him. The chill of his loss stayed the eagerness of his men but nevertheless they continued on. What if it had been general Clancy who had been mortally wounded.. What if general Hanson had fallen. The Christians had driven the enemy from all the ground he had won on the left in their half a days line smashing. They to call it were on the "ten yr yard" line. They were upto the famous Ste Marie. Had the general survived would the christians have gained the Ste Marie and held it? Such was the big question of bloody Lebanon. If ev er general Clancy needed the right number of cannons,,, and the right sort, it was now or M American -via new Glandelinian might become d laster Clan y. He set all his available batteries to firing in a terrific uproar once more. He rushed three hundred and thirty guns to the crest of the hill near Ste Marie to pour down a torrent shells of shells and the destruction among the christian columns became frightful. But should the Abbieannian and the Angelinian troops moving forward never the less finally sweep over these guns, they would be in a position which probably Clancy with all the help of the Legions of Hell couldn't recapture. The goal however for which so famous a christian general must died must be won his death avenged in imperial victory and therefore the christian troops pressed on with irresistible fury. They were torn to pieces, scores of columns were torn mangled and bleeding, but on they pressed. A whole wave went down into bleeding and dead and still the assault was pressed with increased vigor. Below them under their plunging fire would be and was all the struggles of a mob urging to get to shelter first. The positions there could not hold all the Glandelinians. Glandelinian soldiers forced to retire down the slope was being drawn into a huge milling mass and they were being shot down by the hundred score for every volley. There was danger of Le lances army being bagged or annihilated. General Marcus De Ands division which would soon arive would have no chance to get into action and therefore it would have to hold to its transports.

In the heat of the frightful October day, the worn Glandelinian survivors of Leblances men pressed onward or the retreat---stark full bodies laying everywhere as if the end of the world had come and the whole population had been annihilated without being consumed by fire. They plunged onward the christian fire cutting up their rear many dropping, more pressing up from behind. General Leblance was wounded and was carried away.

They tried to rally and stand their ground despite the fall of their leader but there was not enough of them to a way against the advancing Christian troops, and though they preferred to die as soldiers than yeild and be caught in the slaughter ground of St Boniface Crossroads they couldn't withstand the assault which by sheer force of numbers pressed them on the retreat whether they wished to go or not. They were not retreating because they were frightened or desired to. The pressure was impossible to resist.

Corps of Bernard Dunne men of the Fourth Corps got into position before twelve thirty approached. Up to now the Glandellinian had lost many more prisoners and dead and wounded I think than any other battle before. on this terrible October the Fifth. In dead and wounded along both sides had during that one morning up to now lost more than 20,000,000 single totalling it up to 40,000,000 altogether. The wounded were lying in the tent ord dust, and in the heatened wet of the swampy grounds, their plight to been c become a great scandal. Ruthlessly hard hitting Clancy was now to be called by the Christian authorities Butcher Clancy, as well as Reckless dare devil by the enemy/ Lebanon had been by far the bloodiest action of the whole war. The hospital corps on both sides, and there were many, the Nurse, the Red Cross, and the others had not dreamed that so heavy and terrible a loss of life, and numbers of wounded could be lost in a single, six days fight, and this had occured in a quarter of a day or that the military experts that the beaten Glandellinian army would still be fighting all the rest of the day and still on even when night fell in such the face of double the loss.

It was the first examples of the lengths of which the courage of each general would go against each other. The thousands and thousands of litter bearers were as helpless to cope with the em emere emergency as the local hospitals in a great city of a mill ion inhabitants which had been razed by an earthquake.. And General Clancy gave the order to the coming reinforcements and to the generals of his own main divisions to move forward to recover all the lost ground at all hazards. General Clancy in deed proved the words of general Gen Sherman, but maybe in this case the war was worse.. if anything can be worse.. During the time that the christian troops were in possession of the St Boniface's Crossroads General Clancy at first refused himself in a little farmhouse on the shore of Ste Marie but the sight of the wounded who had been crowded under its roof, and in its many rooms was too harrowing for even a general who had become used to all there scenes, and he stood under a tree for a while watching all his plan chei plans being ripped in the bud... Too he had an injured foot that was giving him some serious pain. Did he take in the situation there.. How many of his officers in the face of such a dire disaster would have not watched every movement of the christians.?

Not all the members of the Glandellinian delligation of generals who had protested to Clancy. Under that tree but dangerously close to the christian cannon fire, with shells booming and tearing all around him in the crisis of his fortunes, general Clancy surely did some hard planning,, a re desperate planning,, but bad situation or lame foot, his resolution being that of an American was unshaken..... He was a desperate a General Grant and Lee put together. His orders for his troops, in the main were for a general counter assault all along the line... Now too he had General Nickin Illians divisions of troops, and general Henry Dangers division, 25,000 ,000 fresh troops in addition to what remained of his original column on the Glandellinian right----inspirited indeed by the thought--- "Plenty of help for us now. Now we secure our own, drive the Christian dogs out and secure their lost territory. Apparently with ...ope.

The Christians were more magnificent on that afternoon time and the rest of the day than they had been in the morning. But for a time of course Clancy saw the day being won once more. But the Christians were as desperate as if they were fighting to destroy Hell and its legions. Hell seemed to roar everywhere. Doggedly they yeilded the fields where their seas of dead and wounded lay or still lay, grimly they made tenacious stands on small ridges, hiding them in their walls of rifle and cannon smoke until they appeared volcanoes in eruption, thundering and see thing, providing hells nests for the Glandellinians.

Never before in the war was there such a bloody battle. Scenes from the ridges were ten times worse than what Shoemannia experienced in his assault up the heights of Ava Maria at Osmondonson. General Clancy or ganized baffled troops and led them forward for a charge against a stubborn hill position which was worse to carry than the heights of Ava Maria where the Christian "Abbieannian yell" rose from the men as of a million legions of demons.. The assault caused a loss worse than all the assaults upon Ava Maria heights of Osmondon, it was far more difficult to capture that small ridge than that of Osmondon, far more dangerous, the christian fire was more severe than Shoemannia ever encountered at Osmondonson, but the hill was won, the enemy carried it though then the first line reached the summit, as long as it was it melted away entirely, and there were more men in that line than Shoemannia led up the Ava Maria Heights for his every charge. combined.

"Are we not like a spud of butter about to melt in a fire pan."? said one of general Dare Not Lee staff to the general.

"I'm about to order a retreat." said Dare no Lee. "No reinforcements are coming up for me and some thing of only more than half my force that had come to the defense of the left are fit for action against these enemies of twice my numbers. I'm about to order the retreat."

And a retreat it was, and no panic. The Christians spent the time at another time with redoubled vesiglance while Dare not Lee drew back to Albinios Crossroads. And Clancy believing the danger over, had however realized his error in believing that it would be a short battle. The christians were going to suffer a lot of punishment severe in the extreme before he was to insure the safty of Hanleys Glandellinian army. Again Hanson was massing more troops to restore his left wing. The battle thundered louder and louder, a thundering horror.

General Pierre's Abbieannians stormed the Glandellinians this time. General Hilary was the Glandellinian General to bear the brunt of it and he had to let his divisions give way. For just a few minutes General Pierre relaxed the fury of his assault as a terrific cannon fire was mangling his left wing, the guns of Clancys artillery tearing the left to pieces. He shifted a portion of the left wing, and then withdrew it while he sent his cavr cavarly to close on the artillery if possible. Then general Clancy put all his strength it into a terrific drive with his own left supported by a cousin of artillery fire. The blow caught both the front and rear of Pi Pierre's right, the line was caught between two fires, and the battle line was rolled from the field. Trying desperately to rally the disordered lines Pierre fell seriously if not dangerously

wounded. Before the Abbieannian line at this sector could recover itself and rally, general Clancy threw forward another strong division and pushed his artillery forward. The christians have ground gnew. Just at that moment a high explosive shell from Jackson almost rendered general Hilary incon scious. Still only half conscious and barely seeing the wild battle so close to him Hilary drew in a deep chestful of air. There was another explosion darling and dense cloud into the air, and he was borne to the rear also dangerously wounded. General Tomas Federal also was wounded. Out of a long roll of cloud Clancy saw a wave of christian troops rushing forward. His artillery met it with a withering fire and tore the wave to pieces.

The great blow of the counter assault cut general Clancy's left asunder and he sent a division to reinforce it and stop the assault. The christian troops continued to rush forward, a fearful spectacle. The line of gray was pressed to the rear but Clancy drew up his own brigades, and rolled back the assault once more. Just then at his very side general Connel fell wounded.

Clancy turned to one of the nearest soldiers.

"Give him some brandy." he ordered.

The soldier came forward to obey and was shot dead. Another came to do it, and fell. Three more, and they also fell.

Clancy managed to drag the wounded man out of the danger zone, though a bullet took away his hat and another clipped his sword scabbard belt in two.

"Get him to the rear" said Clancy to a number of men.

All man forward to be the first to carry the wounded general, and all fell at once.

Clancy glanced sullenly being forced for the cause of the army to edge out of the zone of this withering fire. He was almost coved, by the violence of the christian troops but the fighting spirit was not out of him. Either sides, whether the Glandellinians are bad, and the christians are good, are not cowards, and they fought as if they were only out on a hunt. Yet general Clancy did fear the strange unknown force and power thay that was behind invincible Hanson Vivian and his army and which manifested themselves through the strength of his sledge hammering onslaughts. But being an American also General Clancy was invincible. He had the same power behind him. That's the reason the battle was so severe.

A number of officers about a score of them came riding up to Clancy apprehensive over the situation.

"The unemy--- "

"I'll give you five minutes to rally your men in the St Boniface Territory and in the Ste Marie limits, and the other side of Stony River." Clancy said. "I'll hold every one responsible who retreats without my orders for a retreat." he announced.

Whether they understood the meaning of the words or not, they realized the significance of the gesture. Americans fights in American wars to beat an American Hanson would have to go a long way. He did not have Hanley to fight this time. General "Black" Pierre Robes and others of the officers had in the meantime managed to stop the retreat of the troops, and as Clancy had plenty of fresh troops he sent them forward. An hour after at half past one, the Glandellinians were still in the position, but they couldn't advance no more than the christians could. The battle raged on, with redoubled fury now, but at a "standstill." A tie. Without fear of danger general Clancy was examining the position at Ste Marie with his field glasses. He waited long enough to see what movement the "fierce" christians would make next before re-counting on the next plan.

He understood the situation. But so did Hanson. It was the plan of each to outwit the other. Clancy was thoughtful on the side along his fresh awaiting division of troops. He realized that it was the only unexpecte unexpected nature of the action that for a time enabled him to maintain his position. That had been a paramont duty, at any cost he must preserve his lines or be routed. But he saw already Hanson was the Napoleon of the Christians, and he could put up a fight that could render him even an American important. Force and str n strength and and fury could drive him nowhere in the end.

"Hear only days" general Clancy it appears as if you've sure got the army into a fight now" said general Lafty as general Clancy in riding up met him.

"I sure see I have and indeed a pr pretty stiff one" said Clancy. "I have passed through situations. First I carried the position at Rosnys but didn't succeed in getting very far there."

"I could have told you that if you have warned me of your intention" said general Lafty reproachfully. "General Curren of the christians has the whip hand there. He destroyed a portion of he p lances army, and he got general Pierre against you too. You've got the army into a bloody battle more bloody than even Glandellinia wanted."

"Then I thought I'd go ahead and try to secure the positions at Ste Marie and St Boniface's Crossroads. And I found general Hanson hurling masses of troops against the positions large than I ever saw men before going to battle.."

"And you got into a terrific fight there. Don't say the enemy attack you, general Clancy. By "Ultime that's bad."

"The Christian dogs did, and I struck them a good deal harder. In fact general Lafty I've recovered my position at Ste Marie, hurled the enemy left wing out of the region again, and advanced my army a good deal ahead, and have General Hansons whole army back at a perfect standstill."

"Bravo" called Lafty almost falling outoffhis horse. "Do you mean to tell me, general Clancy, you drived up to general Hanson and have whipped him so far and again drove his left wing out of position and recovered your positions at the Ste Marie, and the St Boniface Crossroads?"

"That is about the size of it general. Why this astonishment? Don't the army seem strong enough?"

Lafty looked at him sadly solemnly..

"General you sure have made your reputation, that's all" he answered.

"Why general Hanson Vivian's the Napoleon of Abbieannia, he's been the unbeate ated or general since the war began. Never has there found a general of

big army who could stand up to him, and since even no body hardly has dared. I guess you've established yourself solid general Clancy. What will general turn apple say now.

So events proved. It was only fifteen minutes after for the story of the results of Clancy's movements to filter through, and now general Clancy became conscious of a new deference in the officers under him of smiling looks that followed him, when he went along from command to command to soon order them forward.

"We've still got him to contend with though"said clancy to Lafty. "When do you suppose he's going to move against me again.."

"Soon"said Lafty. "Youve seen to that general!"

"I've thought"said clancy, that he himself may be inclined to accept the situation and move against me with all his force soon. After all he's a real dangerous adversary isn't he?"

Lafty tossed his head. "You don't get onto the ways of these christian generals sir"he continued.."They're wise enough to fool a devil. General Hanson feels that you've up you are a challenge to him as a military boss, and he'll stop at nothing to get you out of the Lebanon position."

"Well"answered Clancy cheerfully,"We will meet that trouble when it comes. Meanwhile don't spare the divisions in breaking up the christian lines and sending them over the positions. I've got to get through a record blow, and I'm going to credit all the fighting that goes on the rest of the day and let Hanson do any action he dares about it."

At this moment Clancy saw one of the Glandelinian girlscouts, a real one this time riding toard him and with him sat a Glandelinian general who he surmised at once must be general Leonia Meldon Bicknell. and with him was Calmannia Shoemann la. but he hardly expecr expected that a girlscout would accompany them. The generals stopped and Clancy had a glimps of the girlscouts averted scorn cro scornful face directed toard the christian lines as she sat a waiting on her horse, as if the christian cause was beneath her pride. The generals continued on and rode up to Clancy Clancy..He was a man of something more than fourty, that is bicknell but active and young in appearance and had a brownish beard. Also he wore a strim brown mus moustache a military hat of Condederate style which sat jauntily on his head, he was handsomely uniformed and his face fierce as any military mans could be and selft confident though it was had j yet an aspect of power.

"I'm general Bicknell"said he."That means something to you general Clancy."

"I've heard of you"said Clancy.

"You'll hear more of me. You have won so far against our enemies. Do you think you can come it over long against that dangerous general Hanson Vivian. If you can knock about general Hansons army like that all day long you'll be a wonder."

"Where is general Leblances torn up division now?"

"He is on the Rosny seignory and the enemy is cutting his troops up. He's wounded."

"He was where I located him. Why in Heavn Heaven did he refused to go anywhere elsewhen I warned him. He was on the east side of the Ste Stream called the Riverie Blanche."

"His left wing was between there and the little riverlet that flows into it. He was being cut up where general Turner has been defending defending his line of battle, and Le blance was deploying his troops by the Rosny Concern."Said clancy.

"He is not now nor any other troops"said Bicknell.."Some one blundered. The River blanche cannot be maintained much longer. What you call the little riverlet is the upper part of the river Blanche. Leblance has his position there to aid general Morris who was being cut up by the christian armies though the two divisions fought fiercely hand in hand. It is not my way of making explanations general, but this time it is worth."

"I'll do so and its worth nothing."General Clancy answered. "What is your propiston.."

"Can you hold the enemys center?"

"Never mind the enemys center. I'll try it this afternoon when the rest of my troops are on the field. I may have to assault Hansons left again to secure my center..you haven't come here to complain about that General. What have you come for. Please tell me. Time is precious."

General bicknell answered;

"I've come here to tell you that you'll be a big fool young man if you let any disaster happen to Manleys army. You're in command you understand. Manleys word goes in this part of the country, and he doesn't believe you can fight Hanson vivian to a finish. If you fail now you'll be reduced in your commission."

"I believe"said clancy with emphasis "that so far as fighting general is concerned I have done pretty well already..

"Maybe you have. But Manley saw our interests here identical."

"Your proposal please."

"Now your talking sense.. This ain't the United States, but you fight the enemy as an American does and if you can grab the position on general Hansons center right under his nose you'll be a genus. You put general Tomas Federal on sumpre command there or else you'll sell out to general Hanson."

"You it does come to that."said general Clancy."But he's wounded. Why don't you try that move yourself. I'll give you all the troops necessary. You are as good a fighter as he. I'll ever make you my proposition too" continued Clancy. "It is this. "If he is not too wounded, and can retain his command you and he can bother together cut up Hansons center and make good or that part of the battle line or otherwise we will have to withdraw the whole army before the battle is over, and reform a new position ten miles away."

"I will do it."said Bicknell. "If I can I'll run general Hansons army out of the country"He roared."I'll hurl him out before the days over general Clancy. you watch me."

"Maybe"said Clancy.

"Maybe."

"Yes."

"I-- "

"Meanwhile general I believe you are causing my men too long a waiting, let's hurry to the fray as in such a time there's no use in prolonging this conversation unless you want to cause a dangerous delay."

"You're right. I'll be off right now."

And he saluted and rode off.

"The battle's more severe"said Clancy to himself with some alarm as he again took in the observation.

The battle indeed was still more severe than he comprehended, and he suspected that general Hanson was already striving for the mastery, when he saw that the christian troops were massing forward again. General Clancy conversed over the matter with general Lafty.

"If we can get a strong massive force into position before he moves too strong"he said,"We can carry the battle on till night and then withdraw. But of course we can't get the enemy out of those woods until we can shell the woods with long range artillery and use high explosives."

"And that won't be until those battlelines arive from the right"said Lafty.

"So I'm going to put through the defenses every division of troops I can muster up for the grand attack"continued Clancy."We will keep Hanson beat on the defensive..And we'll wind up the day with a substantial victory to our credit if possible. If not we must draw the army out of the danger zone during the night."

"Can we retain the Ste Marie position"mused Lafty.

"I guess we can do so. But I believe it's all up to us to try it. We have the Four Aces on Hanson there because its our strongest position, and the main christian left is separated from that location. General Hanson can't stop me from massing troops there, and he dare'nt vent on his center to much to reinforce that wing."

Lafty approved the scheme with warnings to Clancy about going slow. They went to an observation point and watched everything along the battle front. The region of River Blanche was swarming with christian troops moving forward again to storm, as far as the eye could reach, and everything elsewhere was bursts and fog of smoke. The sight of such a furious battle raised Clancy's spirits. There must and ought to be immense bodies of troops placed there to oppose them the way the christians were meeting such dogged resistance, desperate in the extreme.

"The Glandelinian position there is being held all right"he said. "But the christian force is coming down stream above the psition position. General Cranier says theres a terrific onslaught in the St Boniface Region and the christians are charging on as if mad."

They rode as near to the spot as safty allowed. Near St Bon Iface Cross roads the line of battle was maintaining its resistance successfully, and allalong the positions near the River Blanche, and at Ste Marie the right grand division of the National Guard was retiring under a heavy fire. But north of there was a solid wall of purple coated troops moving slowly forward in a long silent wave. The starting of this movement seemed suspicious. Out in midfield, resisting the christian troops along the Ste Marie the Glandelinian artillery men were trying to stop a force of troops which had wedged itself against the Glandelinian front. Somewhere along that Glandelinian front was a weakened line from too heavy loss in men the dislodging of which by the christians would put the whole mass in the position of a most disordered retreat, but for the Glandelinian generals it was impossible to locate it. The Glandelinian resisting line was solid from side to side of the Ste Marie however and the christians attacking there couldn't survive within two hundred yards, so fierce was the rifle and cannon fire. Above the roaring christian artillery fire pouring a curtain of exploding shells was bringing down more artillery men of the Glandelinians than over expected, and if any portion of the Glandelinian divisions here gave way, the artillery would then be overwhelmed by the christian auxiliarts and all would be swept to immediate death or face captiure. General Clancy decided to recall the battery.

They came reluctantly forth the Glandelinian artillery men are fearless of any danger from the christians. It was clear however that it would be absolutely necessary to start the christians on a retreat by the main battervies, and to open a "barrage."

"I guess that's the trick. "said Lafty. "We have good gunners of that battery and Baptiste John here is an expert shell gunner leader."

"You that would stop the christian dogs mighty sudden"said one of the other generals."Pretty sudden maybe. I believe general Clancy is in better fight to strengthen your line of battle over yonder, or else should the christians mass too strongly there, your line will be as a dam in a lumber boom and the lumber floating over the rapids into the sea. Then that disaster could not be stopped."

"How long will it take?"asked general Clancy.

"Depends on the stuff of the divisions to stand for good resistance. I'm old in this service sir, I've seen the first battle in this war but never saw the christians assault as they've doing now. That portion of our battle line will never very long stand up before such an attack as that without heavy reinforcements."

"General get Colordars division at that position as soon as possible" Clancy instructed him.

Never the less general Clancy congratulated himself for having started his second mighty offensive against General Hanson. In spite spite of that christian generals reputation as such a fighter he felt assured with the loyalty of all his generals that he could at least hold his own till blessed night put an end to the dreadful struggle. General Lafty was worth a hundred, and the others understood their jobs perfectly. He went to the left of his position with highspirits and ordered a division of men forward to support more the position at Ste Marie. He was on his way to order general Pen Tu(en forward when that appeared to be a horseman came dashing down the road toward him and coming up pulled along side sharply. There were two horsemen and they were also generals one general Emery Page, and the other Carlen Stainer. The former seemed inarticulate with excitement and rage, he stuttered incoherently and pointed toward the battle field.

"Your Excellency"said general Page now somewhat savagely"Get up all the reinforcements you can or if you do not you are doing the most foolish thing that you ever done in your life.Listen to reason.The christians are throwing all precautions to the winds.Our main center near Lebanon is giving way."

"Do you mean am I to withdraw some of the troops from my right and--send them there,--no"said Clancy."I cannot do it.The enemys left wing will swing around and overlap me."

"That's off the show general. You couldn't withdraw any troops from our right if you had to.Hanson is wfully dangerous after the way you've treated his christian army.It is this.You are planning to take the Ste Marie Christian position from the enemy are you not? That's more dangerous pure and simple with out the center holding its ground.Do you suppose you can advance up here and through their territory and put across a trick like that, while they're beating our center to pieces?"

"I'll hold you there Emery"Answered general Clancy. "I'll send reinforcements to the center right away.Where is the three divisions that general Francis Leblance has in reserve.It hasn't gone through the battle yet?"

"It's in action somewhere else I am suppose when its needed at the center"said Emery. "None of us are responsible for Leblance's way of pulling this "Hells tug of war" The trouble is general Clancy if you believe you can force your American Ideas to pull us through in this crisis you had better hurry up, for few of us understand conditions at all.Hanson is no fighter. He's a desire over and all of us better step from under before it is too late."

"I understand a christian rogue when I see him whether he is an Angelinian general or a Foriegner."said Clancy lotly.

"Now come general Clancy"said Emery protestingly."It's natural that we and all of us should feel sore, when you and I see that our plans and ideas won't work, when a christian officer is able to out general us. You thought at first that you could run the business of battle better than that Christian Napoleon could even after the American Pattern. Well if you finally can't you'll be making a hash out of it. .There have been misunderstandings about the situation but general General Cal Carlen Stainer doesn't see--"

"The hell I don't"Yelled the latter"The Christians will soon carry all before them."

"We are playing a game with all cards on the table on our side, and the christians having the better hand"continued general Page."Hanson will soon be making a clean swep and" amalgamating the whole Glandelinian army."

The words were too much for Clancy.

"Take charge of all and bring all troops you can to bear on the foe" He shouted. Hurry.Lose no time."

Emery Page lashed his horse after a salute and whirled past him nearly upsetting him from his own horse in the hurry to obey the command while the other officer followed. When the two had disappeared the cold fit came upon general Clancy.He too was getting a reputation as a fighting equal to Hanson and for some reason or other this was not the last thing he desired. It was not only unusual but it might prove fatal if ever general Hanson ever assaulted at once with his full force.With such a crippled army as he had and no reinforcements coming up, and with general Tamerline cut off and engaged with Hansons brother at St Ethaldreda he could count on the protection or help of no other army as one were in sight.

Many of his generals, including Lafty, Clewwire, Fanseeing, who had warned him from the first to be cautious, shook their heads when they heard of the way the battle was now threatening to turn out. Hanson was sure to soon give forth his final blow. General Clancy moved forward more and more troops and try and stop the assault near the center when general Leblance his head covered with a bandage appeared before him on horse accompanied by four of his staff whom Clancy recognized as the best of generals.

"Well Leblance"?Demanded Clancy.

"I came to complain that I have no support."

"I'll send you all the troops you want.Cut through the enemy around the Chateau Farms Leblance, and you'll be able to stop your enemies"said Clancy ."You understand, the situation is critical everywhere."

"Ain't there any misgivings as to the situation"Demanded the general truculently,

"Maybe there is but you have car cut through the enemy around Ch Chateau farm."

"You believe so. "Demanded Leblance almost insolently. "All right I'll try the game. You see, we will fix cannons and I'll try an attack to through hell if possible.For Me I'll go ahead and smash through."

"So that will be your game Leblance. How about artillery.""

"I've batteries enough all right but they've short of ammition. If they give out the position cannot be held..That was your words which you wrote down hold at all hazards but can we do it. Well I'll retain the position if can, you don't, and I'll cut through the enemy if possible, general, but if I cannot I can't. And these generals may they go wherever I go. They don't stand no beating from the enemy. Maybe you'll change your mind about it and bring fourth your full force."

"I'll send Hanson to the devil." shouted Clancy.

"Maybe you wish to send him there eh."said Leblance, "How can you ,be a christian dog.He'd send you there. But I'll help you crush him ."

He clapped on his hat, and as if they had rehearsed the scene the four generals followed Leblanche in solemne and triumphant parade down the road, and out of sight. This was first blood with a vengeance. Leblanches position must hold, it was a grave necessity, it meant disaster if it gave, and disaster just when victory seemed in the balance. It was essential to reinforce him heavily.Hanson was bleeding the Glandelinian army white in every way.Never before was there such a battle. Filled with anger and resentment, rode up by one of the high rises of ground.The new divisions were moving forward one by one and the same melencholy progr procession of large bodies of armed troops en route to the battle lines was descending from the Ste Marie Hills along the stream to swell the army already so hard pressed.

Clancy's nerves were raw and quivering as he reached the end of a strip of land where a river let poure into the main river. Some military whistle blew and he turned toward the direction of St Boniface Crossroads and stopped, watching a big mob of men on a retreatment. How far could he count on all his generals. As long as they don't be shot perhaps, and a safty only, would hold them for him in spite of Hanson.His second crushing blow against Hanson had raised him in their estimation and therefore he could count on the devotion of them all.The embattled troops were fighting desperately hard near Ste Marie the nearest scene , and reinforcements were sent stemming the unbroken battle line.A strong body of Hangaboo infantry pouring down from the foothills aped as fast as men could go on the double time through a glen above St Boniface Crossroads where a stretch of forestless country widened opposite some sort of abandoned [illegible]. It was between this section and the Childrens Playground that a strong force of troops had been concentrated holding at bay the force of the "ChristianStorm", and yet forced to give way before it by little degrees.Beyond that was another section of the strong line of battle, which held at bay the assailants from going through the Childrens Playground and diverting them past a abandoned Orphan Asylum and [illegible] stronger position whose rifle and cannon fire caught them mercilessly on two sides and held them far beyond the range of the bigger cannons.

If any portion of this battle line was severed or gapped, the pressure of the greatest assault in battle would be then too strong for the defensive line, and instead of merely piercing through the Childrens playground, they would pour in all their strongest force upon St Boniface Crossroads, and where a retrieval- of the resulting disaster would be impossible.

If such a thing would happen now the loss would end all of Clancy's hopes and he depended upon Hermanda and Leblance to hold that portion of the battle line together. He was glad Leblance had seen this.

He was glad that his generals did not give up but continued most [illegible]ically upon their efforts to retain the positions as if they were all leaches. General Clancy searched among some of his inactive officers for a sign of general Hobert Sender. but failed to find him. He ascended a small hill closest to the roaring battle. He was crossing a waste land where logs and tin cans and other debris were strewn together hurled there from houses by demolishing shell fire. There he saw general Baptiste with his arm in a sling. The general was engaged in earnest conversation with general Pedro."Without changing his face he advanced toward them for their presence here was a shock ..He was still inwardly quivering yet trying to appear unconcerned when the two perceived him. Pedro turned toward him with a worried look on his face. His face was blackened by powder smoke.He spoke to general Baptiste quickly and then they said to Clancy--

"We got four hours more before night.If we can't hold till then all is lost.Hanson is concentrating for the main attack.!".

Around the battlefield because of so much terrific cannon fire the surface of the earth was rare,y rarely quite still.Quivers and slight tremors unusally imperceptible to many people far away and discern ible only in the dollcately adjusted sis seismic instruments, were of a very frequent occurance, but they were not strong enough at any great distance to be evident to the senses of the people. however nearest the battle about fifty miles off especially when the cannons were all in general action the concussions were of a nature to mintain the inhabitants of many towns and cities in a state of nervious uncertainity as to the security of their lives and homes, fearing they were either more Explosion disasters as at Abbiann or real natural Earth Convulsions.. The concussions of battles on record are very numerous, and these are largely those which have occured during tremendously bloody battles though being far from

fully recorded. One of the first of these was the slight concussion of the earth during the Delight Delight's Junction and Evangeline Curia battles and on the occasion of the Mic-Whirther Carronade, which covered a list of between six thousand and seven thousand tremors. Another case was the slight Osmondenson convulsion, when the Glandelinian divisions under generals Horah, Dathus, and Abiram were annihilated in one of the charges and a again another suggested an explanation of the concussions felt of the Cedernine horn, Evangeline St Claire, Delhaidi and also St Ethelredrea.

So far however the Lebanon disaster, considered by general Hanson w ivian as not only a battle, but one of the first severest and remarkable on record included the destruction partial of his left wing, and the terrible record breaking contest to restore it with reinforcements. According also to war correspondents, and newspaper men the noise of the battle was louder that the n oi noisest volanic volcanic eruption on record, and the violence of the shellfire tore up a district of seventeen leagues, and caused the greatest noise heard except that of the Vivian Wickey horror, and Mic Whirther, and the violence of the Glandelinian right wing, led by Shoemannia Josipine Jensin, Turnapple, Leblanche, Lafty and others caused a with drawal of nearly the whole of Hansons left wing, twice that morning, the formation of the whole christian line being altered by the destructive assault, and forced Hanson to use drastic measures to recover the formation of his whole army and save his left wing, and thereby bring on the first bloodiest battle of the whole war.

The south of Lebanon, at the date of this catastrophe contained the splendid valley of Vantum Rum, dotted with forests, and flows flourishing towns including Sodom, Gomorrah, Zoar, and S Zeboiim, though not the horrible cities of old, only having the same names, the non combatant men of which had just previous to the disaster, joined forces to help the christians against general Clancy who had superceded Hanley. The battle was as fierce as if a dread subterranean force had assailed their country and spreading dreadful desolation in the flourishing valley in which their towns t stood. Never before in an battle did the enemy nor the christian army suffer such a great loss in generals not counting privates.

The battle began very early before Sunrise, and may give the reader reason to understand fully, that the assault upon Hansons left the second time tore open a yawning gap in the centre of the line into which Shoemannias whole battle line with frightful wells poured and were hurled upon the right and left rear but ever at such a time failed to dislodge or rout the left, and were met by such a terrific rain of fire from shells, and from the rifles of the defensive lines, that if the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah had been destroyed right there it wouldn't have seemed so horrible. The defenders overthrew Shoemannias left grand division, drove them across the Children's immense Playground with great loss, and the whole battle field went up as if the smoke of a huge conflagration.

The THE UNUSUAL RECORD.

THER is much of the description of the catastrophe as might be expected from war correspondents and news paper men in both armies who were unfamiliar with such dreadful scenes and were apt to leave out more than should have been, and did not tell it all not half of it.. Yet the account clearly indicated the nature of the frightful battle. In the case in question when Josipines army was hurled forth upon the christian line and almost won its point just at the moment he was wounded shows the fury of a Glandelinian charge when well started. General Abraham Lott on the christian side repulsed him with great loss including the espisode of annihilating a portion of his grand army and turning Josipines whole division into a rout as recently noticed by Clancy, for this disaster too occured in a larger scale than he had forseen. If general Josipines army had halted to rally during the thrilling scene, it might have been overtaken by a catastrophe from which Clancy could never had enable to help it recover from. In this case his efforts of rallying, and of hurling reinforcements was a timely intervention.

The gathering knowledge of this battle disaster as not only confined to the account of newspaper men and war correspondents.. for Hanson and even Hanley and Clancy preserved a record of the battle, and the writing of Abbiemian and glandelinian historians was also made in which one of them told that the battle raging along Leblances lines caused the greatest loss of life, and that a portion of the stream formed a sort of pool of great extent because of a portion of it being dammed up by an explosion.. In the eyes of the people throughout Calverinia and those unfamiliar with the occurances of such exceedingly violent battles it is natural that such an event should be regarded as a blunder of either Clancy or Hanson himself, for neither government at that time desired or expected a battle of such extreme bloody fury, but let the readers understand that it was the result of Shoemannia plan being that as the same of his foolish effort at Osmondenson, when he attempted to carry in vain the Ave Maria Heights, and therefore was the results of his own blunder, and no one else was to blame..

Of general Hansons center that of general Moldonia Bicknells was the best of the divisions and the most supported by artillery. The center was also strong in reserves. Of the time of the great disaster along the left wing, there is reason to believe that all of his division, with general Woods Nith Corps, with artillery, and cavarly, was sent forth to support

the shattered left. Thus the Glandelinian armies suddenly routed in their headlong rush were at first driven from all the ground they had won at such a heavy sacrifice by an impetuous wave of christian troops counter charging under a terrific curtain of artillery fire, and then Josipines army still pushing forward as impetuously met its disaster, with the loss of its leader, to fall into confusion and be almost routed, before Clancy did no desperately rally it.

When after the frightful battle the refugees and non-combatants of the miracil ous spared city of Lebanon came to aze upin its effects they found the aspect of the country wherein the battle was fought strangely altered as if a terrific hurricane or tornado had passed through. At the beginning of the frightful battle general giddims army had vanished before the christian fire, and as the battle had progressed a vast sheet of smoke hiding the whole scene at times, rat through the cover of this the enemy had pushed on, but beyond the Ste Marie the assaultbhad been stopped, and not only never had been able to progress further, but the east wing of the storming line had been compelled to retire tward St Boniface's Crossroads, and general Red Davis's division had ceased to exist. So thic t was the smoke of battle at times, added by fires that we could see here and there only small patches of the struggling lines.

Evidences of disasterous battles so great as the Lebanon horror were not to be seen again however in any part of this territory again fortunately. Nevertheless for both sides the battle was a prodigious cataclysm to give warrent to the effects still extant concerning it.. This battle too was the most desperate and stubborn in character for it caused conflagrations over a tract of country sixty miles across. This was an unusual thing to occur in a battle. At the same time ad war correspondents stated, during general Hansons great consentration upon the Glandelinian center a great gap was torn in the assailing lines to match the destruction of life going on elsewhere elsewhere. At a great distance from the scene of the great vars upheaval at Ste Marie, the christian troops crossing an immense plain along the center came upon the Glandelinian army under general Rima, it was violently shaken and shattered by the force of the assault and suddenly had to give way, and recoiled. They therefore left a big gap in the Glandelinian front and into this great opening the christian troops poured a victorious battle line line ten miles in length. such was the origin origin of disaster to the enemy along the center. This resulted in a vast conc convulsion of battle along this portion of the struggle and the enemy leaders send forward immense bodies of troops to drive the assailants out of the gap, but the christian forces in the violence of their assault tore up the whole left grand division of that Central wing, and the troops pup oured on as an overwhelming flood, and bagged a whole "population" of glandelinian soldiers forcing them to surrender...2.2.2.

It was indeed singular that in Calverinia near the scene of the Abbiemann flood and explosion disaster wouldrage such a mighty catastrophe. This battle was said to have raged over a vast tract of country, and general Michael Greece was in command of the christian left of the center, General Minor was in command of the centre, and general Thrace was in charge of the right and also of those concentrated along the Vantum Stream.

At the time of the gigantic forging ahead of the christian wave of assault, a small grove seperated the main Glandelinian army. from a well needed supporting battery of artillery. The shock attack broke through this opening also and poured in fury o upon the surprised and terrified Glandelinians such a horror and slaughter being produced am among the glanda linians that all the Glandelinians opposing general Greece were captured or annihilated with the exception of general Hanson Michaels Brigade which escaped through a lane. During all this desperate conflict there came an explosion that convulsed the ground like an earthquake, and caused such confusion as to enable the Angelinians to pour on unchecked, and in one hours time captured all the Glandelinians under general Turpen and another section at the same time engulfed the army under general Atlistis, which gave way in frightful panic and disorder their general being wounded unto death.. General Phrygian was wounded in trying to rally his men. Then the fierce christian troops had pressed on and the whole division of general Attica was surrounded and fought to the last man. At the same time along the christian right, an explosion of munition stores occured which bursted a levee and resulted in a flood that drowned a whole regiment of soldiers caught in the torrent. The christian assault here overwhelmed the whole of general Deucalion Kings army and the Ninth Division of general Pyrrha's, a number of the men escaping through a glen only to be forced to surrender afterwards. Here indeed was a violent onslaught which in a series of "SCORNS" extended throughout the whole country east of Lebanon, the principal injury being to general Peloponnesus division, and the Glandelinian brigades under generals Bura Bruin, and Helice Juan were found to have disappeared.

General Helice's Brigade was engulded in the christian surge and destroyed, as every one fought to the last... In thebattles probably record of onslaughts there was none more destructive than that which wrecked the whole glandelinian left wing under general Antioch. This wing of the Glandelinian army and which ran ed as one of the greatest fighting armies of the age was especially subjected to onslaughts terrible to behold.

The first on slaught on record was of no success and the christians recoiled. The assaults however came on severe and frequent in that locality.

One of these [illegible] so much damage to the front line of the defence that general Caligula sent four of his staff to observe the state of the army. While the damage was being relaived and reinforcements brought up another frightful assault followed. To act as a preventive of any more disasters following, general Dabbenius placed a long looming line of artillery gathling guns in a position as to cross fire the assailants, but his effort to stay the "Storm" proved vain, for the next onslaught overthrew, the center of the Glandelinian army, and caused the capture of all the artillery, The most severe of these earlier onslaughts was the fourth.

At the time of its occurance the position had been strengthened, general Tiujan had brought up more troops, and was concentrating to support general Parthians. Great destruction to many brigades and terrible loss of life succeeded, the line was shattered but fortunately held, and the two generals were severely wounded. even at the time the christians were hurled back with their lines mangled and bleeding... The greatest of the onslaughts that visited this portion of the Glandelinian army and the most destructive to human life of any on record for that frightful morning, was that of general general Buster Browns fierce onslaught upon the left grand division of the enemys left. Two divisions of this wing was entirely destroyed and the loss of life enormous it being estimated at I,250,000 soldiers of the enemy alone. Resistance was as tenacious as the fury of hell and all its legions and on the last named occassion the presence of a desperate dogged Mangaboo army added to the loss, and the losses of generals greatly swelled the sum of the dead. The assault drove all before it for a while untill general Clancy stopped it by one of his divisions sent there on the proper time.

In naming other desperate assaults upon the left wing of the foe we must write of others attended with exceedingly great loss... Half an hour later the partly restored c Glandelinian army was again assaulted and severely shaken five hundred thousand on both sides dying in that terrific strife. This also was repulsed but half an hour again came another assault, which was only a petty one, followed by a frightful one attended by a terrible loss of life and victorious, rolling up the glandelinian army for three miles, and forcing it in the shelter of new positions where the men resisted as fiercely as cornered demons.

All those dreadful disasters of the battle together with others due to explosions and conflagrations proved fatal to many a Glandelinian commander many of whom were wounded and whose divisions and brigades because of this passed under the hands of other officers who in their own turn also fell , general Persainia and Sac Garacas in also being seriously wounded, and general Persainia's division was so seriously wrecked that it never revived. or recovered.

Many other desolating consequences of the battle might be named as may well be imagined that we consider the number of severe ones that have occurred during that one fatal morning.. One onslaught of general Hansons army almost rivaled that of the others in the destruction of human life, the loss being estimated at I,180,000. One onslaught which was hurled against Le Blanche was credited with I,100,000 victims of battle. Coming to a fierce one on the left rear Sac Marie, we could find general Lordonia's onslaught consuming a loss of $0,00 30,000,000 in dead and wounded for the whole whole morning. General Sicily Jens divisions stood its ground against the christians at P Childrens Playgrounds but its death roll was estimated at I98,000. These were indeed enormous sacrifices to suffer to stand before the christian onslaughts, and once when the Glandelinians counter charged the christian common fire slaughtered I40,000 soldiers, and in a second more but more carnivous charge claiming 15,000 soldiers.

THE GREATEST HORROR OF THE BATTLE.

THE GREAT AFRICANIAN ADVANCE AND FAIL.

Numerous thrilling but offers is also final experiencon and examples of the distructive effects of the battle at the various sections near Lebanon could be put on record. Of these we shall confine ourselves to a few striking examples of the decisive action of the big conflict. In the record of great conflicts of the battle one of the most famous was that that overwhelmed the Glandelinian left wing and put that immense division of troops hors combat, and dire distresse. Clancys peculiar American wisdom alone saved the whole Glandelinian army from suffering a rout as that of Napoleons at Waterloos.

It may be well first to recall the details of this dire event to the minds of the story readers.

Clancy had seen so far to the battle was just ending. He was able to hold the positions at St Bonifaces and St Marie, and along other portions of the extreme right, and over the center, and though the battle was now raging with redoubled violence, there was no sign of any [illegible] calamity on the lef left. The positions were thronged with larger crowds of soldiers awaiting their turn to join in the conflict and [illegible] the battle [illegible] full possession, [illegible]

[illegible] only [illegible] by [illegible] ground for [illegible] left. [illegible] for some fearful [illegible] the [illegible] of the battle close by and the [illegible] of the millions of the combatants. These dreadful thunders rolled in an [illegible] and echoing thunder sound as if from the rolls of many drums. The panic stricken multitudes of soldiers were paralyzed with terror. Immediately after new columns of christians could be seen moving forward through the battle fog, the noise, the fright, and the exploding shells and their concussions producing giddiness and faintness among the soldiers. The assault came upon them like lines swayed to and fro. Screams of terror arose from the wounded as shells burst among them. Each were [illegible] the rendering divisions, the [illegible] brigades, the massive columns, and trying to rally them officers of all conditions fell dead or wounded by scores. Soon, all these divisions of the savage left, the immense divisions, all regiments and brigades, the contenders and the assailants together were mixed in an almost undistinguishable mass of terrible combatants with bayonet against bayonet, firing face to face with pistols, stabbing madly with daggers and swords and with every conceivable weapon ever used in a conflict..

It fared no good everywhere. They The Terrible "christian wave" overthrew the larger number of the Glandelinian columns. Those who held a position at a Stone quarry held to the last and repulsed the assailants with dreadful loss. The fiercest firing turned each volumes of smoke that it filled the atmosphere and produced a dense gloom. The air during the retreat was full of doleful sounds, the groans of agony from the wounded and dying, the demon yells of defiance from the Glandelinians even though they defied their assailants, screams of despair from horrified survivors who were forced to flee before the Christian soldiery in frightful panic, wails of lamentations from the suddenly bereaved, dismal howling of dogs although where they came from was a mystery, and terrified cries of other animals fleeing from the woods terrified by the sound of such wild battle so sudden in their own territory. In thirty five minutes some of the battle fog was lifted and disclosed the scene of desolation which that terrific charge had wrought.

The rout though general was not universal. A considerable number of Glandelinian divisions strong [illegible] were still standing their ground most dogredly and though severely shaken were not dislodged from their positions and stood their ground like the square s at Waterloos against the French.

Most of the wing of troops however was routed. The great disaster filled the survivors with the impulse of flight, and nothing their officers said or did could detain or stop them. The more fortunate of them ran in the direction of the forests and succeeded in being rallied and holding their ground more desperately, but a great wave of the fugitives rushed across the fields toward Children's Playground and toward St Boniface Crossroads throwing the soldiers here also into confusion. Here however they were met by a new and unexpected peril.

General Marcon Vivian had sent general Vivianis Corps forward with a great division of troops to dislodge the Glandelinians from this position and this force of christians came "rolling in" as if it was an immense wave, carried before it regiments, brigades and platoons of other enemy troops which vainly strove to stand ground and dashing them in dire confusion upon the main defensive line. Overwhelmed by this huge wave, and impelled by a monstrous towering wall of bayonets great numbers of Glandelinians at Childrens Playground were also forced to retreat, but were flanked and rallied by a terrific fire and many fell dead or wounded. A vast line of Glandelinians made a desperate stand to the north of St Anns, and the troops at St Boniface Crossroads awaited the check of this wild crowning attack.

This "sea wave" of christian troops supported by a dominating artillery fire, whose [illegible] amplified the soldiers cars, had signed from the main "STORM" sweeping by and giving only a fall looking. But also it was all for a moment. A great column of Africanians unseen came upon the St Boniface Crossroads position by the rear, and the vast position itself with the whole of its defensive lines, of men and artillery were assaulted fiercely on two sides, and the most desperate struggle of this portion of the battle seemed to rage at its height. The defence was so terribly desperate and insanely stubborn and fierce that the assailant assailants though equally [illegible] and stubborn were repulsed, and almost routed themselves. Prior to this assault several others of redoubled violence occurred and the whole battle line roared as if it was really the Infernal regions. The vast left wing of the Glandelinian force here threatened in half an hour [illegible] of dead and dying. Not a single survivor could be found, and a [illegible] rule was found that [illegible] must be made to close it.

Elsewhere during the battle every element came into fierce play [illegible] fire started by the battle that formed a mighty conflagration and the conflagration owed by a violent wind soon raged between and within the battle lines [illegible] combustible causing terrific explosions and completing the disasters of the battle.

The total number of dead and wounded because of this terrible battle is estimated at sixty million soldiers of whom about fourty million is on the enemy side, and the remainder on that of the christians. Many did afterwards of injuries of wounds, and illness brought on by privations and exposure. Twelve hundred wounded soldiers on the christian side were buried in the ruins of the central Army barracks hospital demolished by an explosion, eight hundred on another, and several thousand of those in a hospital camp by shell fire.

Although the christian "wave" traversed the whole glandelinian left and center, the shock and pressure of the attack was felt more severely along some portion of the enemys battle line more than in others. All of the main front section of the Glandelinian left wing mostly of Quarians and Zimmermannians was entirely overthrown and rolled up, and of about seventy brigades that came to cover the retreat and withdrew that line to the second line of defenses were descimimated.

Some glandelinian divisions that withstood the onslaughts successfully were threatened by destruction from artillery fire and had to give way.

General Cathinia's eighteen divisions, almost all of the Eighteenth Corps, general [illegible]inais army Fourth Corps, and several other corps divisions of Kangaboos and Zimmermannians, general [illegible]rtom Horses Fourth Division were either dislodged from their positions or reduced to mere regiments.

General Manson King and his staff were not at the battle front at the time of this great disaster, but were in the command of the reserves. The general however was so alarmed by the terrific fury of the battle, that they advanced their reserves to save the left wing from being torn up and routed entirely. None of his staff officers were with him at the time. Nevertheless the general hastened great armies of troops to the endangered battle front to see what could be done at restoring order, aiding the divisional commanders to rally their troops, and sending ammunitions to those giving out...2.2.2.2.22222

These generals even in the hottest of the fray and their staff exerted themselves to the utmost, all officers devoting themselves to the rallying of various commands and to try to concentrate enough [illegible] to meet and halt the overrieling overwhelming advance of the christian armies.

Among the sufferers of this great battle disaster were generals of quality and once opulent officers whose divisions have been reduced in a few hours fighting to absolute regiments.

The divisions under general Spoolen which "fortunately remained in their positions, couldn't remain long however to meet any new onslaught and Clancy had to withdraw them to safer positions. One of the measures of the general was to push up all the smaller artillery available, that could be obtained from the batteries not in use, and open upon the advancing christian forces with a storm of grape and canister. So terrible had been the disaster that it was several hours before any of the many generals could summon courage to reform their shattered divisions to take advantage of the first lull of the battle. But by degrees and while recieving reinforcements their confidence returned,. For a time the uproar of battle had "rep replased into repose?" and they set to work about the task of reformation of their divisions with so much energy that by the time the battle was being ~~tttttdt~~ renewed most of the disordered portions of the Glandelinian left wing was restored.' "

The most distinguishing peculiarities of this terrific christian onslaught of such force were the dislodgement of the enemys left wing, while a second time general Margors left was also being dislodged and still more disasteriously. And the vast extent of the country over which such a dreadful battle raged. The whole of Clancys main center were violently shaken by the assault of the christian center, and the left of that wing was rolled up, huge masses of the troops recoiling from their positions. This portion of the battle was terrific and the firing was so severe and steady of both cannons and other firearms that they gave rise to such immense volumes of smoke that any one seeing this at a distance could have mistaken it for a great fire full of thunderous noises. Flashes of flame were also said to have been observed but if there were any such they were probably from explosions of shells. The portion of the country side covered by this battle was estimated to be four times greater than the whole extent of the battlefields of Cal[illegible] and Evangeline St Claire put together into one. The shock of the assaults of both sides were felt by each other not only on the left and right but also in the center and were equally as violent. At a portion of the battle line near Children's Playground a catastrophe occured much resembling that went on at Ste Marie. A great gap was torn in the Glandelinian army by the severe christian artillery fire, the christian assailants rushed through, and an entire division of one hundred thousand men with all their officers and chief general were assailed on the rear and front and caught between two fires and were [illegible] into a [illegible].

Of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] took place along general C[illegible]'s army [illegible].

These while [illegible] [illegible] than the [illegible] battle [illegible] all day. The shocks of these [illegible] assaults [illegible] felt all[illegible]

[illegible] along the whole line that the [illegible] of horror was comparatively limited along the Glandelinian center.

The [illegible] of the battle [illegible] along the center of both armies. And it raged with such violence that the battle had [illegible] there, [illegible] before the christian assaults overthrew every Glandelinian division opposed to it. When the christians first charged the Glandelinians had opened up with all their available batteries of artillery but in vain.

[illegible] of the Glandelinian forces was situation on a hill near Ste Marie, flanked by steep and difficult slopes, but the christians [illegible] their way up and the Glandelinian army there was so completely overthrown that the survivors had to run for their very lives, and not a regiment could stand their ground any more.... The position on the left on the hill was not captured, as the assailants there were repulsed. It was also on the flats immediately surrounding the Glandelinian army on and on the rising grounds beyond them that during their retreat great storms of artillery from the christian batteries were opened upon them.

On the slope of the hill there appeared the advance of a vast purple [illegible] column, and this column remained in the position it had captured.

The most calamitous of the retreats of the various glandelinian divisions occured to the left of Ste Marie, near the stream of Ventura. There huge whole armies were forced to give way before the advancing christians who overwhelmed them. General Gian Greco's division tried to continue the resistance but to no avail. General Scil[illegible]a after the first terrible assault had been repulsed persuaded many of his staff, to have their divisions abandon the dangerous positions, and retreat to cover to the woods in the rear of Ste Marie----he himself showing the ex example. An hour after however, while many of the divisions were recoiling toward the woods, and others were reforming their lines of battle on a flat plain near dangerous "Children's Playground" another powerful assault caught them on both front and rear, and they were thrown out of the new position with loss of great masses of dead and wounded, and the troops fell to the rear amid a dreadful crash of some mighty explosion and partly again tried to rally in the woods. The scene was terrible on the plains.

The christian wave there "rolled "on and swept away all the divisions of Glandelinian defenders before it. The troops maintaining the position at Childrens playground and elsewhere covered the retreat of these troops troops and at [illegible] repelled the assailants with such frightful fury that the christians finally retired, but returned to the "storming" with still greater wise violence cutting to pieces the whole left grand division of these strong lines of defenders, and driving the troops far to the rear in the greatest confusion on record.

The general with [illegible] of his staff were [illegible] in this part of the awful battle.

In the meantime Violet, and her ~~[illegible]~~ sisters were as desperate as any one else could be at the sight that met their eyes. It was over that they claimed to be Ned Parkers "treachery" because they actually saw him [illegible] serving the Glandelinian ranks, and was a boy scout there. Violet herself only had one great satisfaction in the situation and that was a partly personal one. She was glad that she had discovered Ned there, and that she and Jennie had continually shadowed him, and got the surprise of her life. But she had said to Jennie [illegible];

"My heavens is he a traitor to both sides sides. He sent a message to our lines, telling Manson all of Clancy's plans. Or did he in his duty fool us because he had to into believing he was sore at us and [illegible] deserting. We must watch and see. But do not let him see us. We're disguised, and if he doesn't recognize us he'll do us sure. He's dangerous. I can see that in his eyes."

Jennie would be glad if what Violet suspected was true. But she was convinced that the boy had come to play a part in her life, and the lives of her sisters that seemed as strange as if they had been secret enemies. Even he had seen Violet and her sisters on their strange duties three or four times since their last painful interview in the christian camp, and he seeing them here did not recognize them as the princesses, but did suspect that they were girl scouts from the christian lines sent in disguise to shadow him, for he had watched every move without their being aware of it. This obsessed his mind terribly and Ned could not free himself from the obsession. He thought the matter over, and was frank enough to admit that he did not want to. He acknowledged too that he [illegible] have given a good deal to remove the opinion that the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] being [illegible] as an enemy of the christian [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] in [illegible] purpose.

He could not see himself in the light of a [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] to be [illegible] the whole [illegible] and sacrificing [illegible] [illegible] general of the most desperately [illegible] characters, and yet [illegible] feared [illegible] they'd had given [illegible] [illegible] disguises were [illegible] [illegible] served in the few lives in everything that was not necessary [illegible] the

christian sides . That galled him most [illegible] conclusion that in this fight which he had to [illegible] and which [illegible] had to go through at all cost, [illegible] at Hingrave. and the temporary loss of friends, [illegible] either fighting Violet and her sisters [illegible] or unconscionably double crossing them and either stealing or frustrating their [illegible]. He therefore [illegible] from the [illegible] of public [illegible] but orders is orders, [illegible] and must be accomplished over if it costs his life, [illegible] at the thought of Violet, and her sisters [illegible] him as the treacherous enemy, then the [illegible] sacrifice himself for their [illegible] and God, then they could have easily remained at home and let the [illegible] progress on its course without them in it. But this [illegible] picture [illegible] hold together, they were necessarily [illegible] General Clancy's designs too and doing their best to why should the Glandelinian generals be so disgraceful falling in [illegible] battle. He did decide [illegible] however to find out the [illegible] and if they proved to be Glandelinian [illegible]

While the boyscout Ned was watching the progress of the battle, [illegible] client occured just as he observed that the Glandelinians could not hold their position much more.. He [illegible] close to general Clancy and he saw general Lafty approach him and he appeared to be in [illegible] dejection.

"Something new about the progress of the Battle!!!" asked General Clancy.

"Not exactly sir."answered General Lafty."There's rumors that those "Dangerous Vivian Girls are [illegible] in our lines, and are acting as girl scouts but no one can locate them, they're so clever, disguised. I believe they secretly [illegible] and wireless signals [illegible] to the christian lines of all our plans and proposed movements and cause them disasters to happen.General Gurnapple wishes to interview you about it as soon as he can."

"The Vivian Girls!"Demanded General Clancy.

"Certainly sir.Don't you know them and what they are?"

"I don't know they ...no ."said Clancy, with some sarcasm. "So they're here at their beautiful spying business again.I suppose they'll want to get into my headquarters next.They're dressed as girls scouts eh?"

"Yes sir.That causes it to be much worse.We can't investigate our girls scout force sir, because its against the law and that's why we're stumped. It's just one lot of those Christian dogs [illegible] at us.I tell you sir it's a very tough lot to deal with going through them [illegible] the lines and not to be discovered our battle is lost [illegible] only.They'll wreck the whole command. [illegible] understand sir those Little Abbies [illegible] Princesses, and the [illegible] of girl and boy scouts under them are considered the head of the [illegible] Italian [illegible]. They're like the heat of a [illegible] lenement. They say to children [illegible] general, [illegible] again they're [illegible] People their age they do and the soldiers do and worse.They'll fight [illegible] and believe me Will, they "FIGHT".You can't do a blessed thing to stop them.They are the main thing of the nation.With them in the way I'll bet my life and soul I'll never WIN this case."

"But how come this [illegible] be to well have never heard of these girl scouts but never believed they were really so dangerous, though they're far more dangerous than the [illegible] I [illegible] to."

"No one can say sir. But the Vivian Girls are at the head of the whole lot, and they're the most dangerous of the lot." But [illegible] one formed more than some boyscout operations under them by the name of Hud'l Radcliffe, so called [illegible] he is called the "Hurricane", and by [illegible] that dirty dangerous sister of the still more dangerous girl scout general Gertrude Angeline. There are little Squirts officials of the girl scouts, and too they even command the very armies and all their generals have been [illegible] had by cut [illegible] to all [illegible] and therefore any movements of [illegible] are well aware of by [illegible] before [illegible] finished [illegible]."

"We will face that trouble when it developes.In the meantime general Lafty see to it that all our boy and girl scouts are closely watched. They can not be investigated of course but they can be secretly watched. If any of them be [illegible] act glandelinian [illegible] detail [illegible]"

"We do [illegible]."

"Our girls don't [illegible] Christian"spy[illegible]."

"I see; and the little christian dog spies do.Good idea."

He saluted and rode off...SUCCESS

Ned himself did some very hard thinking [illegible] let [illegible] his [illegible] friend of his [illegible] Jean d'Arande. He wondered if Jean could [illegible] general Clancy and [illegible] if [illegible] forceness [illegible] in time [illegible] and final [illegible] [illegible] Clancy [illegible] came, and [illegible] information if possible. He decided to appeal [illegible] Adele-De-Fob [illegible] in the Glandelinian camps acting as a [illegible] beyond [illegible] to infiltrate the enemy. But Adele-De-Fob forestalled him with a visit [illegible] very soon at one P.M. He was agreeable [illegible] of the

[illegible] alone [illegible] and [illegible] of [illegible] he had to go [illegible] such terrible sacrifices and [illegible] intentionally cause Violet and her sisters to suspect him of treason because of the rapid loss of his [illegible]. Adele-De-Fob at once volunteered to [illegible] said;

"Couldn't you have it leaked [illegible] instead of such [illegible] on the wrong side of them. It was foolish.I will aid you all I possibly can Ned but only if [illegible] you are [illegible] that fool of an Italian Clancy, but I can do intercede for you with the Princesses, for you'll have a cause something to happen to that purpose to bring them to finally understand why you do this. On thatmatter they wouldn't believe me even. If I said something in your behalf for you to them they'd be suspicious of me too believing I was only shielding you.To gain or regain their confidence I must say you'll have to do your part.You must understand Ned, you're in far greater danger on the christian side than here so whether you're suspected any time by the enemy and have to flee, for the Love of Heaven don't go to the christian lines.Wait till the proper time when your general will reveal the whole purpose.But you should write a wireless message to him telling him the whole story, and how you got into trouble with the Princesses. You must otherwise he too will share in it, and get it worse than you.But I sincerely believe it is the only [illegible] plan of all,even though it does bring you a moral success."

"But the trouble is....."began Ned.

"But there will be no trouble at all Ned"he said. "I've never started a such a plan and I'm always so successful, have I've never been suspected once.Your idea is foolish.You've made enemies where enemies should not be and I'm flabbergasted. Your general whom you say is Dewell Winter johnston is independant of other armies of course and operates his own way, and he is a good fighter.His plan and prop proposition when I study it over, was all right, a good one, but you've done it to the extreme. You should not have pretended to get yourself discharged for a pretended misdeamnor, and then to pretend to desert. [illegible] Ned it's no use help you if you never go much approach the christian lines.Your only hope is reconciliation with emperor Vivian.Even Violet and her sisters couldn't help you, and they believe it more strongly than their father does."

"I must apologize to them some time."said Ned.

"That won't [illegible] Won't do no good.You've got to prove that all you did was done them to get the best of the enemy.Then no one can harm you. I'm sorry I didn't call in one you before but we are both busy [illegible] with our sending off signal wireless messages and I with my scouting. I pretend to scout on the christians, and send them news instead.So that is excused."

"Certainly.But I am very glad to see you at all times Adele-De-Fob." said Ned."And to be frank with you I was goin going to have a talk with you later about certain things that are a objectionable--Clancys plans to crush general Hanson for instance."

Adele-De-Fob stopped and thumped his boyscout riding staff upon the chiffstrewn sand and listened for a moment or so to the distant roar of the frightful battle which tohimwas growing still more. The noise was terrible.

"Now that is exactly what was in my own mind when I started out to see you this noon time Ned"he answered glancing at a great shell burst in the sky that sounded as if it was the loudest crash of thunder that shook the air and vibrated the ground beneath their feet.. "There are bad dangerous and yet very clever Glandelinian generals under Clancys command, Manley lying of a bad cold in bed recieved news from his couriers the progress of the battle, and he has recieved news that the christian generals are making great progress near St. [illegible] Boniface's Cross roads now as they never did before. Poor Vivian girls would laugh at me if I said anything to them about it, as they don't believe Hanson is prop reading so good as they see nothing what is going on, and therefore are distressed and believed the old Irish [illegible] in Wirling..Him a Irish nun, a supposed or would be Catholic, a American who come over here to side with the enemy.He ought to be Excommunicated from the Church and in fact does it to [illegible] himself. When I told them it is bad, for the enemy enemy they said "Maybe but it cannot go on.We won first and now the enemy will win last.But I cannot put it into their heads that we did not win first.Our left wing was shattered and routed ten miles from its prop position, and they heard nothing of it. Ned as I said to you the first day I saw you I hoped we shall be friends. Now I know we shall be and please God and [illegible] Mother we shall at least prove to the Princesses that their ideas are wrong, that their distress is for naught."

They stopped and clasped hands upon their co ink, comrat,,, and then went on together past the struggling but huge columns of returning Glandelinian wounded who though able to walk or carry on were too seriously wounded to be in the battle any longer.They went beyond the battle river stretch until they reached a spot where they understood general Hines headquarters were.

It was well timbered and superior in aspect to the headquarters where general Johnston Manley lay ill... lay ill. There were pots of flowers in the space between the double windows.Behind them roared the battle of Lebanon, and there the sky was gay with smoke of conflagrations..... within Ned could hear the murmur of voices from apparently girlscouts which suddenly ceased. Then as the day was very cloudy there came the sudden sputter of a match, and the flame of a candle.. Ned saw the figure of little girls in silhouette against the shade.

Of course they both did not know who the girls were, but Adele-De-Fob mentioned that there were seven strange girlscout officers within the Glandelinian camp, and that though they (it was apparently) served in the Glandelinian army and did all the duties (apparently) possible there were strange mysteries about them. He had seen them using their ability [illegible] about the camp, they had [illegible] a half [illegible] him and caused him to be watchful as he felt sure for some reason or other despite his disguise they sure did recognize him, but nevertheless seemed to ignore him, his doings, and not to shadow him, or try to hinder his purpose. At the same time he saw another little figure slinking away into the shadows of the pines. Ned saw the little figure too and urged his horse forward instantly at full speed, and raced alongside catching it by the arm drew it on his horse held it tight and rode back to Adel-de-fob dismounted first, drew the struggling child off the horse and stood her on her feet beside him.

It was a girl of about ten years of age. Ned recognized her though she didn't him.

"You child slave of Manleys"said Ned very sternly(though it was pretense partly, anger slightly) "How often have I forbidding thee to come here.Who are those in that building that don't below here."

The girl began to cry and tried to twist herself out of the boys grasp but he held her by the wrist tightly while Adele-de-fob had had soldiers surround the house and was hammering on the door for all his worth.

"Let me go you dirty little Glandelinian dog"cried the little girl whimpering and struggling."I'm not your slave.I'll tell my master."

At Adele-De-Fobs fierce pounding [illegible] with the butt of a rifle the door opened and a girlscout that appeared as one of those he had told Ned of stood on the threshold. The flickering light of the candle [illegible] fell on her face [illegible] a little [illegible], embittered, and rather hard. Ned still holding the captured child slave [illegible] the girl.

"I don't recognize [illegible]"he said [illegible] nevertheless I see my [illegible] come for naught."And he said this very angrily indeed.

"Well why should she not come here James Adele-De-Fob"demanded the girl."Haven't I [illegible] duty here in the camp that I should not need help once in a while and for my followers followers. [illegible] recognize me but I do you, and if I didn't know that you were [illegible] and [illegible] some other instead of [illegible] really were I'd of shot you when you charged a chaged after the child slave. I [illegible] they would in this case be glad to see me, you and the others here with me. I won't reveal who we are Adele-de-fob though we know you but if you continue this way you'll frustrate our work, and blunder some too and we'll never win. And is it so wrong that I should for my purposes employ a child slave to aid me in observing sometimes when for some reason or other which I won't [illegible] of the christian lines is closed to your [illegible] companion Ned [illegible]. I wonder what's he doing here."

The [illegible] of some latent [illegible] she seemed to Ned as if some [illegible] had been hammered into strength and courage upon the anvil of life.

"If the general Clancy knew this girl"The boy scout answered almost [illegible] be in a fine fix. None of us [illegible] now very well [illegible] allowed here to employ child slaves. They are not our property and we have no say over them. If we are given permission to do so [illegible] all right. And besides your being in this house is mighty darn suspicious to me. And it is more suspicious still to find out you are well aware of my name. If you was apprehended should any one be able to aid thee then. If I choose I could order these soldiers to place you and all within the place under arrest as spies. [illegible] Glandelinians [illegible] in disguise. [illegible] And you being Glandelinian, what matters to [illegible] my companion may be [illegible] no evident proof. Of what side is he [illegible] side. [illegible]"

The girlscout was silent. She glanced in fear at Adele-De-Fob. Not being acquainted with her real personality [illegible] could do to her and her followers within the building. They were the Vivian Girls indeed, and never in their lives were they ever in such a pickle. Suspected as real enemies by their friend, and threatened with arrest by disguised christian soldiers who also knew them not within the Glandelinian camp. They could then be accidentally exposed, and they and the others would together be in the greatest peril on record. [illegible] and her followers [illegible] as that child slave was loyal to the enemy and would squeal.

In some sorry Ned released the child slave.

"There run along"he said with some pity in his voice. [illegible] not come here again or you'll be sorry next time."

The terrified child slave fled from him sobbing, and they both could hear [illegible] after she had been hidden by the [illegible] of the camp...

"Where is the child Scout Colonel"asked Ned Adele-de-fob.

"[illegible] gone to see how the battle [illegible]"[illegible]."Adele-de-fob."

"I shall say nothing if you say nothing"answered the boy. "Since you [illegible] and your followers to General Manleys chief girlscout leaders it is safer for us both to keep [illegible] for heaven knows what general Clancy will do [illegible] employing child slaves [illegible] I have [illegible] anything about who I am, [illegible] which will also expose your offense and [illegible] than we. But do not let this happen again. I am aware you even spied [illegible] headquarters. [illegible] something else [illegible] now."

"But Adele-de-fob listen -I---"

"I'll listen [illegible] remember. I have [illegible]. We're on even terms.."

[illegible] Adele-de-fob. If she could only [illegible] the slave was gone, but [illegible] didn't listen now, and she caused the anger in her heart for this [illegible] she said of course no sinful words)

"I believe"he went on [illegible] will ponder long before she'll dare expose me now. [illegible] Reveal me to the enemy and you're done."

The girl [illegible] down [illegible] there was the incarnation of stubborn rebellion in the [illegible] little figure.

"Very well"she said."I'll say not a word."She wouldn't anyway. He was not foe though temporarily he was a dangerous one as he knew her not.

[illegible] other sort of girlscout then rode in toward the house. She came quickly forward into the glow of the candlelight, quickly as if she feared the realization of some terror, of some awful disaster, a tragedy gnawing at her heart. For a moment the two boys saw the pale gray eyes fixed with the same [illegible] upon their own. Then the girlscout recognized them, and they too recognized her.

"Good afternoon boys"she said extending her hand."I was hoping you would appear."

She opened the door of the house but the two boys did not enter.

"Girlscout [illegible]"said Adele-De-Fob"There has been trouble between me and those girlscout leaders who are in that house."

"I have overheard it for I was near"replied the girl.

"How is the battle progressing?"demanded Ned.

"[illegible] good for our side.(Christian) But why did you have the fuss with those girlscouts inside.I thought you and they were good friends. friends."

"Pah. I wouldn't be their friends if they were the last girlscouts on earth. No Glandelinian girlscout can win my friendship. They [illegible] as the enemy."

The girl looked at him in surprise. Then she burst out laughing.

"So they've fooled you too. Well that's clever. They could then fool any of the Glandelinian generals. You've quarreled with Violet and her sisters and did not know it."

"I quarreled with them!"

"The Vivian girl princesses."

"Ah [illegible]. They're not in the camp. I've left them in the christian lines only ten minutes ago. They couldn't have been here so soon during this battle."

"Then you don't know them well enough "said the girl smiling.

"Why Eva St Clare" exclaimed Adele-De-Fob."Are you jesting. Or are you fooled by them too?"

"No sir my boy"said the girl"Cross my heart and hope to die if they ain't Violet, and her sisters."

"Say listen"said Ned suddenly looking sort of queer."I believe James she's right. I thought I recognized the voice of the one you threatened but didn't pay attention at first. By gad I'm going. If she's recognized me."

"You're not going"said Adele-De-Fob."Here's your chance then to prove you're not what they thought. Don't be a Jackass. Come on. We're going in."

"Can we go in" Adel-de-fob then said.

"It's all right"said Eva finally."But who is the boy with you, and why is he afraid of them. What is he afraid of them for?"

Adele-de-fob gave a full explanation.

"[illegible]"she said.Violet and her sisters are operating here and they're doing the same thing you're doing James. I'll speak for Ned and if they still doubt it, let them see general Roswell [illegible] about it."

"[illegible]"said Ned hesitatingly---

"You can explain to them. Come in.Ned don't be afraid..They'll [illegible]"

[illegible] satisfied. He felt she could at least clear his name [illegible] one of the [illegible] girlscouts of all rank in the army and very good [illegible] with them. If [illegible] they would believe him and co-operate with him in his plans that not Irish Clancy nor Manley nor all his generals so I could prevent general Hanson from getting through the territory and smashing the whole Glandelinian army before the day closed, [illegible] Adele-De-Fob. While the first before going in talked the matter over with [illegible] it would probably be impossible for the Glandelinian army generals to move heavy reinforcements through the woods [illegible] seemed to him perfectly feasible for the christian troops cut out their way through along the east bank of Vantum Stream and and catch the foe on the rear and force the enemy's army into a general retreat. The christian army was always strong there was no need to fear of ha what may now result on their side and the way the actionwas now resulting would insure a swift defeat of the enemy just where itwas waned, wanted.

Thry They went in and after quite some conversation and explanation Violet and her sisters themselves joined heartily in the laugh, declaring that they sure did a easily put one over on Adele-De-Fob. They were also greatly elated in realizing that what Ned did was all a hoax to pull through his work according to the generals plans, but they thought thatbit was quite a foolish way of doing things, and believed it might cause him failure some time, and that he would be discovered by the enemy just the same.

"You will have to be awful careful "said Violet."Younhave enemies now on both sides, and it'll be a long time before I can reconcile you to general Vivians army, so remain in Hansons untill I n can notify you that all is well.I'll have to see general Roswell and tell him of the sad results of such a plan.Of course it has done wonders so far, and I may advise you to continue for a time but when discovery is made do it no more than way.You must then change your strange and hazardous plan. You've got the nation down on you for nothing, and it'll be some effort on our part to clear you so we must see general Roswell to morrow if possible.I understand he's in general Vivians army?"

"Yes "said N d Ned.
"Well we'll tell him somethingthat will eep him busy"said Violet. "Also in the meantime we'll telegraph something to my girlscout force, and es ecially Gertrude so the whole thing will be understood, and you can rejoin them again.But for safty and to avoid such a disgrafe in the future try some other plan in your efforts.It's more feasible, and I would say nossible."

When he and Adele-de-feb were on their way elsewhere Ned asked him a question about a mattle of the battle that had puzzled him.

"Whydoes it seem that the enemy can resist so stubbornly when Hanson is hammering so hard ."

"It's because that darn Irish man is a fighter"said James.

"And why at first did the girlscout Eva glance at us as if we were her mortal enemy."

"Ah Ned, "said Adele-de-fob"there is a story there. So she g looks at every one when first she meet him or her. She constantly fears for Violet, And her sisters while they're here---and unfortunately she is right in her fears.For we were shadowing them, and she at first did not recognize us.Now she need fear no more.We fin found out the true facts and I th ought they were Glandelinian girlscouts."

"And you frustrated their purpose I'll bet in liberating the poor little slave."

"Maybe, but I'll find out the slave.But she seems to side with our foes.But maybe they've lied to her about the christian cause, that is the Glandelinians have.If she believes us, she'll be all right, if she don't and refuses to trust us, she'll have to remain."

"But we were not the only peril of Violet, and her sisterw said Ned."You understand we saw others shadowing them too, and didn't interfere because we thought christian spies were doing doing it.I'm going to interfere with them now.I'll shoot the next one shadowing them as if they were a mad dog."

"Shadowing them!"

"Certainly. It was some hours ago nearly two I believe.I saw a man do something suspicious.I understand more than most boyscouts do about persons doing the shadowing act but I never then recognized the fact who the girls were and didn't do anything.I suppose since then Ef a Eva's fears has been that V iolet and her sisters, have been shadowed by all sorts of foes, including us who did it too because we believed they were enemies frustrating our plans.She never went away that she did not return in haste and fear dreading the shawdows may have done somety something.How should Violet and her sisters see the evils that can overshadow them in a enemy camp even during a battle. Eva wants them to leave before anything occurs,but you have seen to night to what her mind is turning.Too I have recalled the fate of Gertrudes Regiment at Vantura Crossroads, for the news came to us from there, and the dangers of the enemy have made us too become secretive and solitary. There's grave danger here believe me for them, and nothing can persuade them to leave. .There is no soldier in the enemys lines here who may not be able to recognize them in disguise if he happens to come across them, and who would know that if he causes their capture he'd be a rich man for life. There is no Glandelinian soldier more dangerous tothem than the Omarians.

There is hard y one quarter of this army that hasn't Omarians..There fore Adele-de-fob"continued Ned much agitated"I implore you to prevent this evil from threatening them.It is general Br Brousseau who might also recognize them, and Clancy too as he is well acquainted with them and has served in the Glandelinian army since the war begun. It is he who is responsible for all the Glandelinians have been doing to us boy and girlscouts.It was he who slaughtered the regiment of girls and boys at Vantura.The soldiers who did it never came from Tamerlines.They came from here. And tamerlines army is blamed for it. Violet and her sisters have also found this out. He cares nothing for what happens as long as he can wipe us fighting scouts out.And this James was chiefly the cause of my desiring to see you this early afternoon, to urge you to prevent any one fr om shadowing Violet, and her sisters."

"No one will shadow them"said the boyscout.

"I am glad James, "said N ed "But these shadowing Glandelinian soldiers have special protection, and they are dangerous men and crack shots.+ You see James, when general Manley himself was in charge here some days before the battle, and before he got this nasty cold, hope he has it for life, it was agreed between h im and Clancy that the Glandelinian army shall be drilled in the American style so it can beat the christian army!"

"For the benifit of clancy's constitution and character!"

"I do not say that James.I will not let myself believe that. But it is through these two and Federal Johnston that he retains his hold so strongly on the army. They are his go-betweens, they do his dirty work such as you have seen in this battle so far.

"You have my promise"said Adele-de-fob"that no one shall be shadowing Violet, and her sisters, in fa in fact I'll have my friends shadow them. and give no quarter to the rascals.And by heaven I'd shoot any man o or Glandelinian scout who tries to shadow them"he added with a vehemence that surprised himself, though he meant every word of it and would do it."

The two boys however felt poorly that early afternoon.Trouble seemed to be thickening about him. Especially Adele-De-fob thought most despondently of the warning of Violet and her sisters which was ...2.2.2, indeed almost an echoe of Gertrudes and even Radcliffe,s and Angeline pichees.

He feared about general Clancy too. He had heard much about Irishmen and the old saying of "To lick an Irishman is only to kill him,".that was the problem that hewas incommand of Manleys army.Had he indeed the power to han dle an army better than most Glandelinian commanders.It seemed so for still now, the awful battle was a standstill situation, and even Hansons army was progressing nothing either.Then out of the darkness of gloomy thoughts... there rose in vivid portrayal the face of Angelinia Aronburg. He admitted now how much she meant to him in aid and go forth enough to cause any adventure to be worth while. She alone could frustrate any man no matter what his nationality.He thought of their last meeting,,, and in spite of it he dared to dream of a much happier one concerning the wars situation. Before he decided to watch the progress of the battle he decided to go once more to the Vivian girls since he now understood they were in the enemy camp(though he couldn't still figure how they got here) and try to secure some good and sound advice from them.. At the same time he would look up his own records andget a good idea of the extent of the dreadful, thattle."

Ne d himself had announced that it was along the whole right wing right wing of the vast Glandelinian army, that the battle had raged the fiercest. and that to the Christian left, the greatest ammount of damage had been done.

"hen that" happened"said Ned I sure was scared."

"I didn't feel so good myself"said Adele-de-feb . "The first severe shock of the Glandelinian assault, as many of the G landelinian generals had said overthrew the whole of the christian left wing with great loss of life.

Of course by his plan general Hanson sent reinforcements, but his own center during his own assault had been rent into fragments by the enemys artillery fire, and the line of battle on his side couldn't progress at first, andthe right wing of general Hansons army which before had been quite well on the advance became afterwards in a sitiation that made it possible for it to fall to the rear, the force and fury of the enemys counter attacks at the same time having increased,, and portions of the christian lines were displaced. The center too subsided from its movements.But it was along the center and left itself that the most terrible desolation was wrought by the Glandelinian artillery fire, a complication of awful disasters having followed by the terrific Glandelinian onslaughts more especially a fierce conflagration among the woods set by shell fire,,, whose intensity was added by terrific explosions...." """

"According to official reports by correspondents , interviewed soon afte after the events of the battle began"said N ed "The destruction caused by the assault of general Calmannia Shoemannia, and Josiphe Jensin upon the christian left was immense beyond words. I heard that one hundred divisi divisions, were entirely reduced to fragments, that320 regiments and brigade Corps also were in the same situation, and about fifty others seriously shattered. The loss of life is appalling. so they told me 10,000,000 having perished on both sides in the terrific conflict in that one half a day and that 20,000,000 more will probably io from wounds and exposure, or from lying out there in the fields and on the plains and in the woods exposed to random shellfire, or by fires. The greater number were buried in their trenches by shell explosions hurling great clouds of earth debris upon them while others are perishing in the fires that were started in many sections of this battlefield, particularly along Hansons left. where the fires are assuming the proportions of a forest fire..."

"Yes this battle is a horrible one, full of suffering for the wounded that cannot be reached"said Janes."There will be many for days and days who will have to be left there in the bloody field who will not be saved as soon as desirable because of the distances, and their immoseureable numbers who may have to be left to die a lingering death, from heat, hunger thirst and so forth.."

Of still more thrilling and horrible interest, was the case of the " Glandelinian Marchioness- Spastara Mangaboo division.Having been driven out of its position during one counter christian onslaught, it was reinforced by a Corps of Scoodliers, who being forced to bear the full brunt of the christian storm wave also had to retreat.They reached a woods along what is called Sprockles Brook.Here they ranged to recover their formation and were rallied, other troops arived to their aid and they resisted the Christian advance most doggedly.Securing advantage of a moment when a portion of the assaulting christian line was too much occupied to notice what was goi going on along the center. general Apples Dumplings division of troops moved forward to storm the assailants in the rear. The general made the assault but in vain, and he found that the Glandelinian army again had fallen back. The di division of troops were assailed on all sides and Apple pumpling(maybe he was good to eat) was forced to order a retreat. The troops fled from field to field persued by the enraged Angelinian troops, and reached the stream found that the well needed bridges had been blown up cutting off all furtyer retreat in that direction. They were then almost surrounded, and this division then from sheer desperation, fought so ten tenaciously and desperately, that handicapped at it was it came out gloriously with colors flying, and their assailants either annihilated or su captured and the survivors sent flying for dear life. In this bloody contest general Apple umpling captured four battle flags., and two color sarggents and a christian general..

"No one could relate how the great sections of the whole christian army had been crushed by the violence of the Glandelinian armies, when Clancy was aroused in his wrath and who could reveal the fate that now threatened either one or the other of the two mighty armies. when they strove so desperately to cut each other to pieces.

No record of any of the battles of the past can come to the reader in more appalling form than these stories of sudden ruin and terror and errible terrible slaughter by the battles of St Etheldreda and Lebanon. Dreadful is the results always that follows the clashing of two mo mighty armies.Rack and ruin and terrible slaughter and didas disasters terrible attend their meeting, and always one or the other army is rent asunder in their might.. It is to the fury of the christian and Glandelinian armies against each other that such battles and disasters of the war are due and when these demons are opposing one another in wild battle everything is dreadfal dreadful and thrilling to behold. Then the terror comes, then it seems before the dreadful cannon fire that the earth trembles to its heart, shells rent the landscape to ruin, then the ashes of a terrible spent buring burning fire are what is left of flourishing cities, then terrifit explosions bombard the air, and two long lines of contending armies of men crash at each other, and all human hopes, and the results of man labor are welmed alike beneath the dread torrents of death and dismay.So it was at St Etheldreda, so it was still more at Lebanon. The only reason Lebanon escape destruction was that the battle was so far away, but nevertheless recieved its name...

C oncussions, and famine, disease, and pestilence, woe throughout nations, fire and terrible loss of life---these are the destroyers that all people fear when they come singly, how much worse is it when they all come together as they do in a terrible war, as they now do in this terrible long catastrophe of nearly two years duration, in all the battles, especially in the recent Abbisann horror, a heddious quartette whose mission is the death and torment of innocent and guilty human beings, as both sides are equal sue sufferers in the war and so often the destruction in a moments time of the wealth they had gathered in y years of patient effort.

It is the purpose of this aurther to form a faithful record of the concluding section of the story of the awful hours of battle and its ruinous effects when for the wounded minutes out in that dreadful field seemed years, and to preserve an accurate chronicle of its events.
Other frightful cataclysims of the battle has to be seen and even before noon had arived. The terrific onslaught of Sho m, Shoemannias army which crushed the greater part os Jonsin Bens christian army, and in a half hour destroyed upward of two hundred and fifty thousand soldiers., the convulsion of battle which rent the christian right wing asunder, and poured over the christian positions a tidal wave of Glandelinian troops in which three hundred and thirty six thousand lost their lives in the horrible conflict that ensued,, the hurricane of artillery fire, which overwhelmed twice the a main christian left wing, the terrific munition explosion which rus ruined in a moments time the thronged town of San Franc isco twenty six miles south of Lebanon from the awu awful concussion, and caused the deaths of thirty thousand of its fifty thousand inhabitants, are all awful and significant examples of the wars f irst bloodiest of all battles. Not one general was safe in this terrible battle. It seemed worse than the convus convulsion of nature.

In view of all this,,, it has been deemed desirable rprobably by the enemy to make this work of battle a history of disasters of any sort of charact character which would cause them to be feared by their own enemies. so far as the war had progressed no convulsion or storms of nature had made a record of horror as this war has done, to recount the theories of the great explosion calamities, floods, fires and so forth, to describe the conflagrations among,, among the forests, and all the otherr minor outbreaks, of the wars dreadful throes.

In one way the description of the further progress of the battle of Lebanon will in a way cause its value to be greatly added to, as within the past pages of these volumes the readers have already had a sufficient h chronicle of all the famous disasters due to the progresses of the war and all the battles themselves. However when the weakness and the folly of generals on both sides during battles bringe woe upon the armies of eaxh each side som etimes simultan ously, there are plenty of texts for the adviser and no scarcity of earnest preachers as to whom is responsible. But here in this story is a vast and awful catastrophic war that befall from the foolish act of Glandelinia nerself apparently not more extraordinary than that which is brought on by other nations. The consequences so far as the reader has learned has been most terrifyingin this case as they involve or the war involves two monsterous nations, and it no more involves the theory of a mag-ma maligan ant Nature than that of angry crazy Glandelinia....

If we contemplate it possibly we may be helped to a profitbale estimate of the significance of the war itself. Many of the generals of both sides have been fond of boasting of their marvelous successes in subdueing the armies of both sides or of each other, and while they are in the midst of the exultations over their victories,, a great disaster occurs to on e or the other, and they have to learn the old lesson over again that their triumphs have not penetrated farther than when they have egn begun..... Generals of armies of both sides, stand upon a high rise of ground watching a long wave of men go "rolling"through battle fire hurled from the other side in a fury of destruction that is itself incomprehensible and usually the generals are so busy with their own milit r military ambitions, their movements, their manoevers of battle their prides and hopes of a good outcome, thatbthey sometimes forget where they are and what is their destiny. A air sct in terposition from a superior general of the enemy might be required to persaude them enemy to stop and consider and resume anew their bearings, so that they may comprehend in some measure their precise cause of their blunder blunders..

The wisest generals have been the most ready indeed to g recognize the beneficence of the discipline of wiser superiors. If there were no blunders, they would find the school of military endeavors go on without profit.

CHAPTER ~~six~~ Five....."."."."

THEFRIGHTFUL FURYOF THE
BATTLE AND I TS SURPASSING HORRORS."
THE HARVEST OF THE CANNON FIRE.
THE PANIC FLIGHT OF A DEVASTATED GLANDELINIAN
DIVISIONS.."."."."."."

DURING the lull in the great battle of Lebanon which occured at about Two in the afternoon, general Clancy and all his generals hoped for the best, that the christian armies would aban on abandon the battle and give way. Cla ncy's army was in no position to renew the offensive, now he must remain on the defensive. It was so quiet now, that it appeared to Clancy and all his generals that the battle was totally over,and that it would either be general Hansons army that would retreat by night fald or that lancy must one or the other. Yet disaster impended, dire ,deadly, terrible disaster, for general Hansons armies were gathering for the final effort, all the egines of destruction were being pushed forward, and to the old disasters of the battle a new one of unprecede ntea horror was about to be added. Of course Clancy a was an Irish man, but Hanson had the Irish way of fighting too even though he was an Abbieannian. Certainly a little over an hour of blessed silence followed the mornings awful uproar of the battle, and the recently shattered Glandelinian divisions were preparing for reunion with the others, dangerously exposed positions were being abandoned, and the whole bunch of general Clancy's generals prepared to ta e up again the hoped for onward movement should general Hansons army retreat.

Clancy had never heard the well known saying, even which Manley had himself invented with much bitterne ss many a time" "General Hanson Vivlan Retreat? He don't know what it means?All he nows id advance, Advance, Advance.He is not a retreating Christian. Why he can't retreat.He doesn't know how."

Alas for he and his generals, and for all the other commanders under Clancy, Hanson was only preparing for throw all precautions to the winds and throw his whole army upon him. The hour passed, three fifteen came and passed into the minutes and so quiet it was that the whole Glandelinian and christian armies seemed buried in day time slumber. suddenly without a a moments warning the christian cannons all along the whole line opened into a terrible thundering discharge,, and upon the Glandelinian left, a terrific onslaught by almost overwhelming numbers was hurled, and divisions of troops were rolled up, many reglemtns were compelled to retreat not able withstan to withstand the violent assault, regiments falling back in confusion carried others away with them alike to confusion and retreat amid the red ruin, and before half an hour p had passed away a good section of the enemys left wing had become terrioly mixed up and confusice,confused. A sce A scene of universal horror succeeded or followed the sudden frightful and unexpected catastrophe. So horrible was the conflict now that in a moments time thousands of Glandelinian soldiers lay dead or wounded, the most fortunate among the fallen who went to sudden death and escaped the prolonged agony, that awaited many of those who were terribly multilated by bayonets or shell fires, and who would for days and days suffer untola torture s from their wounds, or those who while unhurt were seized amidst the confla confusion and made prisoners whether they surrendered or not.Great too were the numbers of confused retreating soldiers who managed to gain the shelter of St Boniface's Rum clambering over piles of earth debris, many of them bleeding from painful wounds most of them now so terror stricken as the christians pressed on after them as to forget their hurts to forget all but the insticts of flight, while shells crashed and bomm boomed about them hurling dangerous missles and clouds of debris in all directions.

Screams of horror, terrific storms of blam blasphemous cries macans means of anguish filled the air amid the uproar and crash of battle drowned frequently by the roaring thunder of high explosive shells, and the yells of the persuers. and upon it all came a sudden torrential downpour of water from the stream when a high explosive blew up in the river and hurled clouds of water upon the fugitives soaking the survivors and adding to the greweome aspect of the frightful situation.

The sufferings of the wounded were awful to comtemplate for both sides. Seas of bodies were afterwards found, buried and burned which bore testimony of the tortures from the wounds endured before death relieved their suffer ings. Thousands of these soldiers had died biting at their arms andhands evidently insane from pain and fright. The left wing of the enemy was torn to pieces and forced into a disorderly retreat. The stories related by the survivors of both sides in the army hospitals all reflected the horror of the Lebanon battle that afternoon. There were many miraculous escapes of officers and generals but the cases of wounded and dying among officers were without number on both sides.

Colonel cobbler immediately at the first portion of the onslaught tried to retain the formition of his line and rushed batteries across a road.The fury of the battle seemed to be raging all around them.His line was thinned badly and hearing groans from a pile of earth debris hurled by a shell explosion the officer at any peril made a hurried examination.He wou found two officers dying, one a leutenant, and the other a captian. The head of one was evidently split open by the fragment of the shell,, while the chest of the other was badly torn open. The Colonel tried to lift one of the officers and fell wounded himself.His remaining men seized with terror at the fiercely yelling Red coats approaching fled tward the rear. It to these panic stricken men two hours and a half to traverse the battle torn fields between Sprekles Dan and the stream where they were rescued reinforced and tried to stand their ground.After rallying this small Mangaboo reglemn regiment, Captian Hines tried to retain the line but the two reglemtns of christians continued on and he was obliged to give up the effort. It was impossible for the shattered regiment to make its way across the strea,m.There were only six thousand survivors and they surrendered.

Terrible was the confusion and terror of the many Glandelinian soldiers who had escaped fr om the disasterous overthrown of that division and of the rarity of other surviving begiments seen in the fog and dust f of battle and in the open places so that often they believed the loss of the army was so great that they believed themselves to be the only Glandelinian soldiers escaped of the dense choking cloud of battle smoke which hung over the battlefield as if the world was burning so fierce had been the firing, obscuring their vison so they couldn't see which way theur red coated enemies were coming ,and adding to the horrors of their bewilderment, the wo volcanic thunders of explosions, the scream of shells, the noise of the rifle firing, the cries of wounded and dying and of the greater horrors of the succedding succeeding onslaghte at other portions of the wing, especially upon the right flank which seemed to forbid all hope of final escape from a total defeat. A tragic note was struck by an elderly general who tried to rally a regiment gone into a panic and fell severely wounded. He lay there in a ditch and could only cry for help and heard no answer so loud was the battles din, save other innumerable cries for help from the gloom around them.

LEBANON WAS INDEED A MURDEROUS BATTLE... ..

It wa s impossible for the Glandelinians to resist the advance of the christian troops, who were pr passing through most of the fields,, though, the glandelinians fought desperately behind huge mounds of earth debris. Here and there windrows of dead bodies could be seen in inaccessable places where long lines of glandelinians fought, holding at bay their assailants at that quarter.

In front of the right of the christian right wing the Glandelinian army had broken up and fallen back. To the left of them were division after division of Glandelinians who were falling back some in panic some in disorder, and some still contesting the field every step of the way... In some spots the appl appalling scene and fury of the battle beggard all description,, everywhere horrors beyond mention made the scene one fit for the pen of a a Dante..e.e.e.e

Curious fra freaks of the battle were everywhere everywhere to be observed. among col umns of the contending troops so that it seemed to be numerous battles combined into one. Divisions of troops still standing their ground were somewhat isolated, exposed to a cross fire from the christian assailants and artillery, another in w to which nothing seemed to be happen ing, though they continued their own fire. Some regiments hung close to a natural position such as behind trees, and stones and stone walls, six teen brigades were in a position on the top of a long row of houses in a small country villiage and the rest in ravines and gullies contesting the ground very stubbornly. In one place two divisions of troops were resisting the christian advance behind a row of dead bodies. It was indeed a fierce and most peculiar battle.... The Glandelinian divisions that best resisted the assaults was the old royal Guard on the Glandelinian left(debaft), the Nineteenth Corps under general Prefecture, and General Bishopies' Fourteenth Corps, where many millions fell dead or wounded...

The survivors ofthe disasterous issue of this sudden onslaught were so dazed and worn out that even their officers were not able to describe their experiences properly or connectedly, but the accounts of all agr sed that the devasting effects of the onslaught was accomplished in less than two hours.

All the Glandelinian generals and other officers capable of stating truthfully their sensations, said that when the shock of the terrific onslaught came upontheir divisions they saw every column give way before it. Thiswas followed by a terrific panic and confusion, a great terrifying roar of cannons terrific booming of explosing shells as fierce as continuous unceassing thunderclaps, many reports sometimes at once, accompanied by the greatest destruction. Foolish noncombats being close to the scene on the enemy side of the battle line saw the whole scene and managed also to report it to the proper persons.

It was a terrible defeat of a Glandelinian wing. Great Regiments of men Divisions of troo ps, all commands of various sorts all shared the common disaster except two or three. Two thirds of general Stanislaws division the pride of general Manleys army was reduced to fragments, and little or nothing remained of a general Phoenician's division.

Whileattention was concentrated upon the Glandelinian left wing, the Glandelinian d ivisions along the christian left were again suffering the same fate of horrors. Chief among these was general Reggio James army Ninth division, and bore or was forced to bear the brunt of the the main "Battle Storm" News of this disaster came later than that from the enemys rig left, but it was of the same character.

The ominious absence of details concerning general Reggio's army proved to be due to the full fact,that not only the Glandelinian divisions itself but other divisions themselves with the exception of general Vincents had disappeared... General Clinton sent to restore order along such a wild battle front was unable to discover a trace of those Glandelinian divisions. Where the morning before, stood or pressed forward immense Glandelinian divisions, there was nothing seen but dead and wounded and lots of fires and bewildering storms of bursting shells. These Glandelinians divisions had vanished as completely as if they had been swallowed up into the earth .The first idea was that the whole glandelinian right wing had been annihilated,by the christian counter charges and annihilating artillery fire,,, for the whole territory was in possession of the christian troops, which was a still advancing in a huge wedge formation. and this while in some ways an exaggeration of the facts concerning the fee losses, was not wholly, out of consonance of the or with the awful situation.2.2.2.222

Refugees from the city of Lebanon had also seen this action from heights within easy but safe view of the battle,e,e,e, and confirmed in parts this story of dreadful ravage among the Glandelinian right wing, saying that that the left grand division of the enemys line had been completely destroyed,, annihilated, and that divisions of troops, brigades and all regiments, in fact the rest of the main line were nothing but fragments of divisions of troops on the retreat in panic and confusion..... Later tidings from general Reggioes divisions told the same story of horror and dreadful dreadful battle beyond description. Shoemann ia's army and that of La Lafet and others held their positions but were cut off from the support of the main line and had to fight at a ve y great disadvantage. The christian troops were in possession of their own positions once again.

General Clinton reported to general Clancy, declaring that immediately after the first great shock of the christian onslaught,,,,, a great gap about half a mile in length was opened in the Glandelinian front, through,, which the christians poured. He declared that through this gap the christians came with terrible fury in great masses, and caught the rear of the battle line.Many in jured officers who were in this vinicity. were horribly scalded when from some sailent the christians threw down large tubs of steaming hot water upon the glandelinians. The length of this gap in the Glandelinians front was without the slightest doubt greatly exaggerated.. As the Glanded irain general withdrew his shattered division to safty, he saw his men fall in the most frightful numbers.He also saw human limbsprotruding from under some demolished cannons..."""""

Frenzied officers strove to rally their brigades and regiments, while curs curses and blasphemies from the miserable Glandelinian soldiers, rushing away from the scene half naked and bleeding through the fields, filled the air...

Just as the Sea inundates the suburbs of a city during an tidal wave so did the christian columns overwhelm all those who stood their ground against their advance. The foremost regiments opposed to them comples com pletely disappeared., and the receding troops were forced to leave the dead and wounded behind them.Corpses were encountered everywhere eve in even on the rear of the battle line.The bridge near Pellario Stream was blownup t by the Angelinians, as were also entire sections of railroad.

A young citizen of the town of Lebanon and who was a young Catholic Seminary student studying for the priesthood, and who rode thirteen miles to see the battle to had a terrible tale to tell his friends of thefirst moments of the afternoo ne battle in which he saw one of the glandelinian generals fall shot through the head, and another recieve a severe wound.

"Together with my companions"he said" was in a wagon train watching the battle at a distance, when close to us but yet some distance away about probably five hundr ed feet or so a high explosive shell burst with an ear 60 earsplitting crash, and from the concussion the wagon was literally literallyblifted off the road,,, a small shed from the same concussion crumbling to the ground right before our eyes.We saw the whole battle nothing could stop the christian advance. We were soon climbing a high rise of ground to see more of it. Meanwhile the terrific christian assaults continued, and to the left of our view the christians were coming as if they were a long wall of men, carrying all before it. The battle had come dangerously close and we had to scurry as shrapnell began to burst overhead. We were roused r from our flight by shouts and found ourselves in the embrace of the rest of our companions, who had come to see the battle. and in the joy of the reunion, and of seeing the christians turning out to be the victors we all fell on our knees and gave thanks to our blessed Lord for our escape,, praying also for all those dreadful numbers of christian soldiers who had surely fallen in that dreadful battle."

The glandelinian right and left were the only main wings that felt the worst schocks of schocks of the onslaughts and gave way before it. General Palermo's division was too far off at the time to be reached, and general Cantonias Fiftieth Corps though recieving the assault, and though very near the "disaster xzone" was unhurt by the shock, and held its position cutting the assailing line to pieces and repulsing it. General Taormina Catania, on a position midway between St Boniface Crossroads and Cadiness ayground escaped with a light shock from the assault that did little damage, though the troops fr om the fury of the assault was strangely affected.

But within the immediate zone of dreadful battle were all of the other glandelinian divisions which recieved the full force of the assaults and had as dire a tale of horror to reveal as the larger wings. The disturbanc e disturbance extended alsong thevglandelinian center also, but most of the army was concentrated in strong positions aided by artillery of all descriptions, and was able to hold the ground stubbornly for hours against all the raging onsla ughts hurled against it. Generals cylla Giovannie, and Andrews had their own divisions stretched from the north to the south along this position for ten miles.The strength of this line of battle of greatest violence but evident more success numbered about 70,000,000 of these alone Andrewe lost 2,800,000 while similiar loss visited the many other Glandelinian divisions.

General San Giovanii held his ground perfectly but suffered heavily. Along this line were magnificent divisions under generals Bagnaria Turner, having 8,000,000 soldiers, general San Eufenia with six million, general Palmi with 7,000,000 and various others, all of which lost heavily but repulsed their christian assailants also with great loss. Of general Bagnaras divisions few brigades were left in existance and the region there presented a scene of terrible desolation...2

General Mezzagapo's Ninth Division held its ground also but was shattered, ten whole brigades having been destroyed. Some of his staff officers were slain, and all the under officers are dead, and of the sixty six color bearers only twelve came out of the terrible fight.

The center of this battle storm seemed to be in the region near Centpallia Junction where every Glandelinian divi l division had its gory roll of dead and wounded to chronicle.

Thousands of soldiers here abandoned their positions but recaptured them.In some districts of the battle such as under Divisional commander Prizzo, and generals Cotrone, Santa Severinia, and Piscopio, the regimental commanders had the daredevil courage to rally the troops while they were being driven from their grosnd ground, and to counter charge.In the hilly region the populations of Lebanon refuged themselves in grottos and caves or on the hillsides, where peasants also, and priests and persons of all sorts dwe lt in common and yet viewing the dreadful battle at that elevation with intense dread and yet interest at the same time.

Theral rad radius of battle extended bac with decreasing intensity for fourty miles on tward Lebanon, and thirty miles tward Vantua Stream.There b nevetheless was every reason to believe that dreadful havoc was wrought t all along the whole line.The people of small towns had also fled. A report of unusual observations from some signal station at Childrens Playground declared the christian l onslaught lasted fully two hours and was covered by a terrible artillery fire, which made an appearance at times as if there was an remarkable atmospher's phenomena. The earth and air seemed at times

as if filled with sparks and flashes of flame which flared up untilll the heavens and the earth seemed a fire.....2.2 This no doubt was caused by the air being surcharged by so much noise and shell fire and terrific explosions.

The Glandelinian center was tremendously strongly defended. The troops of the rear lineswere behind a 5 high stone fence,and another was behind a high wall of rubble and dirt a mixture of stones and earth----of enormous thickness. Six feet of this material to defend your position was nothing unusual. The Glandelinian troops were strong in numbers, and well supported by artillery. The forces which the christian generals brought to bear upon the Glandelinian soldiers behind these constructions show in the result that had the center and left been in these positions, then the christian waves of assailants might as well have made the assault against a position too imp impregnable to be carried. This later explained why here the foe held the positions and the christian losses were so enormous. Some of the attac\ing columns aagered avagered four or five men deep, and the "scrap brigades th"that remained were at least reduced even to regiments of ouf of theirown accord.

Another peculiarity was the following. Christian onslaughts has usually some general direction, to issue straight from their positions. Not so this terrible attack. The assault seemed to come from three directions, and the Glandelinian columns refusing to give way was astonishing. It was however the christian cannon fire that was most destructive. The assault upon one section of Bagnaras divisionshook the line of troops, but the most violent assaults couldn't dislodge them from their positions. Yet among the most lamented results of the battle, was the destruction of general Handonias Mungaboo Grand Division the pride of the army. It had suffered seriously in former convulsions of the battle, and had been reinforced, but in none so severely as this, which left it almost an annihilated column. Ah Many of the divisions brigadier generals lay among the dead and wounded, and twenty two of the splendid brigades, said to come come from the state of Mungaboo lay prostrated in dead and wounded or dyi ng. His whole line was was shattered in pieces. Other famous divisions of the army suffered the same fate and all the largest columns of troops and best officers of this famious army division went down in irreparable ruin.

As for the loss of life in this second disaster to the Glandelinian left wing it may never be known in its full entire.... The figures at the main entire left wing may have been put through some month later at one hundred ten thousand extra dead and four million wounded and those for general Reggios division at 282,009. There remained those of general Palmini, San Giv or Giovanni, Scylla, Gallinia Turner, Bagnara Julio, Pellaro, and numerous other generals o divisions along the main central wing, probably causing the total to be not less than two hundred thousand dead or possibly. more... The principal division of Glandelinians under general Reggiolia proved a death trap for is many assailants, when it formed an tri triangle of positions hidden by foliage into which opening the christians rushed into. Many of those to have been dead in the battle here on the christian side were said to hav e been foriegners servinig t in the christi lan lines at the time. but it fo fortunately proved that none were in this christian lines at the time, and the only loss to the christian divisiob waethe greatly regretted one of general Consular who was shot to death as he threw himself to the front and tried to rally his men. His staff chief general Hart Fredson was wounded and captured..2..2

It may be said that those who died immediately in this horrible part of the battle of Lebanon or died in the shell torn fields exposed to all sorts of tortures and horrors or from their wounds only formed a part of the immensureable loss of life..... After the battle many immense multitudes were rescued from the battlefield by stretcher bearers and soldiers who were so seriously injured that their recovery was absolutely hopeless, and fully five million of them had died in the hop hospitals of many cities and towns within four w eeks of the date of the fiatt first blod bloodiest battle.

It was not alone the terrificchristian artillery fire---but the dreadful onslaught a profound rushing of overwhelming numbers of christian troops li e the ocean waves pouring upon the shore in huge billows---to which such a partial destruction and the demolition of the Glandelinian left wing was chiefly due. This christian onslaught moving over miles of territory at once was one of the greatest in the war, but preliminary to its description some account of similiar convulsions of christian armies will prob prove doubtless of interest and value when found in proceeding battles.

During the terrible fury of the christian onslaught in this battle there were many interesting examples on record of which that of other actions of the frightful battle was the most destructive to human life, while the barrages of shells which tore up so many soldiers to make them disfigured for life, to suffer afterwards for years from the most frightful of wounds which killed so many soldiers of both sides, was also felt by the inhabitants some distance away from the battle by the concussions.

Great and terrific explosions occured during the battle. In other cases ship s of the christian troops belonging to a portion of the armies fighting simultaneously the battles of St Etnelreda felt strange shocks that came as if sudden blows from the air, accompanied by a noise resembling great rolls of thunder. This blow li e effect of the air was common during noisy battles and great explosion disasters it feeling in some cases as if the towns or shipping or farm houses were swaying as if the earth was in convulsions .

The vessels in the river near Lebanon were so violently convulsed that their masts and ropes were broken, while the water lay still. Even cannon had been jerked up and down from the decks by these sudden air convul convulsions..

In the instan ces stated there was no disturbance of the suface surface of the water or land,,,. In all parts of the battle of Lebanon great artillery"storms" had been always been accompanied by waves of attacking christian soldiers of enormous size, as witnessed at the second grand drama along the enemys left and center. In some cases the assaults had preceded the artillery storm.

Along the Glandelinian center the assault began first by a concentation of christian troops in heavy masses.. Then the assault had come with such force as to drive alll before it. With this preliminary view or review on the subject ,short indeed, we shall more fully describe the"phenonmena of the great christian onslaught upon the enemys left wing as it went and as it was observed in the vinicity of St Boniffaces Crossroads and Childrens Playground and the Opendon farms as told by foriegn or by eyewitnesses of the refugees from Lebanon. At the time the great assault came so suddenly upon the Glandelinian left wing a number of refugees were on a sort of high ground not exactly a hill, but nevertheless might be determined as one and they all saw it. One of the women who was interviewed by a war correspondent who had been afraid to go too near the battle lin s lines told of the occurance as follows;;;2;2;2;

"At half past two in the afternoon after there had been a lull in the battle of short duration, renewed artillery fire broke out more violent than the former artillery storms of the morning, the waters of the river from the concussion became terribly agitatated. We wondered how an artillery fire from even the soldiers of our own side could be so terribly severe when one of my children suddenly cried; "Look there mama all those men in purple running forward. that are they going to do?"

Of course I looked tward where he pointed. Almost immediately a wave of men in purple of huge proportions were sweeping along the whole battle ling across the fields, raging tward the Crossroads, and the big plain called Childrens Playground, pouring against the Glandelinian position to the left of us, and carrying everything before them. They advanced with such terrible yells that the children with us were scared. Scores of Glandelinian divisions I heard opened a terrible fire, we could hear the frightful sound way over here, and I saw scores of Angelinian Brigades before our very eyes get shot to pieces, but the main wave pushed on, and panic stricken Glandelinians fled to crash upon those still holding their ground in the rear and also throwing them into frightful confusion. We saw one section of the Glandelinian line being wiped out and the fields were covered with their dead and dying and those of the other side too, many of which were carried off by the receding line of Glandelinian troops."

Upon Upon General Hipsoto's Glandelinian front, straight on the defenses of St Boniface's Crossroads the force of the christian onslaught was terrific. The first of it was met by such a terrific fire of artillery and then by rifles and small field pieces, that the foremost of the wave of soldiers melted away like a snowbank on a flood of molten lava, and the survivors receded for some distance seemingly giving up the attack but these reinforced and again swept forward with tremendous violence supported by a gruelling artillery fire that swept and tore all before it and covered the whole landscape with a wall of cloud. The christians advancing in a huge wave formation swept before it the whole Glandelinian army stationed there for a thousand yards from their position where being reinforced they tried to rally and met the christians most doggedly but in vain. General after general fell trying to rally them and all gave way in utmost confusion. The christians rushed through the woods of Ventura taking general Hipsoto's division on the flank and driving all ve before them... Another observer told his own story of the battle spectacle in these vivid words;;

"WHILE the second cannonade along the christian lines was at its height, I heard a strange n oise above all that, sounding more as if the winds of some great Cyclone was approaching. I glanced in that direction and was thexfixed by the most surprising and terrifying sight of all. All others saw the same and were greatly excited and terri terrified and the little, children screamed and shouted, and the little girls especially cried... and hung to the clothes of their parents..... A "wave" of men in red was advancing with fixed bayonets tward the Glandelinian army within our easier viewthat grew as it approached ,until it seemed as if a whole nation of men was coming to storm the Glandelinian position. For fear that we might be in the range of fire we all laid down as close to the ground as possible as the uproar that broke forth was astonishing. astonishing . We saw how doggedly and stubbornly the Glandelinians all along the line resisted the advancing christian soldiers. For a time then we saw nothing but a wall of smoke, heard a terrible sound as of long rolling explosions, and other continuous sounds . The Glandelinian divisions might as well have been ships battled about as if they were toys before a tidal wave. The enemy vo couldn't withstand the onslaught, wich which struck them with the most tremendous fury, but it seemed an age to me before the nearest of them swept over the Glandelinian positions at the St Boniface Crossroads, sweeping away the degenerate Glandelinian soldiers opposed to them like mice before the wind and obliterating the remainder of the position but onward the whole christian wave of troops swept, and as the Glandelinian soldiers began to run a big swarm came out from a position and retreated toward our refugees. The children among us refugees seeing this, and terrified at the frightful noise of the battle, screamed and cried, but fortuntely the retreat stopped, and that section of the Glandelinian army made a stand to the last man. Far to the south I saw where the christian advancing lines formed into a huge wave of men probably many miles in length. Before the fierce fire it met a portion of it drew tack from the Glandelinian intrenchments, and then it gathered strength for an onslaught that would obliterate the whole Glandelinian position. So violent was the concussion of so many cannons firing, and so many shells exploding that several of us were once or twice hurled bodily upon the air suddenly stopping in their recoilment the retreating christians rallied, and rushed forward again and hurled themselves upon the Glandelinian positions . Inexorably they advanced and Glandelinian legiments, divisions and even whole corps were swept before the advancing human flood. The ground where we were trembled under the concussion of so many firing at each other with rifles and cannons.. It seemed as if two mortgom waves of fi fo fiends one in red and the other in gray, fell furiously upon one one another in a terrific struggle which which we could not describe. Other scenes we didn't observe as smoke hid everything for a long time. time..."

All alongthe whole glandelinian front similar scenes had been witnessed.. A captian of glandelinian carabineers who wen t through the battle unharmed wrote to general Manley;

"Your Excellency general John Manley;

"The whole left wing of your army was not so entirely demolished by the violent christian charge as at first supposed or reported, but the christian dogs rolled like a mighty sea upon us and engulfed us for some time. I don't believe more than fifteen million of us escaped out of the entire wing of troops from being dead or wounded but we sure gave the christian dogs a good fight before we were forced to run. I doubt if any one escaped from general Codlins divisionwhich were assailed from on threeoo sides. Along my own left or within my own view the christian dog line before our fire receded from some of the higher position of the battle line, but they renewed the "storm"in redoubled violence later on. The left grand division of the Central wing was also rapidly retreating and it is feared when I was sent forth with my regiment that our armies would be routed to the four winds.

Fortunately sir the disaster to our left and center did not prove on later investigations to be so complete as recently stated but with all results nevertheless it was terrific and soul harrowing..This sir is the true state of affairs;

The christian tidal wave of assault that swept upon general Hanson Reggio's line demolished over a quarter of his while whole front. some of his strongest divisions were swept from their positions in utter rout, and carried before the advancing christian dogs. A tempest of christian artillery fire added to the terror of the scene. The region between St Boniface Crossroads and Childrens Playground is still in possession of the christian dogs, and generals Rocellia, Jonica, and Chaulonia of Reggios staff are wounded and their corps are as sand washed away by a heavy sea. The main christ Glandelinian front of Reggio has been completely swept away according to statements of many ow wounded officers and soldiers, and it is impossible to approach Children's Playground by that direction. With the horrible inrush of this sea of christian dogs with their horrible bayonets at the ready, the driving from their positions and across the fields of whome divisions, the crushing of whole lines, and the destruction of so many brigades, the whole battlefield had soon became sir, almost instantly covered with debris containing refuse of every description dotted heavily with countless human bodies. When the fog of smoke lifted the whole of what remained of general Reggio's line was utterly demolished.. The whole battle line was greatly altered, and far from its original position position, while of all the magnificent divisions only a few brigades remained."

Your assistant aide-de-camp.

George.Glorvin.""

During the assault upon general Catania's division, the christians captured five hundred regiments of glandelinians, and did damage to the main line. Along general Messinia's line a Corps of troops stationed in position to the north of the Ste Marie was heard of no more. This was the first intimation to any of the glandelinian generals that anything serious had happened.. General Pusnian's troop of infantry belonging to the 144th, was thrown out of its position but annihilated six onslaughts before it was rolled up. Other divisions of troops were as well of as if they had been ships that had foundered..General Campo Santo's division had collasped and a portion had surrendered.. General Pulco himself of the enemy had the following experience. He had thrown his troops forward to the support of Shoemannias's line of battle early that afternoon, and was moving his troops across Little Sumbean Woods.He suddenly became aware as he moved on, by a terrible sound he heard that the Glandelinian army he was marching to support must be terribly agitated. The next moment a great assault fell upon his division in that wood, and he was driven out. He believes it was peculiar but he finally repulsed his assailants with great loss recovered the woods I after a horrible fight from trees to trees in Indian fashion and believed he had gained the day.Then his Division of troops was assailed on two sides by a huge line of christian soldiers and hurled out of the woods once more only to regain the woods a second time, where they again appeared to be assailed by the legions of christian troops.The conflict was a score thousand times worse than the battle of the Wilderness in the Civil War.Most of his officers were dead or wounded.His division was early demolished but it worsted its assailants..The general though wounded was still in command. Yet the division though it awaited another attacy, and still could hold its own was not now able to advance. He sent a messenger for reinforcements but he was notified it would t be two hours before troops could be sent and he was advised to fall back which he reluctantly did.

Following this main battle shoc upon the glandelinian armys two main wings as in the case of the dreadful scenes of Cedernine many other small battles along the forces of both sidesbro e broke out in all quarters, and so fierce was the contest as general Clancy send big forces to retrive the disaster that the battle threatened to commit a wor of ruin and devastation upon nature itself.

Though the christian armies rushed on the glandelinian pos positions with the fury of fierce tidal waves, and torrential rains of shell fire and explosives deluged the whole territory, the christian onslaughts were the fiercest and the onrushing troops made their way through the region of Ste Marie in many places, with the dire effect that numbers of regiments still trying to desperately stand their ground ither perished or were surrounded and forced to surrender....

With ome some of the best of the glandelinian batteries capturedd, and half the Glandelinian wings in dreadful confusion and panic, and suffering immeasureable losses no efforts could stay the christian advance, while over the plains and across the fields to the west of Ste Marie new centres of bloody fights began adding scores of small battles tothe general battle. The soldiers who had rallied reopened fire, and the generals sending up new divisions from the reserves sent every desperate desperate efforts to check the sweeping christian advance, but handicapped as they were by the lack of the proper batteries of artillery,and by explosions of shells, the opposing to the christian advance proved a most difficultbtas , task and could not be accomplished.. The Glandelinian cavarly lent their aid in this desperate effort, but the christians continued to press on, and the torrential rains of shells hurled by christian batteries helped in this advance and prevented the Glandelinian armies which had been so terribly beaten to ever rally.As general Ebro Dro's division of fresh troops moved through the region of Straits Run toard Children's Playground, they encountered many scenes of horror and anguish, and the frightful fury of the battle was unaccountable....

As the heavy fogs of smoke settled down upon the battle field ,the christian advance that seemed to be fast destroying what remained of the foremost Glandelinian divisions was hardly visible a new noise gave evidence that reinforcemen s was trying to stop their progress. As general Ebros division moved onward it was seen that many once strong division of Glandelinian troops had been completely obliterated or were nothing more than large windrows of stretches of dead and wounded.As in all cases of human suffering from wounds caused by such a battle, the christian generals hoping to bring an early close to the terror that was going on, were quick to take advantage of the situation, and more troops were sent round to try andstorm the enemy in the rear while other conflicts broke out in fashions which invariably takes place in such situations.

The latest historical instance of this unusual and invariable outbreak of the wild christian charges was during the other big battles recently written.. There some of these onslaught s were said to have been frustrated as soon ally as possible by the stern hands of the mighty glandelinian armies,, and a similiar series of events proved themselves and showed the terrors of the Lebanon battle.....2.2...

General Priscos divisions collasped before the christian advance at the first blow.The troops under this general numbered about four hundred and fifty thousand many who were slain by the bayonet, but the survivors managed to retreat in good order, and tried to rally behind natural defenses.

Such Such confusion reigned during the mighty battle that at some points by nearly four in the afternoon the advancing christians met no resistante. The local glandelinian general in chief lay dead on the battle field, giving more trouble to general Clancy. What he would give if general Manley was able to resume command. Everywhere caused by the smoke c ghost and ghoul like figures by countless thousands flitted in the semi purgeant clouds chancing their lives during the retreat to repell scattered bodies of advancing christians fiendishly striving to stop their onrush.They were fighting as fiercely as vana vandals fought to bay but to no avail.2

The advancing christians cut their way through the shattered glandelinian columns,,,, and they were not deterred by even the flames that broke out in several sections of the battle field among trees and and high grass, but pressed on most unmercifully..2, The whole battlefield was one of unusual indescribable horror, fire, explosions, fierce bayonet fights at thousands of sections, firing at close range, retreats and dead and dying on every hand, the centre oftns Glandelinian army in the utmost confusion and the retreating soldiers panic stricken and under a spell of terror.

Severe measures were taken at once to try and rally the confused hordes and to check the christianadvances the generals and other officers o. ordered being ordered to shoot all others who refuse to rally but even if troops were rallied, the wild hope for gain against the enemy led the christians to defy any Glandelinian movement, and many combats hand to hand, and fatal blood curdling ones raged. Thus it happened that six hundred thousand glandelinians were almost reduced to a regiment before it would retreat.

For all this time the advancing christians had the upper hand.One general was shot while trying to rally his brigade, and about sixteen others were slain while in the midst of their efforts to restore order in the torn lines. But it also happened that six christian generals of very superior commissions had been shot by glandelinian sniper, in trees while forcing their troops ahead with such endeavor as to prevent the Glandelinian soldiers from rallying. On the other hand it has said that one glandelinian soldier shot ten christian officers of high

~~the~~
run/one of who was wounded and captured and upon upon whom were found
military notes very valuable to the glandelinian cause. For two hours that
frightful afternoon the loss of officers on both sides continued to be
most dreadful, officers by scores on both sides being victims of the
dreadful shell fire itself. There were hundreds of pitched battles, a
thousand times bloodier than the whole American civil war combined into
that short time, and it seemed as if the christian armies were going to
maintain the upper hand for good. But it was not so. General Clancy had
seen all that was going on, and had hurriedly during all that time massed
his own troops and reserves forward, and managed to close the gaps made by
these disasters, and while the retreating troops was being escorted to the
rear and other places to be rallied, new lines of battle were being formed
beyond the Lebanon junction and the christians began to met with the
most dogged resistance ever seen in the war. It was necessary for Clancy
to use all his reinforcing batteries as there were no other means to
deal effectively with the advancing christian forces. Several hours
passed before the reign of disorder could be checked it being finally
accomplished by the efforts of general Shoemannia and Emery Page also whose
own divisions did not give way. Here is the story of the efforts he had
to accomplish;

What especially pe pre-occupied him was the successions of terrific
scattered encounters since the first hour of the disaster, in which over
nine hundred thousand lives had been lost per encounter on both sides
combined not counting the main general action. Hundreds of thousands of
exultant christian runs of troops had pured into the Glandelinian territories
pushing on as if no resistance were met with. Many signs of total disaster
to the c glandelinian army had been discovered by officers everywhere during
the moments of general fright and disorder. General Messinia was wounded
and it took the covering fire of artillery to enable them to retain their
position. During the frightful confusion a large gru group of Angelinian
soldiers fired at three of general Shoemannias staff wounding one seriously.

Shoemannia narrowly escaped being hit/

Every minute since the stage of such an uproar which advance the christ
ian generals intended to maintain most vigilously, the Glandelinian generals
themselves had his distributed the gravest penalties to hundreds of under
officers who would dare fall back from their positions with out orders, and
that all the harshest methods and all the severity of the military
regimine would be invoked against those who would retreat or order retreat
without recieving permission. The christians were advancing with a fury
and vigor that would make the demons and angels jealious, and in order
to try and stop such a crashing onslaught, general Clancy's programme
was to allow no one of the reinforcing line in officers to retreat without
recieving his special orders to do so or unless it was absolutely necessary
and to all the supports he would give an escort or an addition of immense
bodies of Glandelinian cavarly and artillery to guard against any danger of
the wildly advancing christians from advancing round the right or left
flank. The retreating columns were escorted by strong bodies of Cargoy
lian and Whimsie cavarly to the rear and under cover of a curtain
fire of artillery, and everything was being done to obstruct the
advance of the christian troops. The artillery fire tore vast avenues in
their advancing lines, grape and canister added to the fire life a flood of
rain mowing the christians down in whole lines as fast as they came on
while all succeeding and surviving officers and generals were instructed
to persuade the confused masses of Glandelinian columns to reform line
and rally.

It was now an awful battles, terrible beyond extreme but despite all
efforts the christian waves in places continued their advance defying
the most terrific fire of the enemy in their eagerness for gain, and in some
instances returning a storming fire of their own, and even after the
rigid enforcement of the martial law upon the Glandelinian army, the
Glandelinian columns in places wavered and rolled back unable to
withstand such a titanic christian advance. When along most parts the
christian onslaught had been apparently hurled back on confusion and
great loss, they would be lying latent within shelters of the battlefield
continuing such a rifle fire that it would have been sucide for the greatest
columns of Glandelinian troops to advance, and reinforced and supported
by their own artillery which had been moved forward, they broke again
from cover with the wildest hurricane uproar of yells in a furious
charget that again assumed formidable proportions before it could be
checked. In resisting this charge, general Emery Oage was wounded, and
general Januarius was shot dead. The main force of this assault started
near St Boniface villiage and between the Crossroads and during that time
du for an hour or so spread along the whole line and drove the Glandelinians
across a large area, the advancing christians using their way to the
Crossroads, and sweeping all before them in launching across Children's
Playground and threatening general Shoemannia's left flank. General
Emp Emergy Page had to give way temporary as he was assailed on three
sides and all this added to the horror of the carnage. A large section of
his position was captured during the progress of the "Storm" the lack of
ammunition for his artillery, and the absence of trees and natural
positions, and a converging fire of the christians rendering the efforts
of the troops very dangerous. General Page was reinforced by general
Shoemannia himself and he therefore held his position. General
Gandolaton had a narrow escape when from being captured by a squad of
christian soldiers while trying to rally his retreating troops. Despite
the rally of the Glandelinian left wing, an error enormous gap remained
and big divisions of troops were hurled forward to fill it, the last of
the reserves that Clancy had. If these couldn't stop the christian
advance then all hope was gone. But it did,. Again and again the christians
tried to get through that territory and again and again they were shot
down in many immense droves, and were finally forced to fight on the
defensive.

The first moment of the fearful Abbiesanian charge . was one of some
stupefaction for many who had not expected it to come. Because it came so
suddenly without warning, breaking hundreds of officers violently from
hopes of victory to a terrifying vison vision of a sudden disaster, their
divisions of troops being driven before their assailants, divisions and
regiments retreating, troops being precipitated before the advancing
hordes, men being hurled befroe before the christians in every direction
and and great numbers of men not meeting with immediate death by the shot
or the bayonet screaming in mortal terror or moaning and groaning in
pain. Struggling desperately, bleeding from from many injuries and almost
insane from their terrifying experiences, the survivors of general
Biggeo's division had fled wildly in all direction, impossible to be
rallied... The spectacle presented by the battle was indeed as terrifying
as to be beyond description. Crashing shell explosions killed and mult mutilate
mul mutilated countless thousands and mangled them giving them the most
horrible wounds, while hundreds of thousands of the injured on the field
of battle were abandoned to their fate by the fleeing Glandelinian
soldiery. One of those among the officers who escaped rode up to general
Clancy, and being questioned said;

"The christian dogs seemed to come suddenly like a immense swarm of
devils. It seemed as if a whole population of an immense city armed to
the teeth seemed to be precipitated upon our position, and upon our divis
ions were in train by artillery fire. Many of our troops fell to death
under shell fire from retreating retreating and many others believed
to take refuge for breath beside or behind trees of the woods where they
were assailed on both sides and soon met the fate of their companions.."

One of of the brigades of Glandelinians and Brigadier general
Adelsheidi were for a while surrounded in their position, and when they
repulsed the charge of the christian foe, the converging fire of rifles
and christian artillery made egress impossible. From the end smoke of many
fires, and the thickness of it too high in the air still from the recent
fires and forest fires darkness almost like twilight still lay over all
and forcing to retreat into the open country in the shell fire should destroy
them all were hid in the deeper woods. Then when it became a little quieter
the survivors of them made their way out, often facing terrifying perils
and difficulties, clambering up ravines covered with wreckage and the bodies
of the fallen and over numberless obstructions piled in all directions
by the low power of modern explosives, until the lines were reached...
"Often in their wild flight they were often forced to leave behind them
bleeding and wounding victims in the battle, so exposed to the shell fire
and whizzing bullets that it was impossible to aid them or sucide to go
to them...

"Most of those who had retreated were badly injured and for the unfortunate
of ones who had escaped alive,, a dreadful death nevertheless seemed to
impend, for shells still boomed and banged about them and forest fires
raged fiercely around them and tongues of flame shot redly upward from
from a thousand places and threatened to make all the retreating Glande
linian soldiers in this locality their prey...2.2

Indeed the battle field for its whole extent was a most terrible
scene. Glandelinians still continued to retreat and yet were crumbling
like a building wall crashing to dust, wounded soldiers able to
remain on their feet, wandering about in distraction many of the retreating
soldiers being utterly frantic, hundreds of thousands of them fleeing
in wild terror from the advancing christians and running for the forests
hundreds of thousands more retreating along the muddy shores of Vantum
river and trying to stand their ground once more, attempting to stop
the irresistible advance of the christians, while many were even dying
them from their wounds, and madness attacked many of the frenzied soldiers.
Wounded, half naked they when cornered fought like fe fiends at bay.
The attempt to stop the Christian assault, became a failure as the minutes
went by, and only meagre reinforcements reached them who still tried to
oppose the christians. A frightful scene occured east of the Vantum
road amid the Orchards there. The Glandelinians in retreating and searching
for a way to get through and grouping among the debris of the forests
there and the orchards in the hope of saving themselves from annihilation
were suddenly attacked by a platoon of Abbiesanians coming upon them in
from front and rear and were obliged to defend these positions literally
with their lives..... The suffering of the wounded soldiers and of the fleeing
troops, was intensified by the force of the heat, and the lack of drinking
water, for most of the Glandelinian army was cut off from the streams and
small lakes.. All the water systems were also in the possession of the
victorious christian armies.

The wounds of the count countless injured after the battle had to
be washed with vines and other beverages brought from the campaign
Here is one of the experiences of a war correspondents who was an
observer of the scene of sudden disaster. He wrote;

"I am a very old man, just the seventies. In my life time in the
Civil war of America and of the European wars of the past of which I've
seen I have witnessed shocking scenes by by retreating soldiers on
either side, and of the atrocities committed by famished survivors of towns
and villiages destroyed by the wars, and have myself felt the pangs of
thirst and hunger, and have been wounded thirteen times in my profession,....
Very often for many long hours I have had nothing to eat except a few hard
pieces of bread crust which I found in the mud and have sought desperately
for a piece of bread. I've gone through scenes which histories never mentioned
in these wars, and in the American Civil war I was a fugitive from either
side many times being mistaken for a spy. But I have never witnessed anything
so horrible as I have here. On approaching the military accoutrides of
the Glandelinian side, while whose aid I had been then doing my correspon
ence business I was sent to spot where one of the Glandelinian divisions
surrounded by a howling mob of fierce Angelinian soldiery was fighting
desperately for its own existence, and a desperate struggle was getting on.....
Many soldiers were being slaughtered and cut up with bayonets, or shot
down on both sides. I never saw such a terrific battle."

With the Middle Left

While the exodus of the error stric en glandelinian soldiers was going on through one of the shell swept villages, there were many others affected by a sentiment. Large groups clung desperately to the ruins, fighting the advancing christians as fiercely as despite all as any number of men have the strength and courage to fight, against overwhelming n mbers. numbers, refusing ever when they were swept by grape and canister to leave the h afs of ruins hoping that their only safty lay in defenses in the shell swept wrecks of these once beautiful homes.....The Christians had to attack them with dreadful force and fury to get them out of these defenses. And the most distressing scenes of the awful battle was the appalling disorganization of the efforts to send reinforcements to the shattered portions of the defeated glandelinian armies. While active efforts at succor were made to be sent to general Messina's divisions ,the other sections of the glandelinian armies bearing the full brunt of the christian assault was left unaided. and untill nearly four in the afternoon not a single regiment of troops had arived to relieve those who for so long had been striving to hold at bay their dreadful assailants.

So widespread was the disaster that it was impossible at first for any of general Clancy's staff to cover the whole battlefield..

"You who are in authority, do not tell the generals to have us removed from here or have us all shot to end our suffering"shrieked the frightened wounded desperate survivors of the battle of Vergio's division when some of the stretcher bearers came among them even at the danger of destruction from shell fire.

Every effort was all the time during some slight lulls in the battle to did do this. Long wagon trains crowded the many roads carrying away large numbers of the surviving wounded, to any distant part not too dangerously close to the christian armies, to every region outside the glandelinian army and zone of battle where help could be hoped for. The fear portions of the more distant glandelinian camps was filled to overflowing with them and hospital camps too were crowded with the injured.

In the realm of ruin and its vinicity a ll that was possible was done to care for the wounded refugees while efforts were made to rally the defeated portions and stay the christian advance. New camps had been rigged up everywhere. Even tents of boughs and grass were put up for the wounded many of whom were in disabled army carts under mere strips of rings and bed sheets.

As far as one could see at sections where the fury of the battle had lulled could be seen many of the fallen. Sometimes were dozens of windrows of dead and wounded, there fifty windrows, further on perhaps a hundred and within the abandoned christian positions now lost to the enemy swarms of their dead. The Glandelinians had now lost all the ground they had won to recover that now was impossible, and all that could be hoped for was that the shattered lines of troops could reach their own positions before the christians would redouble their own efforts to push on and try and carry those. The large camps of wounded were sometimes however inthe way for retreating troops. General Piazza's division in retreating toward its own position crowded many tents with its own quota of wounded. All the soldiers were now clad in rags which were once uniforms, many of them new. Officers and privates were mingled in confusion and one could not tell who in the crowd might be a glandelinian general or a private. All shared the same misery and horror.

Violet herself said to her sister Joice;

"What fearful thing ge have happened here during this awful battle. General Hanson sure is a Tornado. We are in the midst of a whole "country"of wounded. All hospitals of the enemys lines are full. The rallied divisions of the enemy are ~~sch~~ schooling for more fighting. As terrible as their losses are they don't seem to understand when they've got enough. I've seen many officers pass us by whose hair and ears are full of mud stones and blood. and all those who are not badly wounded are still fighting at all costs..They' can't win this battle. Why continue trying?"

"Aw they're all born fools let them have their medicine"said Joice.

"This will teach general Clancy that even Irish cannot cope with Hanson. This morning I saw one of his staff working hard to get a division of troops up in time, and never succeeded. Among the glandelinian victims here who was one officer who had lain all the morning under the debris of a field piece and gun cassion with two of his staff, almost dead. The whole three of them were badly cut and bruised, and yet did not complain. Wicked as they are these glandelinians are sure brave.."

Shuddering under the recollection of what seemed a terrible night mare ,rather than actual reality many of the survivors of the battle calamitiee, especially those of the glandelinian right wing had yet tried to picture the intensity of the hora hours of horror and the succeeding hours of terror which followed the loss of all the ground their glandelinian comrades had lost after winning it at so dreadful a cost, and which consequences al, almost overcame them on that dread afternoon of October the Fifth. Violet and her sisters themselves ha having been witnesses of all could r e recount the roar of fearful cannonading, the noise of rifle firing wilder than they had ever heard it yet , had seen the enemys lines rolled back in dreadful confusion, and could hear the terrible cries and groans of those left behind on the shell swept battlefields. Violet and her sisters had witnessed the retreating glandelinian soldiers climbing over windrows od dead bodies, and making their way through the fields heaped with the fallen of their own side. They co ld toll of fearful mobs of retreating glandelinians in their wild flight across the fields and heard their expressions for safty and defence and any of their accounts if they told any would have reached the climax of dramatic presentation of battle fevil and half insane terror. The battles fury even terrified Violet, and her sisters, and horrified them. They had never seen anything to compare to this before..

"In fernal is only the word for this."said Violet.

"Nothing else can absolutelydescribe this fearful and terrifying scene." Joice said...

"Did you see much of the battle" Jennie asked of Aielsa-le-fob was the [illegible] time.

"Yes indeed. When the first shock of the terrific counter attac came some of the glandelinian troops had have been caught napping. I was aroused by a, deafening crash ...ing of artillery whose concussion seemed to shatter the air, and I also was startled by the rocking of the house I was in at the time, and in getting it as the battle thought at first it was an earthquake and shouted to those within"Earthquake." windows swayed and rattled and crockery and glass crashed to the floor. The next moment came a redoubled crash close than before, and at that instant I was violentlythrown out of my chair to the floor. I was half stunned but realized that the only thing for me to do was to get out as fast as I could. I did so, and realized afterall the Christians were at it again but were redoubling their efforts. The distant fields were filled with retreating confused troops soldiers as it seemed in their panic of the rain of shell fire falling in "Torrents." Terrified shouts arosed from all sides, and we heard desperate many rending appeals for help from officers trying to rally their troops."

"Great numbers of troops were retreating all around us, and so terrible was the shells explo exploding even from the christian lines that not one of us expected to escape alive"said Hettie. "My sisters were close with me while in a frenzy of terror the glandelinian soldiers fled in all directions while in order to save ourselves and escape the terrific fire of the christians we had to hold our own with the or against the panic stricken Glandelinian soldiers, and clambering over piles of earth debris left there by the burst of high explosives untill we finally reached a place of comparative safty. But this was not done untill I was struc down and slightly injured by a stone that was hurled at me by an explosion. All along the road James we were jostled by scores of fleeing glandelinian soldiers who cursed us roundly for being in their way. The very world behind us seemed to be crashing into the air so loud was the din of explosions and so frequently and in whatever direction we turned."

"Yes and when we stopped for a momentary rest behind a high ledge of stone"said Angeline, "suddenly the Angelinian troops began to pour into the territory. A horde of glandelinians still retreating were caught in the rear dangerously close to us, and so fierce was the scene that it seemed to us, and my sisters said the same afterwards too, that this must mean mean the end of every thing. The oncoming christian tide rolled on as if all of the soldiers were a huge wave, accompanied by the distant terrific roar of the batteries covering their onslaught. Seventy shells exploded close to our shelter at once, and we recieved a terrific deluge of shattered stones dirt, earth, and water and clay and volumes of sad, sand as you see we are frightfully dirty. Had it not been for that high ledge we wouldn't have been here now. The sky was dar with the smoke from conflagrations and as if this was not enough, there suddenly shot up into the sky close to our view a huge burst of flame followed by a cloud as if from a volcanic eruption of intense force followed by a crash that seemed as if its concussion was going to loo los loosen the ledge and cause the big rocks to fall down and crush us. This probably was some big mine blowing up."

"Yes and this terrifying scene was enough to frighten us for the first time"added Caroline. "Eventually we had reached the principal danger zone in coming near this ledge, and three thousand soldiers fell within our sight before those explosions all at one time. We were terribly frightened. We ourselves were under fire from our own side, and glandelinian shells we did not fear at all. We understand how to dodge them. But dodging christian shells is a miracle believe me. None of us knew what to do. We waited in an agony of fear and prayed. Glandelinian soldiers rushing past us shouted screamed groaned shrieked and blasphemed. I saw one side of the cliff not far from us hit by a high explosive and collapse. It seemed to me and my sisters that that hundreds of glandelinians were buried beneath the tons of falling rock. We dared not move from that shelter."

""Did you escape from the overhanging cliffs very soon.."?Demanded James.....

"Not thaill we had quite a mishap mishap though none of us were hurt." admitted Lucy.... "A terrible shell hit the cliff above our heads and exploding showered down upon us a torrent of shattered rock debris. Frantic with terror I shouted to my sister Violet, and the others who were in sheltered some distance from me. A terrific eruption crashed some where closer and the whole cliff rocked, but it remained erect though we scattered for four of a perfect landslide upon us. We were strangely in dar ness for a time probably caused by the smoke.. while everything seemed to heave about us, andeverything thundered like as if we were in an active volcanic crater of great violence. Fearing the cliff would finally be demolished, and believing it was more safer out in the open we staggered, down the reeling road to the field. The road beyond was cluttered with the shattered ruin of fallen trees and limbs and checked with bodies of enemy dead and wounded, and debris of every sort was falling. The injured glandelinian soldiers, were surie ing cursing and blaspheming from every spot where they had remained after falling, and from explosions the ground was split up everywhere. Horror was piled on horror, and from great clouds of smoke pouring upward from some great fire in eyeblackness pressed upon us with upon us, with here and there a big flame shooting out from among the smoke..

When it grew lighter we made our way to the road, seeing in the distance where the vicsl ture of christian troops had thrown the glandelinian armies four hundred yards from the positions they had captured at the opening of the battle, and broken every glandelinian column to pieces.

The territory was full of wreckage of every description, especially from caissons, splintered farm houses and fences and trees. Four Glandelinian columns some distance away had been forced back by the Christian charge, but they seemed to have been rallied, as a portion of the greatwave of christians had receded before them, and the Glandelinians were holding a natural position. They must have been the Glandelinian generals under general Ezio Ava e, Varez and other. We didn't dare to get again too near the Glandelinians for fear they would bring us under the christian fire again. We heard reports that general Consolate's division of the II 14th corps was found to be a mere remnant. I saw the position which had been held by that division now in the possession of the christian troops to our enjoyment but they were too far away for us to reach them and besides at that distance our gray uniforms would bring their fire upon us. We found no trace of other Glandelinian columns, and therefore all must have been crushed in resisting the advancing christian column. We succeeded in breaking our way through a shattered wood to get a better view as in our locality the terrific firing had either lifted or had ceased. Since then we didn't have any more experiences."

"I saw a good deal of the battle too" said Adele-de-fobi. I was "I was some distance from the sea of advancing christian troops. While the vast Glandelinian front opposing the christian lines within my view did not fall back. it was severely shaken. I happened to be on a high rise of ground at the moment the assault came, and one section of the enemy army probably under general A grow was flung from the position before it could get into position voluntarily to repell the assault. The general rose just where I was calling to others to bring on their troops, and all must have managed to get their brigades and divisions up to repell the Angelinians for the noise of battle was louder, and the shaken from so many cannon thunders and exploding shells continued with ever increasing violence.. Some of the divisions as I saw were delayed slightly by the christians pressing through an orchard to come upon the enemy rear, and then one of their generals were wounded and the men had to carry him to the rear. The last and worst paroxysm was finishing as they reached the battle line, and to this delay the o soldiers probably owed their hopes of standing ground, for this portion of the army seemed to have escaped the disaster that had occurred to the rest. One portion of the line threatened most as near St Boniface's Crossroads and to that the reinforcing troops hastened. They they stood their ground desperately for over two hours the battle raging with a noise like the death throes of a dying world. "

"What did you do all that time James" asked Jennie...2.2.

"I did nothing then. I stood silent---somewhat dull, dazed half stupified by such a noise of battle. I however do I not remember feeling any sharp emotion, not even fear, though I was greatly excited. I believe I passed in' o in' winto a condition of submissive indifference."

"So did we" said violet.

"Well" he continued "With the slow lifting of the fog produced by so much firing my faculties were aroused. The fog rebealed revealed little until it actually arose and then fearing the line might fall back and retreat and involve re in the frightful melee I strove to make my way to the lower part of the hill and get some distance off from the battle front.. Then I found to my astonishment, that I was a sort of prisoner.. The rise of ground at every section below was occupied by christian soldiers, and the enemy were flying there hard to hard below.. It was impossible, and even if the girls here could have recognized [illegible] couldn't have [illegible] for a moment I imagined [illegible] and I hoped for the speedy victory of the christians [illegible] would be driven. A number of the wounded Glandelinian soldiers were lying on top of the hill and then I [illegible] to one of them to find out [illegible] the battle and [illegible] one of them [illegible] the Glandelinian army was no more. Even then I failed [illegible] the extent of the disaster to the [illegible] army, [illegible] the enemy down below began to withdraw and the christians to pursue, I began to scramble over the debris of the woods on the slope toward the lower ground.. I reached it after an hour, and then I realized [illegible] soldiers had not exaggerated. As I went ahead I heard from somewhere a [illegible] of cannons, and we [illegible] a awful treading [illegible] of my feet. Some of the wounded Glandelinian [illegible] that it was an "earthquake. I [illegible] ever realized time in spite the concussions of the cannons, for the vibrations followed their [illegible] terrible [illegible] roar, and which continued and seemed to grow stronger. I also heard a prolonged roar of countless rifles, and [illegible] shot [illegible] every reach of me hit a tree, it split in two, and [illegible] the trees [illegible] to the ground, [illegible] me. I was so excited that I trembled all over. To increase the terror a rainstorm" of [illegible] and shell, accompanied [illegible] shrapnell, and the [illegible] air [illegible] added to the [illegible] Finally [illegible] I finally succeeded in [illegible] the lower [illegible] of the land face of the and face of terror [illegible] Glandelinian soldiers, [illegible] onward, [illegible] fragments of shrapnell [illegible] and soldiers fell everywhere [illegible] my view. [illegible] and even [illegible] at every step. Instinctively I [illegible] Valdeau [illegible] here found the shore transformed [illegible] explosion [illegible] formed [illegible] lake

in which I slipped and often fell. The concussion of a shell threw me down upon my face in that miry slope. A slope of ground in the rear of me seemed to collapse. As the miry lake was in a sort of depression I remained there for some time, while my ears were assailed with the cries and moans of the countless wounded. These sounds abated somewhat as many of them died. I saw one Glandelinian soldier staggering across the open and a shrapnell shell exploding close to him tore his face away and ripped out his eyes, and his frantic yelling upset me.

Still the battle raged and no one came to the assistance of the Glandelinians.. I was for a time as if in a tomb, with the bodies of so many dead Glandelinian soldiers all around me. Some times so heavy was the smoke fog that I couldn't see no one nor what was going on around me but every time sounds were heard as of troops coming up, there would come an heart rending burst of piercing cries for help from the injured lying out there on the dreadful battlefield. When it became a little quieter I ventured forth, but on my hands and knees. I passed near a vast crevasse torn in the ground by a high explosive shell, and climbed over great mounds of earth debris that was thrown by the explosion."

"Did you have as much adventure as us" asked Violet.

"I do not know. At least I will confess that after I got out of that muddy hollow I remained in shelter."

"I saw lots of strange things produced by the battle "said Jennie . "When it commenced this morning I was awakened from sleep by a tremendous thundering roar. I at first thought there was coming an unusually violent thunderstorm. but I feared too an earth concussion for it seemed as though one was on. The walls of my room cracked, the windows went out, and through it came a cloud of suffocating dust. I was somewhat stunned, but not injured, and I aroused my sisters, and we tried to escape to the outside but the stairs had collapsed. We descended from a third story window by a rope. Walking was difficult, owing to the fact that the air was heavy with battle smoke.. We observed the battle in a distance and at first thought the enemy was being successful at some section. We saw some general fall after he had tried to rally a division, and assisted in re reforming eighty six regiments, all of them under heavy fire. The faces of every one of the fallen showed the suffering from their wounds. Many had their arms or legs ripped or torn away by shell fire. I'm afraid it will be a long time before my nerve will ever recover from the atrocious impressions to which they were subjected, and my eyes will retain as long as they remain open the vision of horrible battle, death and devastation which oppressed them. To witnesse the battle along the christian left however we proceeded as far as Palmil Creek on horse, and thence afoot. Six or seven girlscouts of the foe side accompanied us to Vantu a River, and I and my sisters had decided to reach the scene of battle at whatever the cost. Two or three Glandelinian officers, cut off from one of the regiments while on duty by the battle, were returning to find news of the fate of general Bybye's brigade. They preceded me on horse. We we went in squad formation through an orchard of a farm, holding hands and stumbling over debris. Whole regiments of Glandelinians were coming up on a sort of withdrawal and many of them were wounded and covered with bandages, having all sorts of dreadful painful wounds. Many of them were stupified by the fury of the christian resistance. Some distance along we came upon a division of fresh troops preparing to advance. In reply to our questions as to what had happened along the cristian christian left wing, they made vague and decorate gestures, and continued to gaze at us as if they were stalled cows. After two hours march we saw the main of the battle."

Some sections of the christian left had seemed to been dissolved away but we hoped the main christian army was safe. One of the Glandelinian generals who saw a brigade on a slow withdrawal was giving orders for an installation of a wireless [illegible] telegraph wire in a tree. I saw with the aid of my glasses many disordered regiments of christians far before the advance of the Glandelinians proving that every section of the christian line there was in ruin for the time. Yet seated on a stump was a wounded glandelinian officer who swore at us and said we were fools to go so close to a battle field. The region beyond where we were was impracticable. Enormous portions of the christian left had recoiled we found that out, but other sections continued to obstruct the advance of the foe. We were standing in sand often up to our waists in water watching the battle fo getting in our excitement where we were. We decided to climb a high rise of ground and advance across the wa w ravines of trunswood to see the battle closer if possible. It seemed we marched more with out brains than with our legs, for apparently about us shrapnell sometimes rained in a "deluge" and yet we were not injured nor scared. One of the girlscouts dropped behind ready to drop from fright. At eleven in the morning we reached the stream of Ste Marie, and heard that of Colonel Burners regiment of fifteen hundred men only seven remained, and they were wounded and in improvised tents. I should have felt sorry, but how can any one when they have seen what the enemy has done in the war. Some of them asked us pitifully for bread, but we ourselves had not eaten since we started, and we did not know what to answer, so we were forced to leave them hopeless. We had however only covered two miles every step at the cost of the greatest exertions and in the fave of dreadful perils. Our uniforms were soaked with water and sweat. Finally we decided to rest but rest was impossible. We could see through our field glasses that the whole christian left wing except to the west apparently was completely blotted out. Large divisions of troops

128were still sand standing their ground, but other portions of the battle line had collasped, and it seemed as if the enemy was carrying all before before them. While on the hill we were in a sort of hollow in a wood and to this fact for our first experience experience we owe our lives. In our locality all was so quiet.had we gone a little more forward we doubtless would have been illed or badly wounded.There were twenty one or more men a little in advance of us also watching the battle and they appeared to be officers. All of a sudden the whole hillside before us seemed to rise into the air like a huge rolling cloud, the fragments falling among the trees of the forest as if in a shower. A deafening roar as of the loudest thunder shook us all off our feet and filled out ears with an earsplitting noise.The air became suffocating with dust and powder smoke. My body seemed to grow numb at once.I don't know how long I lay in a sort of stupor before I realized that there was a lot of debris all over me and my sisters were frantically digging me out. They told me what happened. A christian gunner had seen the group of officers and let loose a high explosive destroying them all.The spectacle however stupified me.I thought the end of the world had come, and that I was not yet dead nor my sisters, but that every one else had perished. I could not at first recognize what I saw as landscapes, of a battle line far away, of fires, or of my sisters digging me free.Still the earth trembled from circles concussions of explosions, and drum drum artillery fire, and gusts of terrible explosions came intermittently, and the concussion toppled over some trees.I after being lifted to me my feet glanced back where we had seen the mighty "eruption".All the trees there had been shattered to mere nothing.I looked for the other still standing section of the christian left wing.It had collasped, the troops retreating, the enemy crushing the whole line of it to pieces. As I realized that I was stilll alive and my sisters too, I thought of what could have happened, and believed if the same gunner saw us too he'd let go again and we sure knew christian gunners only miss an object when they intend to do so and not before. He had aimed directly at that spot and did not miss. So we rushed back to where we had come from before reaching the hill, although from other sounds it seemed to us as if many other actions of the battle in seperate sections had started in all directions and their was a wild confusion of sounds. We saw as we did so the "skeleton of a christian division recoiling. The air was full of smoke and dust..It was at times as if we groped through a fog. Yet I could see at some distance away what appeared to be a great rift torn in the ground by some mighty explosions, and at the time of the outburst the scene there must have been as if an elongated volcanic eruption had commenced;...3.3 Many of the straggling or struggling Glandelinians on the retreat seemed to be acting as if they were a lot of madmen, some were clambering over the ravine with their uniforms in tatters.. I saw a shell hit a five story farm house as we went on and it was reduced to only a heap of stone, twisted ironand wood splinters. The five stories had been blown down into a heap of ruin about fifteen or sixteen feet high.That sure showed the dreadful power of those shells. without believing how impossible was the effort we began to press on.In some parts of the ruins we could hear moans, and therefore we doubted not a number of Glandelinian soldiers had been in that building when the gang-gang shell hit it. I would sometimes believe I heard some one elses cry , and indeed it sometimes sounded as if we were in a world of so called ghosts and still being humans. I and my friends and sisters were still continuing on, when some Scoodlier Scoodlier soldiers came and not recognizing us asked if we wanted something to eat...3.3. Untill then I did not realize how hungry I was, and probably my sisters did not either. although we had gone nearly twenty four hours without a bite of bread.I. They told me it was too dangerous for girlscouts to go near a battle field and that we would go crazy if we stayed in such a region any longer and that the "christian dogs" as they called us would capture us.These Scoodlier Glandelinians are strange soldiers all right.They're kind to everybody Of their own side, and not knowing us were even very kind to us. They really did more than other Glandelinians would for their fellow, men. They told us there were one hundred and eighty thousand men in the b Brigade to which they bolo belonged, and only about one hundred or so had survive survivied. For two hours we wandered about the region untill I thought the sights of the criminal battle and death and destr destruction all around us would drive us crazy. On the hour of ten when it seemed as if the christian left wing were being reinforced and started to reverse the battle about two hundred of the survivors of general Hedma's division of five hundredthousand Gharians went to the rear.some of the soldiers were so nearly mad from the concussions of shellll explosions that they were wrapped in blankets.. One prominent general of the almost annihilated division who had been driven half insane by seeing his son shot down in the battle and mortally wounded followed the survivors clad in a army shawl,.... many of the others coming to the rear were so wounded that it was believed they would die before the day was passed. I and myself were so saddened by the sight that we didn't follow. We new the same scenes would be observed on the christian side.While watching the dreadful scene I met a well dressed Glandelinian officer who wanted to know why I was not out of the war zone, and asked whether I and my followers wan ted to be shot by the "enemy" or captured.

As we heard the region where general Serpanin's Glandelinian division was moving forward to the support of the assault upon the christian left, a superior general made his way forward on horseback and called repeatedly, , , ,

for his troops too to follow him onward. Then from some part of the waiting line ofvtroops(bespeaks p) came the voice of some other officer,,,

"I am here.I am here.When do we go forward.!"

"Are all the officers there?"

"Yes we are all here."

"Forward."and they all marched away many I am sure never to return as we saw so much firing in the direction of the christian lines that everything was obscured from view by the fog of smoke. When general Serpanin's division started to move forward also, we saw elsewhere lots of wounded sitting in great numbers or lying down but in isolated groups.... Physically also they were utterly exhausted. and seemed scarcely conscious of their surroundings. Two men were carrying a wounded officer on a stretcher. His head was covered with blood and a bloody bandage.

I"Is that Colonel Mic-Hollester"we heard some one demand.

"No "one of the men replied."It's general Curran. We found him near the captured christian trenches.We are carrying him to the rear.It's simply awful over there.Everybody is falling.Those christian dogs are mowing us all down."

Z"We saw one officer his uniform tattered and torn.He had his arm in a sling.To us it seemed as is over half the army was wounded. There surely was not a single happy thing in within the Glandelinian armies nor its camps.s We then went forth chancing anything and were aroused by a tre men dous roaring sound.. At that moment as we were standing near a sort of slope I felt myself falling, and thought I was in the grip of some unseen monster. It indeed seemed to us as if we were for the time being whether we had sinned or not been placed within the confines of hell for amid the roar of battle the air was filled with a "hurricane" of most terrifying shrieks. We soon again came to the realization however that the new happening must be a reversal in the huge drama performing beforeous.The christian left wing was rallied and was either advancing or opening fire of artillery in new sections.A shell screamed above us and exploded among the tree tops and a big branch and a part of the upper b trunk fell among the branches of lower trees below.These objects paused a moment and then crashed down ard, the other branches giving way at once and almost fell upon us before weeven had time to even think of rushing from under..... We also witnessed the work of trying to restore lines that were being broken and torn up by the first rally of the christian left wing.That was an awful stubborn conflict.. As the christian waves were said to have been starting to advance some section of the Glandelinian army must have felt the brunt of it, and the scene we witnessed was well worth witnessing. Amid a great confusion of sound we heard a faint cry of; "hully,hully give the christian dogs all the fight you want" coming from some distance.I and my sisters watched the scene through the field glasses and the soldiers attempting to continue the advance against the christians were fighting as an army of demons in delirum.They strove desperately for two hours, and finally tore through a portion of the advancing christian lines. I'll bet the christians themselves were so exasperated that they must have gave the foolish Glandelinians a terrible lose.But we saw the daring thrust of these dare devil Glandelinians and cut asunder a part of the christian front.. Seeing their advantage we no doubt suspected that at any rate the Glandelinians must have fell to work with greater vigor, and presently we observed that they began to press on still further. We didn't believe that portion of the christian line would ever recover but we saw far to their rear a new purple or red line approaching and heard the noise of fresh cannons. Violet tried with her camera to photograph the scene of the battle and from some unseen spot a fragment of a shell hit it and flung it so far from her that she could never recover it, and she told me before you came that she felt the shock to her hands yet. Yet no matter how hard they were pressed all of the now shattered Glandelinian columns seemed capable of resisting the counter christian advance in the most so elementary manner..The following incident of which I and my sisters observed is a good example of this condition. I saw one officer who was wounded released from the debris of a cannon [illegible] expression, [illegible] realize that he had been under there at all. [illegible] to explain [illegible] he was unhorsed in a [illegible] of mire after having died a [illegible] death, and that he was already on the way to hell. I [illegible] Glandelinian soldiers con considering [illegible] of a lieutenant, three [illegible], a sergeant and five com[illegible] [illegible] half without clothes in a small open glen..

A battage of shells were exploding close by in a perfect ite torrent.

Seeing me one of them shouted"For the Love of Neptune help us get out of this battle inferno. We are wounded and cannot move."

"That's easy enough I "I replied sort of sarcastically."Go down to the rear and you'll find [illegible] there."

"But can we in our wounded condition get there!"was the next question.

"On your two legs"I answered."Do you think we are able to carry you men. We are children not giants."

But the silly Glandelinian Asses refused to move, the men explaining that they couldn't move.It did not occur to them in their condition that many hours would pass before stretcher bearers could come to them, and though they're enemies surely we could have done something for them but it was impossible, as we couldn't even reach them, as a great fissure in the ground barred our way too wide to even jump across. I saw then the Glandelinian lines of battle under general Ilmin recoiling before,

the advance of the rallied christian lines.. as they recalled every one of the officers we could observe through our field glasses seemed to be somewhat distracted. In his hand one of the officers seemed to be carrying a strange appearing sword with a curved blade, which upon further examination reminded me of the sort of sword the Indians of India use. We never at have seen some touches of humor during this battle which almost shocks by contract to the horrible scenes. One officer had his division of troops almost imprisoned in a glen which was surrounded by christian troops. The division of troops coming to his rescue tried to drive the christian besiegers away, and yet was blunder by the general and his staff to devote their efforts in saving other Glandelinian troops further away.

Don't thinks so much of us" called out the nearest of the officers" We can hold our own. General Paolo Piza also was trapped by a body of christian troops which we had observed and which we heard lots about. The left wing of his line had been rolled up, and rolled out of the position it had captured in panic. One section of the line we heard was lodged in a deep ditch sort of trench and this army ran out of ammunition and had to resort to using bayonets and throwing big stones. That division was in that position we heard for five hours, expecting destruction all the time. Had it been possible we heard from the horror they had to go through any number of them might have committed suicide .. Yet we heard that finally another Glandelinian division came up to its relief, and drove the christians off temporarily and effected the release of this shattered brigade.."

"That shows there sure was something doing""""said Adele-de-f-b... .....

No sooner had the news of the second great disaster of the battle to the Glandelinian army reached the ears of general James Clancy then in consonance with his record in preceding calamites of other battles of the record breaking furious war;;;; he decided to proceed at once to Ste Marie and then ce to St poniface Crossroads, and do all in his power to further the desperate work of restoration of the broken and shattered lines, ordering reserve and other divisions to go forward, and the reminder of the troops not having been in the battle yet to be ready, as soon as possible to move to the scene of the great disaster. He now decided to make use of any available means to crush General Hanson, and sent reinforcements to general Leagic and others. He was not to go alone however. Any of his staff were resolved to accompany him, saying that they felt sure they were needed at the time of such a desperate crisis. In consequence general Clancy left his part of the line to other sh rly after four in the afet afternoon while the uproar in the distance roared at its height. A number of high generals, and others accompanied them. General Briscomme was one of the officers to learn of the intentions of general Clancy. He hurried to the front and offered to accompany him, saying that the second battle disaster made it possible for all others to realize the calamity that had overtaken such parts of the Glandelinian army. The general accepted his services tarry.

THERE was a great crowd of officers to receive further instructions from general Clancy. Among them were a number of military deputies one of whom desiring to say something effective, remarked;;;;

"The presence of your Excellency will be sufficient to control the stricken and broken portions of our armies. He turned sharply upon the speaker and abruptly replied;" All you do is talk nonsense."

He reached the scene a little after five in the afterfch afternoon. Officers Officers of all sorts kept from emotion when they saw the general arrive. Crowds of terror stric en Glandelinian soldiers swarmed around the general and by his inspirations were rallied. Indeed the presence of the general acted as a general inspiration. Even the wounded soldiers found fresh strength when they learned that general Clancy had arrived to help them through the battle. An aged officer who had been brought in on a stretcher mortally wounded revived for a moment as he stood of greeting to the general and his staff.. He stretched out his hand and raised his head long enough to call out." Now I can die happy. Long live Glandelinia and her cause." He then expired.....

Many terrible stories were told to the general in connection with the work of trying to restore order. The divisions of troops had to contend with the mighty advance of the victorious christian divisions. In many cases shattered brigades and divisions of troops clung to positions badly exposed, refusing at any cost to fall back before the christian advance and seek a safer position. The general lost lost little time however in listening to a recital of difficulties. The general decided upon a most desperate plan. Courageously he put his plan into practice as soon as it was available to do so, when the two main divisions he expected arrived, for martial music and the general laity to hold up the main artillery fire until he could have most of the panic stricken divisions rallied and to get them to fix arms and their ground. General Lafty saw him move off, and general Clancy had hardly arrived to the front before discovering that general Harrison Roper Hanson Gross and his brother George were concentrating their super christian forces to the left of Ste Marie, and that the enormous force of Antelinians were pouring across Children's Playground. He expected these christian generals of having learned his plans by clever secret service movements of by sending secret messengers to spy on him. He feared about the Vivian girls but couldn't have imagined seeing them in his lines. General General Clancy and Sho Shoemannia eyed each other but did not say a single word... .....

Shoemannia carried a small bag, from which he continually extracted papers which he examined with an unusual attention, and this confirmed general Clancy of his suspicions that Shoemannia was positively sure that now to worst the christians was well night beyond hope. General Clancy moved forward to the general, and was disgusted to see the christians under the two Orosses's massing such a volume of troops that it seemed impossible for any portion of the Glandelinian front to stand ground very much longer. He began to fear he was failing entirely in his attempts to save the Glandelinian army from a disasterous defeat. There were too plenty of glandelinian generals willing to risk an immediate counter charge upon any section of the christian line with such a reputation as Hansons army had got as a terrific fighter, but their main generals would not hear of it. Many of them said that general Clancy did not understand when the christian army was already winning. The most promising of all turned down his proposition for a grand counter charge for another reason.

"I know general Hanson Vivian and his methods of fighting well" said one of the generals." I have learned of his ways well. That assault upon his main left is all nothing but a great big blunder and I'd have moved against the christian center had I been in command. It's a good battle we have fought with general Hanson, but we couldn't expect to win a battle now. It's best we're all on the defensive untill night fall. Our own positions alone can save us from destruction."

Clancy hotly denied the story that he had directed a onslaught firts first falling against Hansons left early in the morning, and attempted to explain the matter but fruitlessly.

"Of course you being superior I don't despute your word" the general answered" and if you command us to obey orders under any conditions we'll have to go forward, as orders is orders. Most likely it is a put up game by some of the christian generals themselves, by the ones specially who hurled such reinforcements against us. But its a superiors reputation that counts, and if he's got the army into a bad situation it is his own duty to right it, and to counter attack won't right the situation.. You have the reputation of being too handy with your sledge hammer blows at one given spot only, and every general of the command even Hanley has found found out out, and this disaster puts you in bad I'm afraid."

General Clancy withdrew in some chagrin. He felt sure he had to suspect general Hare not Lie of the christian side for the disaster. However there was another surprise in store for him He was placing all reformed troops into new positions during a lull in the battle, watching the movement of other troops, and feeling completely discouraged, when general Apple or Turnapple arived.

"Well your Excellency what you think now of the situation?" he asked.

"I believe someones statement about that general Hanson Vivian being easy to orgeneral was a lie, general Turn Apple" said Clancy reddening.

The other general was not disturbed." I understood now you have come to the conclusion that this situation was worth developing" he answered. "I suspected the situation. I got my judgement from General Adele-de-garbe and I am not an army expert. Adele-de-garbe said "He'd like to see the general who can even put it over on general Hanson Vivian."

General Clancy felt baffled, general turnapple could not have been more plausible.

"Of course it would be best for me to resign my position as your adviser" continued general turnapple with an intonation of suave irony. "In fact General Clancy I should have done so long long ago. Does that fact forcid my mentioning that you have acted in an insane manner in trying to lick such a Napoleon as Hanson by trying trying to retrive the first disaster this morning?"

"By no means" answered Clancy pleasantly.

"You declined my advice" The general persued. "You went on ahead and did what I advised against, you left part of the army without support which was standing its ground at St Boniface's Crossroads, and caused the wounding of Josiphine Jensin who is one of the best generals of our army, and Adele-de-garbe had to assume command. you thrashed a large portion of the christian army of course which at first seemed impossible for you to do but left the left wing perfectly unguarded, and finally couldn't retain any position there. Further more the disaster is spreading and we we won't be able to sta stand ground at all now. The disaster is too far spread. We have no reinforcements coming from any far distance while new armies have arived for Hanson from the northeast."

Selen General Clancy gulped. All he could think of was the desire to dash his fist into general hansons face. He seemed constantly urged to physical violence, and yet since he came to the country and became a general he had never met a fighter as Hanson was.

"You will understand general Clancy" "continued turnapple that" That in this army all rights of generals are respected. You cannot try now and move forward any reserve force with any purpose of counter charge when defensive movements now is our only safty. General Brousseau's division is been moving up from the Children's playground plains and they cannot be stopped, his christian dogs are as fierce as bulls. However I am advised to make a proposition which I earnestly advise you to accept. Withdraw the armies out of this awful battle and retreat to night. It's our only hope. To continue the battle any longer is madness."

General Clancy stood up straight. He was a rare devil reckless reckless Scotch Irishman..

"Retreat now!" he demanded. "I decline your offer. And I do not wish to recieve any more such offers. I shall continue to work the army through through to our own positions as long as daylight enables me to continue the fighting. When I can't then a retreat shall be made. But Hanson's army will never get ours. No retreat now [illegible] be folly, suicide. The christian army would crash upon me as Wellingtons did upon Napoleons at Waterloo. What do you think I am a fool?"

"Why not be one since you are." Inquired general Turn apple bluntly. "They won't stand ground much longer anyway. You could avoid further such bloodshed. Why the battle is far bloodier than we had ever wished for. even expected. Our losses are immeasureable. You complain of me suspecting you as a fool, and your acting one."

General Clancy could not answer to this. He thought of the Ste Marie horror and disaster, and the spreading battle plague sore that swept all off the St Boniface Crossroads, but he understand that this was not the principal cause of his refusal. nor was it pride entirely. And he knew then the cause of his defeat. He felt sure it was because of the Vivian Girl Princesses. He had secret enemies in his camp and they were frustrating him. He raised his head to meet general Turn apples quizzical eyes.

"You shall not have any more such offers" said General Turnapple. "And remember it is now henceforward for the rest of the day then war to the knife between yourself and general Hanson Vivian. You've got a terrible christian general to contend with."

Which which was franker than general Turnapple had ever been since he was with general Clancy since the beginning of the career of the two. But had Clancy followed general Turnapples advice, even if voc victory wasn't won no such disaster at least would have happened to the army.

"I may accept the offer after all general Turnapple" said Clancy smiling "But the threat of conditions doesn't worry me. I understand general Hanson Vivian is the biggest fighter of all christian generals, maybe and maybe elsewhere as well, but if I got general Izner Myletze---"

"Can that talk" said Turn apple. "Myletz couldn't lick him either."

Later on general Clancy saw Turnapple and Shoemannia in conferecne conference together. This was proved that general Hanson had dogged him in this tremendous battle. He felt that even assuming the defensive methods would be of no avail. He was indeed in a miserable condition of suspicion of spies within his camp overthrowing all his p ans plans, and wondering where the next blow would fall. He had seen however that all the retreating troops were being withdrawn to the shelter of their own Glandelinian positions. He found too that general Hansons army though the battle lulled was preparing for many other movements. General Lafty who rode up to him again looked frightfully worried.

"I'm glad you're here" he said as they rode to the front together. "Things are getting pretty bad all along the lines."

"The army retreating without orders?"

"No sir. That's the brightest point of this awful situation. General Adele-de-garbe notified me by note and courier that general Brousseau of our side is mortally wounded, and that our generals are dropping the proposed counter movements and that all the battle is going to be fought on the defensive method from now on."

"What's the trouble then."

"I guess general arenot lie general Hansons right hand is off on some other scheme as he's massing such terrible numbers. All officers was over on that hill yonder near the Ste Marie stream. They observed all the movements of the christian armies. At some section the whole line of battle is in an unusual uproar. The officers are all sober, We believe general Hanson means to strike the final blow.."

"And we are the lamb to the lion eh?"

"However sir that ain't the worst by no means. It's a sort of open secret that they are going to open up with all their batteries, blow our positions into the air, and mass batteries on our captured sections of the Ste Marie, and St Boniface, Crossroads and--"

"You mean general Hanson Vivian had plan planned to let go one of his destructive hells here to demolish the whole Glandelinian army" cried General Clancy angrily.

"Aye I'm afraid so" said Lafty. "Of course we can't [illegible] a general artillery fire with our [illegible] they're going to open up a terrific artillery fire if they will. We are sure to lose. It's better to retreat. General Turnapple is right."

General Clancy suppressed a [illegible].

"[illegible] I have [illegible] positions [illegible] christian neighborhoods" he [illegible].

"[illegible]" said Lafty. "I've [illegible] their guns. [illegible] batteries [illegible] regarded. I [illegible]

[illegible]

"[illegible]" said Clancy. "[illegible] Lafty."

Lafty [illegible] of this. The evidence of [illegible] officers were [illegible] field [illegible] looking. It was clear that they had little hope, general Clancy could counter this new pro project, and he was aware of a feeling in the air as if he was being tested. He saw furtive glances toward the christian

lines as they rode past, he noticed [illegible] in the sudden glances and that [illegible] and the [illegible] faces which [illegible] frightened [illegible] the movements of the christian troops with great [illegible]. Then [illegible] general Lobiance and Pierre. The two were [illegible] officers [illegible] lines, [illegible] words, [illegible] concerning it. There was [illegible] Clancy could take exception, for he himself saw the same situation. [illegible] that these two [illegible] great agitation. As he passed Lobiance [illegible] to Pierre and made some [illegible] remark against the christians that caused the others to laugh. Pierre [illegible] to [illegible] Clancy told him to do his duty [illegible] rode off. [illegible] still seemed that general Clancy [illegible] no [illegible] conversing alone.

[illegible] this incident [illegible] his resolution to bring matters to a head [illegible] so long as he remained [illegible] defensive general [illegible] could [illegible] have the tactical advantage over him. Therefore he [illegible] welcomed general Turnapples project [illegible] and also retained in his mind the plan of [illegible] the christian line of assault along the [illegible] of the river, [illegible] for [illegible] come. It seemed to him a [illegible] feasible [illegible] portion of portion of the christian army [illegible] beside [illegible] the water, and [illegible] barrage of artillery across, this requiring no blunders to fear, a process however impossible until the batteries could be brought [illegible] position. There had seemed to him to be some good chance if he only [illegible]. In order to get a clear view of the christian position and its movements, general Clancy rode down the Ventura road [illegible] Ste Marie section now in possession of the christian troops, and ascended an elevation opposite [illegible] side. He had nearly reached the branch road [illegible] Ste Marie, when he percieved a group of officers [illegible] almost hidden from his view [illegible] the top of the rise. They were [illegible] conversation, and general Clancy held himself from going forward for they wore Scarlet uniforms, and [illegible]. Presently [illegible] one of them [illegible] his horse and followed by the rest gallop away [illegible] the direction of the christian lines. At the same time he saw something that appeared to be a Glandelinian girlscout come slowly toward him. [illegible] she too disappeared. He suspected these officers were [illegible] on the Glandelinian position just as he was spying on the movements of the christian armies. Then the girlscout [illegible] again. She [illegible] aside to let him pass. She [illegible] as it seemed, and there were traces of tears on her cheeks. She would have waited for him [illegible] by, her face averted, but general Clancy placed his hand upon [illegible] bridle.

"[illegible]" he began----"

"Let me go on" she said in a low tone."

"I want to converse with you" he said sternly. I saw you in conversation with those Christian officers. If you are of our side, and you are in [illegible] I want to help you, but if you were in league with them [illegible] and---and--"

She smiled [illegible] "I [illegible] ble, and if I were I should not need [illegible] general Clancy" she answered. "[illegible] with sudden vehemence "Why did you come [illegible] here?" she cried. "Why could you not have moved off from [illegible] Are you mad?"

"I [illegible]" said Clancy "[illegible] such a case of [illegible] I hope [illegible] girl. I [illegible] conscious of [illegible] because I [illegible] battle and serve in the Glandelinian army [illegible] for excitement and adventure. That's not bad in it. What care I [illegible] as long as I'm seeing [illegible]. I [illegible] girlscout. You're one of the Vivian Girls in disguise. [illegible] before I [illegible] not conscious of having wronged you and [illegible] I do not intend to expose yourself. I'm not that [illegible]."

"[illegible] would have been compelled [illegible] sacrifice [illegible] Irishman [illegible] to serve in the Glandelinian [illegible], and to exile [illegible] and miseries."

"I have not exiled Miss Vivian. I [illegible] if I made the error."

"[illegible] Was that general [illegible] the christian armies. [illegible]?"

In the meantime while [illegible] conversation was going on between Violet and the Glandelinian general, general Adel-de-garbe [illegible] laboring [illegible] still [illegible] Glandelinian [illegible] in an effort to extricate [illegible] from [illegible] position. [illegible] devoted [illegible] officer was brought [illegible] explanation [illegible] shell and was carried [illegible] battle line and [illegible] cover [illegible] for several Adele-[illegible] while [illegible] the officers in person faced the dangers of [illegible]

[illegible] de sought general Francis Gilbert, [illegible] wounded and [illegible] found [illegible] general [illegible] [illegible] to general [illegible] himself in his headquarters [illegible] recieved [illegible] his sixty columns which he could hardly read;

"I

"I [illegible] from a certain sector of [illegible] front which I found in a condition no less disasterous than reported elsewhere. General C[illegible] S[illegible] [illegible] again. A [illegible] had been [illegible]. [illegible] to do so. [illegible] the best. Please if [illegible]

[illegible] assistance
General Francis
Johnston Adele-De-Garbe.
Glandelinian center."

The [illegible] decisive action of [illegible] from his headquarters general Ihyor and his chief of staff [illegible] been wounded and had then sent to safter quarters. Indeed the presence of general De Garbe and his staff gave a great impetus to [illegible] efforts. At [illegible] admiration among [illegible] the idea of [illegible] the Glandelinian [illegible] while there [illegible]. [illegible] he discovered an officer whose regiment was well nigh extinguished. General De Garbe [illegible] a new regiment to place with him.

"Sir" said the officer. "I can [illegible] for deliverance. But give me a brigade and I'll [illegible] the front again."

"Adele-de-garbe did not [illegible] well. He too was exhausted, and the terrible scenes of [illegible] he had witnessed affected him most [illegible] love him for his devotion and his [illegible] service given [illegible] war. His devotion was [illegible] strengthened by his methods of rallying [illegible] divisions of troops. While engaged in this [illegible] work general De Garbe was slightly hurt, [illegible] Glandelinian soldier [illegible] past screaming;

"The Christian dogs are coming. The Christian dogs are coming. Save yourselves. Save yourselves."

A wounded soldier [illegible] general De Garbe was attending told the general [illegible] shell [illegible] forward [illegible] in his breast. He was hurt but nevertheless he continued his efforts as [illegible], till [illegible] five [illegible] in the afternoon the shattered armies were in [illegible] positions once more. Indeed five o'clock in the afternoon had barely come on,, [illegible] all the officers were still at [illegible] efforts [illegible] bodies of men and [illegible] of at least five miles [illegible] for the awful extent of the catastrophe. Only a [illegible] fragment of general [illegible] division had survived [illegible] battle, and [illegible] alive on the fields [illegible] desolate work [illegible] divisions [illegible] of the remainder for the whole army [illegible] millions lay dead in the whole battlefield [illegible] of them on the fields, others in the abandoned [illegible] and everywhere some [illegible], and [illegible] themselves to be known only by their cries of agony, calls for help or moans of pain, [illegible] of immediate and pressing importance [illegible] shell fire menaced every quarter, and [illegible] would not respect their temporary flag of truce [illegible]. [illegible] trenches and [illegible] recovered their senses and [illegible] effects of the [illegible] Zimmermannian, and Godfrey [illegible] and other enemy troops [illegible] were [illegible] the point of immediate danger [illegible] at once began the [illegible] the wounded as far as possible even under shell fire, removing them from the shell swept fields and [illegible] them to places of safety. A large number of the [illegible] wounded were [illegible] to the far [illegible] of the Glandelinian positions which became great [illegible] so to say, and there was not enough doctors either in the Glandelinian army nor enough surgeons [illegible] attended to such immense droves of wounded,,. Many of the more daring Glandelinians began their efforts by saving an officer and five others in the range of shell fire beyond comprehension of fury, and who were lying in a trench near St Boniface Crossroads.

They aided in extracting many more regiments of terrified soldiers who enclosed in the christian trenches and menanced by the christians on two sides couldn't advance nor retreat. The Ninth Corps and the division of troops under generals Porymann and Salvanoic were equally prompt and efficient, and showed such courage and darig intheir efforts to with draw shattered divisions from the unsafe territory and under fire of infantry and shells from the christian lines,, as to win the highest commendation their praises being on every lip of the Glandelinians, among privates and the officers alike..These troops in advancing to cover thecretreat of shattered divisions hesis esitated before no danger, resisting christian assaults doggedlyor pressing on through unsafe territorys when ordered to do so by superior officers who had not lost all hope that some Glandelinian regiment or brigade was still safe, but trapped and couldn't retreat.

As wicked as Glandelinian armies are, they're equally as brave as the christians are, and almost did win some admiration from even their enemies.

The intrepidity of these Glandelinian heroes from any section of the line led them to dare the greatest dangers to rally portions of the army and withdraw the others to their own positions in safty. One awful incident followed an hour after the great second spasm of the battle. A Brigade of Scoodlier soldiers came to the assistance of a troop of Zimmermannians still in a precarious position and whom had been fiercely assaulted four times in almost eldless endless succession. The left center and the right of this division still remj remained figting fighting it out desperately but the other sections of it were falling back. On the right however were still clinging to the position two Regiments and a Brigade of troops a little far in advance but cut off from the main body and fiercely attacked on all sides...2.3.3. Their officers had signaled many times for help. There however were no other reinforcements coming and rescue of these soldiers seemed impossible, as the assailants were overwhelming in numbers and were led by general Bruno Godfrey and was a portion of general Hare not Lies troop.

The brav e Sc Scoodliers did a most desperate and heroic thig indeed. While one brigade of them moved far around to the rear of the assailans assailants even at the danger of being exposed to the long range christian batteries, and moved against the left of the christian rear, two other Brigades with fixed bayonets charged so vigoro vigoriously as to literally drive their forward comrades through the christian wave li e the teeth of a comb through hair. By this onslaught the chri t christian line was demolished and the Scoodliers cut their way through, and finally reached the b esieged troops, while the rest of the Scoodlier force drove the christian line along the other section away from the battlefield with great loss. Then the Besieged troops were freed from their assailants and were able to be withdrawn from their precaurious position. The whole of these troops then assembled in the fields beyond Ste Marie, preparing to retreat tward the main position of their own, and the left of the Zimmer mannian c olumn was deployed tward the center. At that moment a big force of win ie Abyssin ilian troops under general Hel Ht Hetler fell upon the whole Glandelinian column from three sides, and in the dest desperate struggled that ensued Killed and wounded every one of them alike, the Zimmermannians so periously perilously rescued and the brave rescuing troops. General Watsons division came up at that moment and despered the dispersed the Abyssinkilianscbut not without great loss and he himself fell wounded... The work of rescueing a Glandelinian division near the St Boniface Crossroad s was bloody and most pathetic even for the enemy side... The rescue force as it is called, through the most heroic efforts at the cost of wholesale and bloody losses had succeded at three in the afternoon in reaching a portion of general Leblances shattered divisions in whose direction from the christian lines came the most fearful bursts of immeasureable firing of artillery and rifle,, indicating that one or more of the strongest christian divisions had been storming the position and that only one or more of the brigades of the Glandelinians in that sector were su surviving. This fact infused fresh vigor into the troops sent to aid them, and they closed up and came to their aid and fought most heroically, but although they continued in their most desperate efforts that seemed insanty in such a situation to do so, untill late in the afternoon no success rewarded their efforts and the christians continued, to press on as if they didn't meet with no resistance at all....2.2.2.

The Glandelinians withdrew to a ravine of great length and the fighting was then resumed, when all the Glandelinians went to their efforts with a vim feeling certain that general Leblances troop, and four others of his left grand division were still able to be secured from their assailants.

Only the fury of the christians was unwonted now, still the rescueing forces, among whom were great numbers of desperate unbeatable Onarians persevered though great numbers fell. Sixteen colinels fell in this dreadful fight, seven generals were mortally wounded two dead, and many officers of other rank fell and the losses of the Glandelinians was unspeakable and unbelievable. Another half hour passed, and at four fourteen in the afternoon there was another most violent onslaught from the christian troops, which rendered the situation to those who were endeavoring to give soccor succor to the other divisions extremely dangerous, as the Christian forces threatened momentarily to overwhelm them, one of the brigades collapsed f before the force of the assault, and began to retire.

The Glandelinians however forgetful of the danger of being rolled up them selves continued their efforts, refusing to be denied the chance of rescue

and their persistence with the help of more troops coming up was soon rewarded, for they hurled the assailants back all along the line with the loss of many regiments in dead and wounded and were able to come up to the section of Le glanceo men .The divisions were badly crushed by the terrific christian assault, and it seemed as if disaster to them had been most instantaneous. Undeterred by this gresome find of disasterous seff ects the Glandelinian officials continued their efforts untill they were able to hold the assailants at bay and withdraw the torn line of troops out of this precarious position and retreat to the safty of their own territory.

Indeed the battle had been terrible beyond words. Everywhere rescueing parties of troops, divisions, bri brigades and whole Corps and other troops aided by covering artillery, and by cavarly had continued unflaggingly at the efforts to restore all sections of the broken wings of the army, their incessant cry" Retain Lebanon" being heard on every i i side asthey advanced everywhere and met the recoiling troops and by example cheered them to stand and rally and retire in e better order. A command, and they would go vigoriously at it.All those rallied and brought to the position would be then determined to maintain that position. All those withdrawn from the endangered territory were covered with a mantle of earth dust and mud that made them appear as if they were living images in plaster. All this was caused by the terrific force of shell explosions close to the trenches. In "Farmers Dell" protected by two batteries two regiments of Mangaboo Glandelinians had maintained a position all day, and were safe and injured without the loss of a single man.They seemed as comfortable as possible, though no trace could be found of the main division that was supposed to have been connected with them.Several other regiments who had been withdrawn with their tattered colors at the time when the christian assault was not so pressing were found to have lost three hundred out of five hundred men in dead, and one hundred in wounded..A small Company of general Reggio's divisions had been hugging a position in a small moras the full afternoon and had not been molested by the christian assailants.

Of the Hobbonites in the Glandelinian army, fortunately the great majority of them escaped the de disaster, only two Brigades of them under general Worldling and Dangs which were driven out of its position near the Consulate Road.The disaster to them was first discovered by general Stantonia who moved his division from Victoria and reaching the scene found a portion of the Hobbonite division on the recoil.He pushed his division forward, hoping against hope untill convinced against his will that if he intended to retain the Hobbonie division there much longer all would perish, as a big force of christians was fairly"collasping" upon the ruins of this division.Nothing remained to be done but of ordering the whole line to withdraw, and a force of sixty thousand cavarly were brought up to cover the retreat, which proved difficult and very danger ous.

At the time general Glonon came up to aid the force, and succeedied in staying the advance of the christian forces.Then during the lull preparations were at once made for a hasty withdrawel, covering it with artillery fire.It sure was a sad dire roll of dead at Lebanon.2.2.2.2.

CHAPTER SIX..."."

CONCLUSION OF T E BATTLE OF LE BANON.

CLANCY SENDS INSUFFICIENT AID.

EXPERIENCES OF VIOLET AND HER SISTERS."."."

DURING THE BATTLES C ONCLUSION.."

THE SUMMING UP AFTER THE GREAT CATASTROPHIC BATTLE.."

THEheart of general Clancy had been beating responsive at the sights of gthe the disasterous defeats of the Glandelinian armies and so ma had many more of the Glandelinian generals throughout the whole Glandelinian army..2. This was especially the case of the second catastrohphe of the battle, when the means of communication between large embattled sections of the Glandelinian army, were so promptly cut off, that even Manley himself lying abed with that nasty cold could not learn of the disasters almost at the moment of their occurance, and no one had been able to deail detail the news to him in any such vividy that he could almost seemed to have gazed at them as they occur.

The hearts of many of the incative officers and generals beated with the ardent desire to help the crushed dii divisions still not able to retreat to the protection of their own trenches, for in these hours of such awful battle the unversal brotherhood of the Glandelinian divisions was almost a thing accomplished, so closely put together were all of the divisions by bonds of immediation immediate a association for the cause..

A very recent exa mple of this was in the case of the destructive onslaught against the Gla delinian position at "Children's Playground and the Ste Marie position, and the disaster accompanying it, when the generals of the whole of general Adele-De-Gards stood at first half paralyzed in startled horror and sympathy, feeling tward the beaen divisions as though they themselves were the disasteriously defeatee ones, and poured out the greater numbers of their own inactive troops in unstined unstinted profusion for the relief of the defeated forces, but yet so ld could not stop the onward march of the christian forces,e.

These no doubt were divisions of Adeledegarbes own forces lin ed to them selves by the ties of the cause, but in the case of the frightful "volcanic Eruption" of battle along the St Boniface Crossroads where the booming bang of shells and the crash of christian cann ons sounded worse than a hundred thousand most violent of all thunderstorms in one, a few hours later and the destruction of ten famous Glandelinian divisions resisting a wild charge of the Nationals, the sentiment felt for the victims of this tremendous battle disaster was none the less intense and the haste to aid them by artillery and heavy bodies of reinforcements none the less immediat, immediate only to swell the battle to a fury of which the further which the writer yhimself could not even imagine or conceive. The same showing of giving aid was manifested in the same disaster extending along the enemy left wing when the whole glandelinian front there was overwhelmed and crushed,, by a similar christian artillety fire and assault of infantry, and the simpathy and aid of other Glandelinian generals and their divisions called for, a fast as men could march or run.. As might be expeced expected from the these terrible examples the battle assumed a character which no one among thebest of Historians had they even been witnesses of it could describe in the most immense volumes.e.e.e.e Yet now all the surviving Glandelinian generals who did not fall inthe frightful battle n tornado were apprehensive by the dire disaster, and the suffering of the Glandelinian army, and of the terrible immeasureable number of the dead and wounded, and offc offers of aid still came from all portions of the inavt inactive sections of the army.spontaneous aid was sent, and since the disasterhad been found outa hundred divisions of troops, were on the way as fast as men could go.Among the earliest and most prompt to send aid was general Stonemann which entered or who entered upon the work of repelling the christian advance with a spontaneous activity that promished the best results. Every one of the generals were appalled by the dreadful calamity that occured to the Glandelinian army and they offered all the aid was that was possible to be sent. Many of the hard pressed glandelinian officials event sent appeal upon appeal for more troops and ammunition which during all the time was suddenly and abundantly responded to throughout the whole battle line, as similiar appeals were being respondendd to in all the other sections of the army along the center and the left... Stricken glandelinian divisions, had brought all other glandelinian columns together in the most terrific battle in the war so far.From every quarter of the glandelinian army divisions of fresh troops had poured forward to repell the advance of the christians to cover the retreat of the shattered, Glandelinian front,, a movement to action in a battle"storm" marked by a immeasurable magnitude and displaying a manimity without parallel in all the battlesthat had gone before in the war..

Coming at a time of profound and universal and terrible war, the unusual disaster seemed to have suddenly suddenly changed the Glandelinian army into a saddened discouraged, disordered mass..... To many of them a vision of Hanson was as the "destroying "angel..w.w

The first military response from general AdeledeGarbe next chief to Manley came on the time of the first great disaster of the battle, when he sent general Celtic Peltic with with 1,500,000 men for the reinforcing of the Glandelinian right wing, then recoiling from the rallied christian left and it advanced for that section under orders from the general Staff to stand ground against the "christian dogs"at all costs. General Sperry in command of this huge division had wired from Red River Region that a part of the army could wait untill the retreating troops were cared for, but general Adeleg Adeledegarbe replied angrily to push through immediately that he could tolerate no delay, and therefore the divisions of troops had pushed for ward but even couldn't stop the christian advanceno matter how hard they tried.Might as well have tried to frustrate the advance of the legions of heaven itself.

During the main issue to come"in the late after noon general Adele-dog rbe wrote by wireless to Manley;

"You His Excellency general Johnston Manl ey;

Glandelinia army before Lebanon..

With all my staff generals, and which in future of all my countrymen I am appalled by the most dreadful calamity which has befallen your whole army in this battle.I offer all the aid I can tp repell the christian advance, which is better than my sic vi sincere sympathy. Many of the generals have issued an appeal for reinforcements and notified me that it will be immediately communicatedto the lines of battle hard pressed. I have enough troops to mass thirty million against the victorious christians for the rest of the afternoon.I am forwarding three million already, supported by one million five hundred thousand cannon, full army rations and plenty of artillery.The troops can help also to rally the divisions not yet retr reated to their own positions.We have been disasterously repulsed twice, but whether the Nationals will attack our own positions isa question to be settled.So far the battle has killed.Fresh artillery is in posisoposition to repell them.We ought to be able to hold out in case they do hurl a general storm upon us."

General Francis AdeledegarBe."

General James El lis was equally prom pt, and ardent . He sent forth two of his own grand divisions of very good fighting men.This effort of restoring restoring the shattered glandelinian front was recieved with expressions of very warm feeling from general Manley heemselffe the general saying;

" What most of my surviving generals, Regimental and other commanders have done on this occassion when the condition of the army was vety very bad is magnificient and shall not be forgotten..... .. Our National guards stand first outdistancing all others in their career as fighters whether we win or lose.My gratitude and that of the nation is so great that I alone cannot find words in which to express it fittingly.2"

All this of course was what might be called preliminary.Many of the Glandelinian generals strove for all m eans in their effort to strengthen the glandelinian positions themselves.The appalling calamity to the Glande linian army was being followed by fear, distress, and suffering beyond measure among so many countless thousands of badly wounded torn up human bodies.Many of the best of the Glandelinian batteries for supplying the covering and defensive fire was paralyzed, and the Glandelinian army in the whole was in grave danger should general Hanson hurl his whole force forward at this critical time, and therefore anc an exceptional emergency exis existed which demanded that the obligations to all surviving generals should regard no retreats now from the positions under any conditions untill a retreat of the whole army was saftly assured.2.2.2.

The immense columns however still unengaged, the warm and steadfast friendship between all Glandelinian generals, the affection for their own native land, felt by all the soldiers, all this was hoped to prompt the reserves of the glandelinian armies, and the sections now rallied, and the other parts still to be rallied and withdrawn from the danger zone should it was hoped by general Clancy and Manley to prompt every one to the imm ediate and effective relief of the shattered glandelinian armies.Thus while general Adele-de-garbe thus sprang actively to thr the aid of the demolished and stricken glandelinian army, the troops or officers of other various columns were similiarly engaged . Great divisions of the fresh Glan delinian forces were eager to go forward.Half a million however were only rallied of the shattered divisions, and the numbers to be withdrawn were supposed to be over 10, 000,000, and yet other torn and mangled brigades added their quota of unrallied disorganized and terrified troops of men untill the total a surpassed twenty millions.

General Canid's division of 300,000 men had lost 156,889 men in dead and wounded, and other brigades and troops had added"generously"to the sum of badly disorganized... So it could be seen that the Glandellnian army was in the gravest peril...2.2.

The tidings of the two disasterous repulses and defeats defeats of general Manley's army,,, at Lebanon had barely reached general Manley himself while lying ill in bed, before all the generals of the reserve and other forces was a actively astir in its efforts to send beneficial aid to restore the disordered front, and to bring all their energies and the opportunities of their organized divisions of fresh troops to bear on the advancing christian forces, and to dispatch e immense bodies of troops for the b n benefit of rallying the shattered lines.Trooops advanced with numbers immeasureable to restore order, and everything was done to bring every shattered column back to the Glandelinian trenches.

Not only in the center of the Glandelinian army but in many other sections of the whole three wings(maybe the army can fly) was this activity mani d manifested, general Adeledegarbe being an informal union with Calmannia Shoemannia to try in unison for the relief of every section of the shattered Glandelinian army and to effect its retreat from the scene in comparative safty during the coming night..

The reinforcing divisions too were to organized as to make its efforts to rally the shattered Glandelinian front wonderfully effe ctive.Every division of troops sent(Zimmermanglian) for instance by Adele-de-garbe, to the efforts to restore the broken lines, went by doubit doubls time order, and the cavarly too were put to work at once, to rally the panic stricken disordered armies..... Thus almost later that afterno On during the second lull of the battle fifty million more men were in readiness to repell any further movement on the part of the dangerous christian armies. We too have to write here of the organization t of this help giving force of troops in which the fiercest instincts of the army was embodied. The found too the first of the disaster had originated in the locality of the Glandelinian right wing previously to the time of the rally of the main christian left. Conferences were now held between the generals as to what other motive should be effected. Fresh divisions of defense were organized by general Bartonia, and at once joined with Cam Calmannia Shoemannia.This broader idea of e repelling any future christian "Storm" applied by him to other generals, was immediately adopted by all other Glandelinian generals and incorporated among their main duties with the purpose to repel the christian advance as vigoriously as it could be possible, when the onslaught came, should it come. As a result of the continued rally of good portions of the torn up lines, the generals had succeeded in collecting and distributing to other sections large divisions of troops for the relief of other still retreating troops who were the participatns of the Ste Mare Disaster, the Left Wing"War Hurricane. horror" the Glandelinian Right Wing Christian Counter Tidal Wave of assault, the destructive artillery ravages, the Vantura and Genitrix explosions of munitions and other battle disasters and other occassions of urgent need of assistance. The Glandelinian armies therefore so badly smitten were now being definitely reorganized. But because of other sections of the army being out of place it still lacked completeness of or ganization for effective stand against the Nationals, the collection of the disorganized troops still out of the fields being left to local cavarly troops as a rule untrained in such efforts and work and unprepared for ready and effective aid in such a sudden contingency..

To obviate this dangerous weakness divisions of troops under general Cress were sent forth to do its part, hoping the christians would delay the attack long enough to enable this to be accomplished. Renewed formations of the battle line was created, general Adeledegarbe was appointed to give his entire time to the effort, and to represent the Glandelinian reserve army in the distribution of divisions of troops to points badly needed and in any case of need. To aid himinthis work cavarly squadrons rode among the disordered ranks, the trained arm director too was aided by trained assistants, and by the aid of such officials and generals the effectiveness of the rallying work was being greatly increased alli e in the collection of the troops and distribution of fresh troops and the other demands pon the activity of these generals.The movement of the the relief f orc es , was div ided into three sections,, those under general Ad ele-de-garbe, Shoemannia, and Thomas Cleveland(known as freakin-the-neck by his enemies))))))) each of the strongest numbers and under the supervision of the ablest generals and other officers.. As thus organized it was able in about three hours time and under steady artillery fire at that to reorganized the largest sections of the torn up and shattered glandelinian armies, with general Adele-de-garbe as is its second head under the Irish-glandelinian Clancy..... General Knickerbocker for eleven years superintendant general of various standing Glandelinian armies, and also having the psition of National Director was also in charge, and those giving the emergency relif were officers of wide experience in rallying defeated armies during the hott est battles and o also ifficers officers of the state.e.e.e.e.State. This new and effective reorganization of a shattered galdnelinian glandelinian army could and should be of immediate interest in f view of the fact that the ser services of all these Glandelinian generals had been and were still being called for,,, most ave urgently because of the dangers of the christians should they recover their own formations and rushed forward would easily capture

the Glandelinian positions themselves and the efforts of the two disparate defeats would be beyond recovering from if not altogether fatal to the Glandelinian army... Occupied too at the time during a lull in the vehement battle for which artillery also were being pushed forward by the efforts of all the Glandelinian artillery officers, a sudden and immense heat therefore had been made of the improved powers of these great Glandelinian officers. All Glandelinian generals and every officer in command of brigades, Corps, Companies and regiments had lost not a moments time, leaping at once into the breach with the alertness and effectiveness for which they had long been noble and notiable and which showed that they again and again as stated before ought to have been fighting for a far more worthier cause.. Even when Adeledegarbe had recieved the news of the dire disaster along the Glandelinian left and two other wings, and when it had stirred the hearts of all surviving Glandelinian generals, there was then hardly any officer of any rank whether high or low which did not join in the desperate efforts to rally the panic stricken hordes without ambments loss of time. From all sections came reports of the movements of fresh troops large and small, and the concentration of new batteries..... Therefore by five oclock in the afternoon it was reported that over three quarters of the shattered army if not all rallied had been at least withdrawn to the cover of the rear, and the fresh troops were in the positions ready dfor any movement of the christian troops.....

From general Germany Handonia came tidings that he has or had dispatched a special division of Onarian troops supported by cavarly and small hand carrying machine guns and heavy field artillery, and that a second division had been made ready for sending as soon as they were ready to march the general recieving in farewell audience many of his staff whom the general at once sent to aid in the concentration. From other generals news of similiar character was recieved and it was widely evident that the energies of the Glandelinian generals and all their officers were enlisted in causing the prompt responses necessary to be gotten through. The first to push forward was the famous famous Glandelinian general of the same name as the christian general plain Nightlinger but of a entirely different man he being of the Zimmermannia and Germannia Division Military War Committee who moved forward for the distribution of immense columns columns of troops for the restoration of the crushed Glandelinian right..

So great was the activity of these well named Glandelinian generals, that by the recent time of the afternoon mentioned before, after the second disasterous event of the battle had occured, general Adele-de-garbe had already 10, 000,000 men of the new forces ready for to repelll the christian armies, and much of this force was already in position. Then a little later with the numbers that were rallied and withdrawn they had grown to abould twenty one millions and this huge body of men composing one quarter of the remains of the main army of Glandelinia was ready for whatever may come. Yet general Adeledegarbe added in his statements that some of the greatest difficulties to be overcome, was the prompt distribution of the supplies for the covery covering batteries of artillery for ammunition was very low, and therefore even outside help from a new Glandelinian army would certainly certainly be welcomed.. The last of the shattered divisions to be withdrawn to the shelter of the Glandelinian trenches was those of Mesalinia's, which had stood its ground against the christian assailants more stubbornly than the rest and had a number of still over half of its own forces.

These were being rallied and restored with expedition. The remainder was still to follow and yet it was astonishing that the christian troops were not following up the advantage they had gained by starting forth to wage another desperate assault..2.2.2

In the meantime the conversation between the Vivian Girl Violet and general Clancy had continued.

"General Hanson vivian since you inquite is not a soldier of the Glandelinian side, no more than you have been, and if have become a Glandelinian citizen and as the Abbiesinian armies are trying to conquer the Glandelinian nation for tryinical po purposes I have my rights to fight on the side of Glandelinia no matter what Nationality have Miss Violet vivian. As for general Hanson and all his followers the trouble is of his own seeking.."

"Did you not refuse to advance with the purpose to work amicably with the Glandelinian general Phellinia Tumerlire to overthrow our own purpose at ft Etheldreada because you could not, when he came to see you for that purpose two weeks ago?"

"How do you find that out?"

"That's all right. Did you know?"she demanded again.

"He gave me no chance Vivian Girl."

"Why not sir?"

"That's my business too Miss. I ought to arrest you for being on our soil seeing you're a christian girl scout."

"I could arrest you instead of you arrest me. You are alone with me sir and know me better than to call that way. I am a traitor to your own

country country just the same. You who are in command of the army because crazy Hanley is too afrighted to go out to fight himself because of a little insignificient cold, and have hurled a big assault upon general Hansons left wing, and tried to crush it all to pieces just because you have an army that is big and strong, and not afraid of what you thought was a weaker army. Now see what you got. If you can whip general Hanson to day I'd willingly surrender myself to you as a prisoner. But you can't and you'll soon find that out. And you and your higher and more able bodied Glandelinian generals, and others who served under you---have tried to secure general Hansons left wing, and you are going now to dire ruin and defeat. You say you now general Hanson well. Why didn't you defeat him then? You ought to be ashamed of yourself you Irish foreigner Outlaw to side with a cause that you know is so outrageously wicked."

"You are altogether wrong Vivian Girl"answered general Clancy quietly. "This battle was none of my seeking, and I didn't order the assault. General Calmanria Shoemannia who is quite capable of taking good care of himself, and his armies, lay claim to have smashed up your generals left wing good and proper twice before we got licked, and can credit which really is not his but Adel-de-garbes. I suggest Vivian Girl that you have not shown sufficient cause at all for your armies hostility against Glandelinia for the purpose to uproot child slavery that is going on in Glandelinia. And furthermore oh you showed it before, the first meeting we had ten hours ago and not after the events to which you have referred. I'm blamed by some of the generals for the defeat of the army, and darn you and your goosh hanged sisters, and other you're fully responsible and ought to be captured and destroyed as spies. But mum my human nature resents doing it because your children. Other Glandelinian generals don't think that way. Yet you and your sisters caused this defeat."

"Is that so. We caused your defeat. How could we. We were here for that purpose I'll admit that as we will not lie even to such a scoundrel as you are, but sir the crazy inhuman fury of this butchery prevented us from doing anything whatever. We couldn't get the slightest communication with general Hanson or any part of his line. It is simply because he out generaled you. Besides I and my sisters resented your coming over here from your foriegn country and cutting up our christian armies, you who are supposed to be ever an Irish American and a Catholic. That is why we are so stung. You have turned out a cringing Judas. We have served in the armies and led them in person. As for capturing us as spies I'd like to see you try it. If any of us were even injured, by you it would be just too bad for your army and the whole of Glandelinia. My father the emperor would rather in his heart make Glandelinia a thing of history only before he'd see any of us even the lowest of the children in our country harmed by such scoundrels as you and all Glandelinians who make the main war on children of a christian war nation, an unheard of thing inall hiko history. We have so many child scouts in our army because we children girls and boys have to fight for our very existance.."

2"That is not a fair attitude. All Glandelinian armies do not war on children. There Izner Myletzes for instance."

"Why isn't that fair. All armies are the same if not their leaders. And besides this is not Myletze's army. It's Johnston Hanleys."

"It's not fair Vivian Girl, because the good will go with the cause on either sis side. We have lots of boy and girl scouts also."

"Good will never goes on both sides"she cried." and besides enemy child scouts of the youngest is just ten years old."

"I have done you and your sisters no wrong."urged general Clancy." And as Glandelinia is as free a country as America's and the United States, I have as much right to serve here for the reason of adventure and for time of excitement as I would have over there. Besides I'm not in the the United States now and no more a citizen there and don't worry worry about that country either. I have come here too to take charge of a Glandelinian army because Hanley is down with a bad cold. It is all the commission I have in the world. And it has been my hope to make the task of winning this terrible battle most successful and in succeeding to consider the local Glandelinian armies my helpers in the future and help in the cause of Glandelinia. Is not this case, or a case of my generals ~~will be~~ toiling desperately together as to accuse me of and yet were nothwou and your sisters frustrating my purpose as spies or trying to. Come "Vivian Girls. Tell the truth if you claim to be so saintly and righteous as it is said you are. Didn't you and your sisters cause cause all this disaster.?"

At this question she looked at him as if she could not believe his eyes.

"You said something of my good will"she said presently with a touch of mocery. "What is that you to you an how. Surely the whole nations feeling toward you, which also is mine and my sisters can have no power to help or injure you. Your loss of the battle is your own doing. We didn't do it. You didn't listen to the advise of general Turnapple or others and you now learned from experience. I tell you again we didn't have anything to do with it, but gladly would have done so had we could. I don't deny that do. If How do you know I'm a saint. I haven't been cannonized yet. I didn't work a miracle to cause Hanson to whip your army did I?"

The small gloved hand that clenched the riding whip lay tantalizingly upon the reins within reach of Clancy's. He could have seized her if he desired, but then her hand on the other side was free, on the gun holster

side and if he had grabbed her left hand she could have shot him with her right, as he could see she was a very little christian "wild cat". The little girl princess's poise, her bearing, the sudden willing

the appearance of her eyes seemed to reveal a consciousness of power and a pride too that hardly brooked his presence upon her ancient fief.

"It means much more to me, your good will if you have any Vivian Girl."said general Clancy.

"She leaned forward in her saddle.He could see that she was breathing quickly in spite of her assumption of mockery..

"General James Clancy"she said."Listen to me please.If you value my good will, you may obtain it from me and my sisters only upon one sound condition."

"On any condition!"

"That you leave the Glandelinian service, and go return to your own country under the Stars and Stripes."

"Except that,"said general Clancy Clancy..

"It is not at all a grudge against your possession of an Glandelinian army, as it is none of my business."resumed the Vivian Girls hurriedly."Believe me I have not been trying to worry about that at all. As you said you care over here for adventure, and maybe the right is yours as far as I am concerned.But you've sinned mortally beyond measure in favoring the foe side, and besides this is no place or country for you, general Clancy.. I could esteem you, and--and give you what you demanded of me, my good will if you said 'I have made a serious mistake' gave up the command in due time and went. Why did you ever have in the Glandelinian army so long, to help the Glandelinian generals stir up so much trouble and war and agitation all? Yes I include myself, and my sisters. I have asked myself why it is you a foreigner and an Irish descendant of the United States of America America have come here to this Bengall State land with a vast Glandelinian army which is not your rights under pain of a grevious mortal sin. And Glandelinia is not your home. If you desired adventure, why didn't you join our side instead. What is it you want that you will not give up the command of Glandelinian armies and go home."?

"I have a natural objection objection to be driven out of a place for which I sacrificed such a lot of men to secure."said general Clancy.

"This command should never have been yours.Your serving under the Standards of Saten and His host. My Father,-"she stopped in agitation.General Clancy laid his hand on the rein nearer his own.

"Vivian Girl Princess"he argued conscious that he was as agitated as she, "I want to ask you something. I do not want you to come here spying on the Glandelinian army.I will not ever say anything to the generals that you were here. Why don't you return to your own army with your followers since you say you did not cause my defeat. Perhaps I had no right to serve in the Glandelinian army or be its general, but neither were you justified in spying on the army and its generals either.Surely you're as responsible with your sisters for this terrible loss of life on both sides as I am myself. If you believe I'm really guilty----"

"She was staring at him in greater distress.He hardly knew whether she understood.

"If General Hanson Vivian----"she began half choking;

"Does the Christian cause mean so much to you and your sisters as that?"

She started and twitched the reins away.

"You are insolent"she cried."Beware.Here comes my sisters. How dare you question me or lay down law to me?" I have heard enough.Stay then General Clancy and try to cut down general Hansons army to day, but do not presume to win any part of the battle further as we'll do all in our power to frustrate you by means of the powerful Prayer the Rosary."

She touched her horse with her spur and the beautiful beast bounded away flinging the general to the ground for he was then dismounted. Her face was flaming, yet as she rode, general Clancy could hear her sobbing again, as she rejoined her sisters. He is sure that the ugly nature of the battle was the cause of her distress.He recalled General Adel-de-Carbes words to himself on the night before the battle of"Beware of the Vivian Girls.They can upset your plans more than the Angel Gabriell."

He realized that general Hansons crushing hand was stretched forth not only in the successful recapture of the lost positions along the christian left, but now to be on his own positions, and he vowed fierce fierce, that the battle be won by him and Hanson should be fought out on this ground alone and "then", in spite of a hundred million Rosaries per day.

Being recently a Catholic he must have forgotten the power of the Rosary.

It had been the general expectation that general Louis Dugulon would open the next onslaught upon the christian lines.. General Clancy was aware that general Louis and his staff were engaged in concentrating immense forces upon the right of his position, and was sure beyond doubt that he would direct his chief overwhelming assault upon its weak. And he understood more of Hansons tactics and resources than any Glandelinian general did. If he can be said to have a sixth sense. I believe he was off in this sense or in reality. However during the days between Three and five o'clock the course of the disaster and the fight had become more local and deadly and still fierce. For more than which he didn't relish there was still general and stubborn the St Marie, and when the news had come that Louis and his crowd general Dare not lie in reserve and be forced to hold out still longer Hanson Vivian he became clear that something was up. It is that is Clancy came to the decision to side over with his staff officers and a force of cavalry over toward St Marie as close to the left and the left the

[illegible] General Louis [illegible] fled his scheme thought it [illegible] in the extreme, [illegible] he could [illegible] place general Clancy. Clancy it asked permission to accompany him and made him promise to avoid getting himself and his party in the range of christian batteries which could fire upon no matter [illegible] on sight with disastrous effects. They decided to ride along shore.General Clancy had once before been by that route and his spirits sank when at the distant sight of the christian positions he came upon view of a hideous steaming lines of christian batteries.His spirits also fell at the thought of what would happen when these opened fire, and most of his own disabled. The batteries were situated a little off from the shore on the positions that his troops recently had been in possession of.Everything about the batteries were hideously new, and beyond were long walls of fresh christian infantry.

At a little distance he thought he saw some of the most dangerous of Hansons staff.. He was very silent during the remainder of the tour past Ste Marie river and Lafty if devining what was in his thoughts did not disturb him.

It was about half an hour after all the troops had been rallied when they were on the summit of a small hill.

The christian columns were in full strength. General Clancy recognized numbers of regiments as the christian troops he dreaded the most and they were the Concentrations. Near one of the batteries was a large wooden building and close in his view on horse was a christian general that Clancy recognized full well. He was a stout middle aged man in short shirtsleeves with his coat fastened to his back with the sleeves round his neck.He had heavy form of deep brown hair turning gray, He wore "Harold Loydd Earl" spectacles which gave him a strange scholastic expression, and the arms beneath his turned up sleeves were a mass of ropy muscles showing him a man of great strength and power. He was riding forward a little ways within sight of the scouting party. As the column of scouting officers stood at there general Clancy was astonished to see one of his officers suddenly ride from him and utter and go forward.His face was agitated and he seemed to see nothing but his objective. He rode through the column of officers toward a clump of trees where two little girls were seated on horse. Clancy had observed one of them decline to ride forward under cover , though apparently urged by the other, now he recognized them as the real Glandelinian girls who were too close to the christian lines and might be seen. The officer rode straight to them and halted before them . Clancy and the rest could hear nothing but he saw the officer gesticulating, and apparently imploring them. He saw one of the little girls grasp her shoulders and avert her face. The other one was laughing and now two or three one of Clancy's officers seeing the same thing watched the little scene in astonishment. The nearest girl turned on the officer angrily. What she said was still out of hearing as the officer grew more vehemently.The officer confusion was only momentarily. He sprang forward grasping the bridle reins of them both and tried to [illegible] his horse forward, Clancy saw the other girl protesting angrily now more angrily than the first, he could not hear the officers excited exclamations but he heard faintly the scream of rage from the others lips. At once there was a general movement seen in the direction of the christian lines, and a big squadron from seemingly nowhere suddenly appeared and started forward swiftly at a three thundering gallop toward the group. There was the sound of pistols from the officer, but a volley came from the cavalry and he fell. Clancy was beside himself with fury.But the cavalry were coming too fast for the large group of officers and men with him to save the two girls out of his side from capture. With slow but inexorable force he recoiled.Amid the jeers of the cavalry the Glandelinians rapidly outdistanced them, though the pursuit seemed in full swing for several minutes, and a few cannon boomed, and shrapnell burst in the air...//2/2/2

In one way general Clancy was a sort of a comical fellow from his saddle hat, hood and had an original way of doing almost everything he decided upon.He had never failed in anything in his life before and [illegible] as he sat upon his horse , and scanned with his [illegible] glass the distant to the scene, and watched the retreating columns as they [illegible] by, those columns whether [illegible] of [illegible] fire, as to [illegible] while [illegible] what some of the Vivian Girls had [illegible] to him about.. General Junior Clancy although born in this state, in Western Pennsylvania was an [illegible] Irish as if he had first opened his eyes in some Irish town in the British British Isles or probably in the city of Dublin.... His [illegible] came from that part of the Irish World which has produced such fine scholars and done so much for science, lite[illegible], and for military [illegible]. He talked the language of the Irish, had the Irish brogue and he also spoke the Abbie [illegible] language as well as English and on either his [illegible] had not broken [illegible] but [illegible] educated. [illegible] had come [illegible] in the [illegible] to see [illegible] and fi[illegible] of [illegible] had [illegible]. I [illegible] the [illegible] days [illegible] he [illegible] bigger he had prayed for something, [illegible] and positions of [illegible] and [illegible] said [illegible] however it was he [illegible] have [illegible] him. He may have [illegible] some case or other [illegible] he came over [illegible] cast [illegible] and [illegible] Glandelinian [illegible] of Godsentin e and [illegible] after the last battle o[illegible] over [illegible]..... however the general [illegible] Irish [illegible] the [illegible] tomahawk, [illegible] his popularity [illegible] God, but he too could [illegible] Have a temper that could probably frighten [illegible] even himself. If he

[illegible] Glandelinian service. [illegible] and [illegible] complaint fr[illegible] disposed. If he believed [illegible] for if a poser argued [illegible] had for that person. If he had [illegible] campaign that [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] find his smiling... Several times in his career he had been out [illegible] by christian generals [illegible] face [illegible] always illumined by his overmuch [illegible] in, even though the flash of anger [illegible] to roar in his eyes.

What general Clancy, [illegible] it was possible that general Hanson vivian [illegible] to do such a [illegible] fun [illegible] as much his [illegible], [illegible] and he half believed [illegible] spiritual power had helped the christian [illegible] along, for general Hanson had not recieved any reports [illegible] armies, as there was no other christian army in sight, the nearest [illegible] general Vivian's over forty miles away, and was hardly engaged with [illegible] at Ennedreda, and therefore the situation was not satisfactory. He felt [illegible] over the threat that the Vivian girl would say, plenty of casaries for his [illegible] fall, and despite his recent defiance against even a million casaries he well understood or understood, that one "Hail Mary," if god willed it would be sufficient for his defeat. True he had great big divisions of fresh troops yet, [illegible] force [illegible] from afar had even [illegible] some [illegible] him, and he felt sure general Hanson couldn't be hardly strong enough, even if he had the disposition to [illegible] against him a force of equal strength out of pure daring. But what [illegible] most was the [illegible] power of the christian general himself. He [illegible] knew how to [illegible] lover, how to perform [illegible] and how to do all military things which was outgeneralling him.

In the two terrible "fits" of the battle it appeared as if from that time forward general Clancy's position was inverted almost as it was [illegible]...2.22

As soon as she had left him and rejoined her sister a violet said;;;

"There's one thing [illegible] all my girl and to remember to learn hereafter, which was a good lesson to us and that is "God helps those that helps themselves. Don't ever forget it sisters. It's very important in [illegible] at these. And people are [illegible] to feel needed either."

"We won't forget" replied her sisters in a chorus. Indeed these good sailors perfectly righteous little Vivian Girls had always [illegible] good saying from the beginning of their adventures in the war and always had found that it turned out to be a fact. Whenever they had gone through the many perils of their own time [illegible] after praying while taking such careful chances and had never failed in their [illegible] [illegible] Not [illegible] show [illegible] full of [illegible]. Once it had happened that two of them to escape had lost a scuffle [illegible] and [illegible] left to himself by Violet, and her sisters to see that he would do [illegible] his better confidence in god, and when Violet and her sisters [illegible] complacently sit upon their horses, and [illegible] to see he [illegible] boy was going to get through it all, and [illegible] and [illegible] the saying of "God helps those that helps themselves" got through safe and sound. There is indeed a great deal in this expression and Violet, and her sisters seemed to search in for the whole stock of it.

"We must do everything in the battle [illegible] to see it come to its final finish," Violet, [illegible] A [illegible] laughed.

A [illegible] many a time, "You must [illegible] your [illegible], you [illegible] your feet [illegible] on, you must never let go [illegible], you must [illegible] at [illegible] keep [illegible] rifle and pistol and [illegible] your [illegible] your power [illegible] you must fight the [illegible] to the last breath and [illegible] the big god and His Blessed Mother to help you pull in [illegible] and in conjunction as long [illegible] Mother, and He'll do it."

And on this was the creed of all Abbie [illegible] and it was the cross which all Abbie [illegible] boy and girl counts from in their deepest breath, as many times said; it was good and a grand and wonderful faith that caused Violet, and her sisters and all the Abbie [illegible] generals, to to bring the christian cause to such great successes and [illegible] been [illegible] for the, and the christian generals always expected to take their own part in the battles and adventures of the war without expecting or demanding help from any one... Indeed "Violet and her sisters and all the, and girl counts as we hope the readers may understand and [illegible] proved their faith by the successes of their adventures.... And by hard honest toiling at their efforts, they had made the never the [illegible] decided weak [illegible] the Abbie [illegible] machine, and [illegible] of which the enemy could find out of [illegible]. Of course the [illegible] and after [illegible] of the [illegible] battle of Dolanon [illegible] which Violet, and her sisters could never forget. [illegible] had been [illegible] of it too to understand the situation and [illegible] she [illegible] said she would [illegible] the heart, a many times as possible to insure success for the christian armies, she could see as the sister was for absolute facts that [illegible] just [illegible] necessary [illegible] god [illegible] for the [illegible] of [illegible] Cause [illegible] hand. As general Hanson [illegible] had [illegible] Clancy, [illegible] Clancy, [illegible] the conflict [illegible] called the [illegible] of Glandelinia, scarcely if [illegible] [illegible] battle, [illegible] contended [illegible] of [illegible] more cavarly and [illegible] sisters [illegible] could see [illegible] that [illegible] committed. [illegible] seldom [illegible] that the Vivian [illegible] well acquainted [illegible] for [illegible] of these [illegible] time [illegible] general [illegible] [illegible] ...2.2

The peculiar headdress of the glandelinian generals [illegible] small, would excite laughter at once even from the readers should they see pictures of these Glandelinian generals in their "headgear" and would also turn into lots of ridiculed. Violet and her sisters had indeed watched from a safe position the full progress of the mighty battle. After the second reverse of the whole glandelinian army, some sections of it had been continually beset by various christian generals so that the terrific conflict had retained but went on in a various local and desultory character..... At first believing he could win general Clancy had laughed at the fear of many of his officer generals, as if he did not seem to mind it, for indeed his philosophy was that no disasters should be able to injure his army, and so long as the christian armies did not venance his cear, he therefore did not care.

Indeed general Adeledegtbe Adele-de-garbe was among the glandelinian armies a very sprouce young general from Glandelinia city itself, who dressed in better uniforms than even his highest superiors so any onewho had seen him would have thought he was the "prince of the Universe", and who always threw out hints about the plans of battle he had hoped to bring to a home run, and that he had always wished that he might soon have a chance to show any of the other generals how easily he could vanquish a christian foe, much larger than his own army by reason of his military "science."

He however was fullilly four years older than general Clancy, and much taller, but he was more scientific and understood more about military movements than the latter did. He finally when every section of the line had been rallied as far as possible rode up to Clancy and said;

"The whole army is about rally a rallied now. What are you going to do about it."

"I guess I'll try another assault upon general Hanson's army."

"Be careful of him sir" said Adele-de-Garbe who felt some sympathy for general Clancy for his troubles in the battle "He's great military science that we are. It's better to let the Nationals follow up their advantage follow through with an assault of their own and expose themselves."

"I don't care what he is" replied general Clancy beginning to lose his temper "If he does assail my lines he'll get into trouble. But I propose to attack, and don't want no arguments."

"All right have it your way" said Adele-de-garbe. "But I warned you."

Just then general Clancy started to give an order, when he saw a certain section of the christian line was throwing out a long heavy column, which were under generals Herbert and Nicholas Turner both brothers. The Glandelinian generals gave forth cries of surprise, while several of the others even cried out that it was a shame "that the battle was not over" and it was a wonder the "christian dogs" couldn't leave a worn out shattered Glandelinian army be. General Clancy glanced in the direction of the oncoming line of attack.. and putting on his "Christmas hat shaped of headgear turned about to demand of one of them what he meant by such saying, when he saw that he was still confronted by general Adele-De-Garbe saying;

"See the Christian troops are moving forward as I said. What are you going to do about it, Clancy?"

"I'll show you what I'll do. I suppose you believe I'll retreat? Well crazy Hanson Vivian will have some time to make me do it."

General Clancy proceeded to show general Adele-de-garbe what he meant to do about it.

Paying no heed to the formidable attitude of the advancing christian forces, general Clancy got ready. He sent ten great divisions into the positions to oppose this advance. Although he could have used what was left of his batteries to good effect, general Clancy declined to do so, but concentrated all the forces available and with such speed and vigor that such movements seemed unusual. Then while this was being done, general Clancy threw his cavarly forward in heavy numbers to guard the rear of the defensive lines. Then all was in readiness for the renewal of the battle..... ..

"Let the christian dogs come p." shouted the general. "This will be the worst for them this time. How do you take the situation general Gunter.?"

"It suits me as far as it does you" said the general "But will we be able to hold."

No one however felt so sure about it however for if it was the purpose of the christian troops to again fiercely advance against the glandelinian positions all certainly would be lost. Never indeed was a general getting more more completely cowed cowed, than was this vaunting Glandelinian general Clancy on all whom all had looked with such admiration and awe. He was a great general indeed. Indeed and as good a fighter and a leader and as brave as any good valiant Irishman could ever be, but he was over matched by general Hanson Vivian. Even Adele-de-garbe great a general as he was was suspicious and he looked reproachfully at Clancy and said;

"Do you now that general Hansons army had broken two of the main sections of the Glandelinian army?"

"It appears so." answered Clancy.

"I feel as if I was the army and the Christian dog had broken two of my most precious ribs." said General Roemayn.....

"I believe he's liable to break them all." "What the christian dog means to do, and I bet he'll try it again" said another general.

"No he won't not if I can help it, I'll brea his."Exclaimed lancy most determindly... darting a glance intbe direction of the christian lines. Moreover general Clancy had conquered whatmight be termed a "peace", for he however was not really blamed for the defeat, of the army, as all others understood the character of general Hanson and knew Hanson was always as unbeaten as probably Angel Gabriel himself. Sometimes the enemy generals were somethat afraid Hanson might be both St Gabriel and Michael in one no to say. Yet general Clancy always wondered how it was that a christian general as able to vanquish him so easily and completely when he had, had general Hansons center twice at his mercy, and was crushing his left wing for every onslaught, and when all the military science was on the side of the Glandelinian general, and his staff.. And young as Clancy himself was it had been seen that elsewhere(outside of general Robertsonia, Vivian who had not yet clashed with himD) all christian generals or among all other christian generals there was not one who dared to attempt an engagement with him without sufficient help from some better source.The display he had so frequently given of the prowess, valiant manners, and his display of Irish Courage, and fairceness, and won the fear of all.

Besides this he proved to be an unusual bright scholar in all things Military or otherwise, and when a child had always been ahead of the brightest and most studious girl or boy in any sort of school he went to, and was even sometimes worsting the teacher in his scholarship. When he was young he had had a faulty Irish acc accent which he had dropped with rapidity that was flabbergasting to all, and have had gained pock knowledge with great facility.His teacher whether a brother or a Sister had literally loved him then as did all the boys and girls, and when he was occassionally absent because of illness or oth ewise otherwise from compulsatory reaso he as missed more than any one.

He knew the bigger biggest Geography ever published by heart, there was nothing in history that that he couldn't tell any one blindfolded, and he had been since his sixty or seventy years of age in four big wars, and learned all sorts of military manuevers which would take a vulume to write. At his earliest days he had been an unusually good boy, went to Daily Holy Communion, Wouldn't miss a day no matter how hard it was to get up very early in the morning, storm or shine, cold or hot, ill or well. Even now to say he wasn'tso really wicedns wicked not withstanding the sin it might be to cast in his lotwith the enemy cause, but nevertheless he was in rebellion against God's ugly willbecause he didn't recieve an answer to a certain long given prayer he had continually ove offered for some petition.

Of c course it was only seemingly he was good natured.It just depended on conditions Only in many ways a tarach would liken him to a mad lion in nature than a human being; and most of the most terrific horrors of the at war as child butchery by the wholesale thousands, the destruction f villages and towns with all their inhabitants cut off from escape, and all the atrocities too many to even fill ten volumes were laid to him.

He truly was absolutely responsible and it had been all his well laid plans and he even put up the other enemy generals to do it.

He really was general Raymond Richardson Federalscaid, and the Manleys were under even him.

He as a danger to the whole christian cause.

One daringg neral ventured to laugh at a remark from general Clancy... and asked whether he could ever lick General Hanson in a fair fist fight and he told the general that he would bring about the dismu midiss dismissal of any one one that said anything in sarcasm to him.Therefore nothing nothing of the sort was ever hinted to the general again.No one wished to lose his c ommand just then, especially because of a general who banged "the breath" out of a christian army so utterly, only to also have it "banged" from his own...2.2.... General Clancy too was aroused also because of the Vivian girls being in the Glandellinian camps, and yet though he really hated them worst than a Man could hate and fear a rattlesnake he did not for some reason or oth er dare interfere with them or expose them. Some thing made him more afraid of them than a bad boy would be who is w expect ing a terrible whipping from his father and yet couldn't see no way to escape escape the punishment....

Yet the common sense, the stur sturdy frame, sound health and mental strength of the neral general as inherited from his parents. He always during the arful battle had shown a quickness quickness of perception greater than that of any other Glandelinian general, and he also was was more profound and far reaching in his thoughts and plans. After it was seen however that the christian troops were not really coming forward as f was feared, general Clancy lighted his cigar, and as he slowly uffed it, while sitting on his horse he glanced across to or tward the christian lines, and then turned his gaze ward general Adel-de-garbe, who sat on his horse with a paper and pencil in his hand preparing to sketch something of the distant christian lines.Carefully watching the general for a minute ot two he asked;;

"General De Garbe do you know hwhether the Christian dogs are really going to do any more attacking to day...!!!!!!"

"Yes sir .I believe they will."

"Do you have any suspicion where they'll attack next?"

"Yes sir, every sort of a suspicion."answered Adele-De-Garbe respectfully. with a quiet smile over the generals strange questions.

"Did general Hansons christain armies ever act this way before?"

"Not at all sir."

"That is strange.Did you help the others during the terrible struggle struggle this afternoon?"

"Yes sir, I did---three or four divisional commanders and some of the main c ommanders asked me to give them a lift but they couldn't hold and I turned;---"

"Turned what?"

"Turned the left flank of the christian right wing---that is I tried to but they got rise to my movement."

"Tut tut tut ... I don't let me hear that any one else had to be compelled to help ... all the armies ... have for I I do"and removing his cigar from his mouth general Clancy shook his head in a way which they viewed dreadful things... He resumed his smoking, and as general Adele-De-Garbe was telling some intricate movement among the christian troops but a far distance, general Clancy pronounced his

name a dreadful.. General Adele-De-Garbe gave all attention.

"Have you been in any more than these two desperate fights to day?"

"I have not sir.I have not had any trouble with the Christian dogs since we had to withdraw from the captured positions this afternoon."

"That is right, I suppose, that is right, but general if you do get into another bad fight with those Christian Dogs don't let go your position this time under any conditions, hold your position and maintain the whole army.I'm determined to win."

General Adele-De-Garbe modestly answered,, that he did not remember when he had failed to take care of himself or his armies under any circumstances and difficulties, and the general resumed the smoking of his cigar puffing smoke from it as if from a cannon and frowing as he looked tward the christian lines.. This Irish -Glandelinian general may not have been right in every point of his "creed" but in the main so far as military business goes he was correct, his pu purpose being to implant in all the Glandelinian generals a sturdy self reliance. He felt sure they could not hope to get along at all times without leaning upon other superiors but that Glandelinian general who never forgets that he had a mind and body certain facilties and infinite powers, though he doesn't realize God gave them to him, with the intention that he should use them and cultivate them to the highest perfection instead of being cruel and wicked like this always hopes to win the great battles against the righteous christian countries... Then too so far every Glandelinian general is always as if this bea battle liable to be overtaken by some great emergenct which calls out all the military capacities of his nature, and it is then that false teaching and training prove fatal while the Glandelinian general who had learned to develope his military capacities within him usually comes off more than a conqueror.

General Clancy,,,, took several puffs from his stogie cigar his eyes fixed dreamily(maybe he was dreaming of where he was going when he dies) on the distant christian christian lines, as though in deep mediation. General Shoemannia was astride his horse to the left of him, and was busy also watching, while perhaps his thoughts were wandering away to what will happen to the Glandelinian army providing general Clancy couldn't maintain his own position. General Adele-de-garbe has g own suspicions suspicions and was glancingat the christian position with his field glasses... General Clancy turned his head and looked first at Shoemannia and then at Adele-De-Garbe. General Adele-De-Garbe was seated on a stump and scrat scratching his pencil on a slate, and his glances tward the christian lines told plainly enough what occupied his thoughts.s

"General Adele-de-garbe."said general Clancy...

"Just one minute or two please"replied the former, glancing hastily up "I am on the last of the markings of the size and strength of the christian polsiti on position, and I have it almost finished.I'm planning some thingwhich if it is successful will go very hard against general Hanson, Vivian."

The protest of the general was so respectful, that general Clancy resumed his smoking and waited till general Adele-de-garbe laid his slate on general Shoemannias' lap and remounted his horse..

"There sir, I am through."

"What is the plan you are hinting on."?

"General Hanly gave me a dozen original problems about the christia christian line as he called to and to many of us generals during the heat of the action, and we had some time in solving them.I am not desiring that sort of business, but if we can win out at it I believe general Hanson Vivian will lose his reputation as the unbeaten "christian Dog".

"Are you sure that you're right general Adele-de-garbe."?

"I have proved every one of them so far.Oh you asked me what the plan was to be. When when general Hanley recently before he became ill told us to do that we all laughed because it seemed to be so simple, but when you come to study it it isn't so simple when you come to try it out. But I would dare to try it.It is this.You're an Irish man from the United States are you not?"

"I certainly am."

"Do you know the American civil War?"

"Not only that I was in it?"

"Which side did you fight for.?"

"I was a drummer boy in the Confederate side."

"Do you know general Stonewall Jackson. Jackson.

"I was in his command."

"Do you remem ber his great flank movement in the battle of Chancellorsville."

"Indeed I do."

"Well I decide it ought to be best for me to try the same stunt but on a more vaster scale to morrow or this evening if possible."

"I see."said the general and his shoulders went up and down as if he shgu shrugged them in a most doubtful manner..He seemed to be over come by the difficulty of such a movement planned pon and which problem general Adele-de-garbe had been racking his brains.

"You mi e me surely laugh. Hahahah."said Clancy in the finals.

"If you will sit down on your horse and figure on the situation you won't laugh quite so hard."said Adelde-de-garbe somewhat amused by the jolity of his superior, which brought a smile to the others"What is your answer to my problem."

"If I sent fifteen million or even fifty million with you, and I have fifty million more than you have how much less men you would have than I. "said Clancy.

"That is plain enough."said Adele-de-garbe sturdily"But if you mean to say that the answer to the problem I gave you of my plan is fifty per cent, you are wrong.I couldn't make the "Jackson" flank movement that way as I've of lost the percentage."

"Explain how you do that then."said general Clancy becoming serious . "The christian army is so immense and so far stretch e stretched that such a thing seems impossible.."

The other generals within hearing were also interested, and glanced smilingly toward the bright general Adele-de-Garbe... As all the other generals when an army is at peril, their sympathies went out to the one who could Jan the best to frustrate the christian. When general Adele-de-Garbe told general Clancy that he was in error, the others felt a thrill of delight; they wanted Adele-de-garbe to get the better of the stubborn Irish general much as they loved him as a commander. General Adele-de-Garbe leaned back against a tree, shoved his hands into his pockets, and looked smilingly at general Clancy, and his stogie as he said;;;

"Suppose to illustrate that general Hanson vivian, the darn Christian dog over there has just one hundred million men."

"He did have before the battle I'm sure."

"All right sir, suppose he still had in case he has been reinforced. Then if we have fifty per cent more it must have one hundred and fifty mil: million in strength combined into one I suppose; that's correct is it not sir.?"

General Clancy puffed at his cigar as if it was a volcano as if to be sure the general was not trying to lead him into a trap, and then he solemnly nodded his head.

"Probably that is so."

"Then if general Hanson has one hundred million men for an army, and another coming to his aid has one hundred and fifty.."

"Yes and general Hanson then has fifty per cent less, that if aided is stronger. and then how in the world can you think; yes thin of making the Jackson flank movement--and-a--and;;;--"

"Hold on general,---not so fast. I'm trying to have you solve the problem now, I'm teacher just now, and you mustn't run ahead of him. If you will notice in this problem the per centage. In the first part is based on general Hansons army, while in the second part it is based on the strength of our own, and since the strength in numbers of soldiers of the two contending armies is quite different, the percent cannot be the same. But General Hooker, at Chanslerville or whatever you call it, at one hundred and thirty thousand men. Lee you say had fifty or sit sixty thousand. Didn't you say Jackson took five of out of that sixty and whipped that 130,000 men with that small force. But yet how could it be when therefore I should be able to try the same?"

"How could it be. Seems impossible" asked general clancy showing eager interest in the reasoning of the general. "You understand Adeledegarbe the christian line is stretched over a more hundred per cent territory than general Hookers was."

"We have agreed to begin with, that general Hansons aemy is ne one hundred million men, and of our side could be one hundred and fifty. That would be fifty thousand more to the million than he would have. How how many men would have to be subtracted from general Hansons vast army to make it the same as ours?"

"Fifty I believe. Ma be less. But can you with fifty---"

"Wait a minute general Clancy. We are not there yet. And fifty is what part of a hundred million and fifty million---that is what part of the strength of Hansons army.?"

"It is probably one third."

"And one third of anything is thirty three and one third per cent of it which is I suppose to be the correct answer to the problem.?"

"Maybe."

"If so" said clancy then that is what you are proposing to move forward to storm general Hansons rear in the "Stonewall Jackson fashion. If you do it, and a small fraction of the army and you come back whole it's more than a mathematical problem. It's a miracle. I've never heard of any one that ever got Hanson on the back yet."

"But he did with five thousand men against the one hundred and thirty of the Union army in Your Country. Figure that out."

General Clancy held his cigar (which was now out) suspended in one hand while he stared with open mouth into the smiling face of general Adele-de-garbe, as though he did not quite grasp his meaning.

"What in the world at are you laughing at." he suddenly said turning sharply toward general Thomas Cleveland, who had resumed his own scouting, and was yet not able to look properly through his field glasses because of the mirth, which shook him as vigoriously, as it had stirred general clancy a few minutes before.

"I laugh because some people believe they're smarter than others." Said he. "General De Garbe has got you guessing."

and he laughed unrestrainedly. General Clancy hastily shoved the cigar into his mouth after almost lighting it at both ends, sunk lower on the saddle and smoked so hard that his head soon became invisible in the vapor. A few minutes after he suddenly roused himself; hmse himself and asked general Adele-de-garbe to begin with the first bl problem and reason out the result he obtained with each one in turn, for he wanted to figure out how it was possible that Adele-e-de-garbe could carry out his plan in a mathematic manner. General Adele-de-garbe did so and on the last but one general clancy tripped him. It was not how, however a study of aritlematic but of solbe solving the problem in a Mathematical way of how general Adele-de-garbe could do the same stunt upon so great an army as Hansons as the famous Cond Confederate general did, when he would have a record breaking disa distance to march so little a force, and when Hansons rear ittis as aware as his front and as strongly situated. A few pointed questions showed the general that he must be wrong. Then general Clancy laughed himself and looking at the solemn faces of the other generals he asked;;;;;;;;

"Why don't you laugh now...!!!!!!!!!"

One of them meekly answered that she did not see anything to cause mirth... though general Glannis Shoemannia proved that he did.

For only that but general Shoemannia became fully satisfied from the suddenness with which general Clancy detected his error and the confidence he gave that he [illegible] wrong on the first

problem. Even him with the object of [illegible] the general Adele-de-garbe.....?.? Finally he demanded of him whether such was not the case. Many persons in the place of general Clancy indeed indeed would have been tempted to lie out of it, because almost every one will no doubt admit any charge sooner than that of ignorance, but vicied as he was general Clancy considered lying one of the meanest vices of which any person could be guilty. Like all his own country men as mentioned before he had recieved a good school education in School besides which his mind possessed a real mathematical bent. He said he caught finally the answer to the question the minute it was asked him, and although other generals may not have seen it before general Clancy had met and conquered similiar and harder problems when he was a boy. But just the same he was puzzled in another way. He couldn't see how general Adelede-garbe could make his proposed Stonewall Jackson flank movement. Therefore while he persistently refused to admit how general Adele-de-garbe could not solve the problem of that famous rear guard action, yet when Adele-de-garbe after minutes and of many hours of past labor was still all abroad, general Clancy would demand a question or two of him so skillfully framed that the bright staff generals were quick to detect their bearing on the subject over which they were puzzling their brain, but couldn't yet see how Adeledargar Adele-de-garbe could work out his scheme to any sucess. However Clancy's query was as of the flash of a lantern lanterns flash which shows the ladder for which a person is groping. The efforts of the scouting being finished and no more pursuit on, general Clancy while they were returning to the position tested Adeledegarbe with a number of military problems that were new to him. Most of them were in the nature of them with a "Catch" as if a nature of puzzles. hidden somewhere. General De Garbe could not give the right answer in every instance but he did so in a majority of cases----so often indeed that general Clancy indeed did a most rat rare thing---he complimented Adelde-garbes skill and ability, and believed after all his plan would be a success if there was time for it to e be carried out.

At five thirty the christians renewed the conflict and with redoubled fury. Shot shell, high explosives and other destructive elements of war, and even terrific fire bombs setting fire to everything into a fierce conflagration were tearing everything into the air. The conflict was dolefuL as a thirty or fourty years war it into one battle. Indeed though Irish, general Clancy was a hostile commander against general Hanson, he was predominant, and with all of his military forces he repelled the driving "storm waves" lashed by the Christian "hurricane crashing against his positions, aided by his own heavy artillery fire. In vain the christian [illegible] troops rushed forward to take the Glandelinian works by storm. Dreadful more dreadful was the carnage than during the first two spasms of the battle. Indeed happy he who in this dreadful unequal combat had powerful artillery, powerful columns, above all reliable commanders, and in the unfailing ability of Clancy, Adeledegarbe Shoemannia's and others. The Christian onslaughts apparently were as fierce as all the onslaughts of Hell against the Catholic Church. It was if Hell itself had choosen sides with Hansons army and combined with it was engaged in its onslaughts against the whole Glandelinian position and that if with Hansons combined had mustered its forces to make a final and fatal onslaught on the Glandelinian position. But general Clancy had suspected this right along. He forstulled the coming "Storm" and at several critical periods, when the conflict was the hottest, he had brushed whole lines of christian assailants. Yet it was the most bitter struggle of the battle now. General Thomas Cleveland led a fierce counter charge and though greatly victorious, was borne from the battle field badly wounded. In his efforts to suppress the christian onslaught the indefatigable Glandelinian general Shoemannia, drove his troops to every point badly needed until he and they were exhausted, but all seemed in vain. His aid general Gilman Shoeman fell wounded and that division was without a leader and which could not be replaced. Worn out by its dreadful efforts in the face of that "Typhoon" lashing the Glandelinian position the Glandelinian divisions under Shoemannia had to withdraw to the Stony River, where it made another fierce stand. Finally when the line of battle here under Shoemann in was overcome by the overwhelming odds against it, and by weakness through its dreadful losses, general Adele-De Garbe sent reinforcements.

"Do not trouble yourself to do delay a minute general Dominic" he said. "They see's the peril Shoemannia is in. Do not let those christian wild dogs come any closer. Do not be discouraged by any of their fiercest assays for then thy efforts will not be fruitless. To stop the torrent of advancing christians which is devastating Shoemannias lines, strive unceasingly unceasingly to drive the assailants out of the territory.."

Charged with this order he went forth with this strong division. It was as if a fearful storm had arose. The lightning flashed from exploding shell everywhere, and the earth trembled at the awful roaring of cannons, the exploding shell fire, and the noise of so many millions of rifles. General Dominics efforts however made little impression on the christian assailants though he tried to prove to his troops with fiery eloquence how easily it can be done to stop the christian advance.. No doubt the Christian armies must have had the Protection and aid of Our Blessed Mother through Innumerable miracles. General Dominic finally drove a portion of the christian line and drove his line through it almost victorious, when he fell mortally wounded, and his troops cut up in flank and rear rolled up from the line of battle in frightful panic and disorder. Flames came forth through the trees as if a fierce forest fire which rendered the scene all the more frightful. Adeledegarbe sent his most valiant generals to combat the pernicious onslaughts of the christian troops---but they had been defeated, and some wounded. Oh Adeleged Adele-de-garbe. How he wished it was night. The christians were indeed pressing the Glandelinians very hard, and

Glandelinian soldiers were [illegible] over there.
Shoemmr la still had some of [illegible] to [illegible] suddenly there was the burst of [illegible] fire on [illegible] and left flank. A immense body of Abbieanians [illegible] as if demons themselves came charging in that direction with fresh troops and the Shoemmnias army was cut off, and hundreds of his sections became filled with panic and began to scatter in all directions. It was impossible to hold.

Violet and her sisters were dangerously close to this part of the battle and they got so involved in this disaster that they had to flee too and soon so great was the panic among the soldiers that soon only they and Adele-de-fob were the only ones left. Violet and her sisters had to think fast indeed. They were in gray uniforms and therefore they were in greater danger from the christian side than of the enemy's. Therefore their only chance was to play possum with their own friends. They rolled themselves into a near by gully, and lay as still as death while the battle raged with insane fury still within east distance. They remained there till night came. As soon as it grew a dark, they started moving on through the cane brake it now being still. They crawled over two miles on their bellies. How the cane crackled. Sounded as loud to them as if they were rifle shots. They were still in the very christian territory and in gray uniforms. They now rose to their feet. Ping. A shot sounded over their heads. They threw themselves flat. They waited, and then not hearing anything more they pressed on, and here came the narrowest escape of all. They almost dashed right into an enemy outpost. If it had not been that one of them sneezed. They managed to dodge them all right. But now to proceed further without being seen as the great fires made by the awful battle would reveal them and cause both sides to fire upon them.

Indeed they were two miles away from the defeated Landelinian army and and close to a little country Catholic red Schoolhouse where before the war some little country children, may have pridd recieve their education.....
A short distance from this little red schol schoolhouse a branch road turned off to the right running north, which being followed countless miles or so, mostly through a desne forest dense forest but a beautiful one, the Pareley sort, brought one to the bigger region where the horrors of St Etheldreda was simultaneously going on. Between the raging battle of Lebanon (night even did not stop it "blazing contest") and the schoolhouse were only two little farm dwellings, and no other town was anywhere anywhere for many miles. The first on the left once belonged to George Patron, hone land adjoined that of a woman farm near the river while the other was beyond the fork of the roads and was owned by the Uncle of the Edie Mason Family of Calvertinia, who lived a long distance back from the highway, and whose sons good to say were generals in the christian army, while his father was a Government member in Abbieannia. Violet and her sisters halted in their desperate flight when they came here. Adele-De fob was very valuable to these brave little beauties, who found it necessary often to have him for their companion and also guardian. This however did not happen always for they were anxious that he should do lots of his spying trips elsewhere, he had recieved a good education, and he by pretending to serve in the enemy lines as a boyscout of their side always enabled to aid christian generals to recover very quickly any ground in battle lost... There was also much need of Ellie and other girlscouts and many of them especially as Gertrude Angeline, and others had rarely missed a day with violet, and her sisters. But now they were in too distanced an army and it too was very active. The sound of the distant battle was very close when Adele-de-garbe led violet, and her sisters behind a heavy gooseberry patch close to the forks, and then creeping on all fours, they headed for the schoolhouse.

"We've got to stay here quie quite a long time." said Adele-De-Garbe. "I shou. ldn't wonder if we wouldn't have to remain here till nearly midnight. I will therefore look out for you, and in case we can or will get separated you can then look out for me and I'll still lead you on."

Violet, and her sisters said, they would not forget..... Jennie decided to do some scouting, and crawled cautiously up the road, while the sound of some strange booming roused her to her senses..s.s.s.s.ss..ss

The little princess girl, decided to stop at the nearest farm house to find out if any people were really there. Yet the dwelling stood so far back that with the booming of so much shells and cannons so close she could not dare to dare the life to crawl upto long lane and then return again, but she contented herself with peering up the tree lined road avenue in quest of the comin coming of christian troops under a leader she may recognize. However there were no visible objects in the even ever deepening gloom, and so it was that she crawled on only a little further... The distance from the battle field being so considerable Violet, and her sisters did not feel it at all safe to go any too far. When half way through the stretch woods, they came to a small bridge those boards rattled so loudly under their knees and hands that they were afraid the noise would attract the soldiers of either side, and bring upon themselves a sudden fatal cross fire. But they crawled more slowly this time and as noiselly as possible.

Adeled-efob carried a time piece of great size and thickness, having been made somewhere in France a good many years before. Indeed it ticked so loudly that it sounded like a cricket and would have surely betrayed any person in an ordinary sized room, when there was no a usual noise. His gun handsome watch watch was too valuable for him to carry.. Also the former was so heavy that it seemed to Adele-de-f- fob when riding with it of travelling on foot that he went in a one sided fashion. however however the brave lad was very proud of it, because in the cover clasp he had a beautiful picture of the Sacred Heart which he wouldn't part with for all the world.. and usually took it out oftener than it was necessary, especially every time the thought of our Blessed Lord came to him...

Telling the other girls to rest a while near the farm house he went ahead to scout a little to see if the way was clear.. Wherever he was doing De Fob is remained usually long, and he in fully half an hour away. Then when he was returning he looked for the coming of Jennie but saw nothing of ttt of her, nor any one coming from the direction she had gone.

"Where returned to her sisters" was his conclusion and he speedily returned to where he had left the other Princesses.. He then rendered up his accounts about his scouting, and then was surprised and somewhat [illegible] to learn that Jennie had [illegible] appeared.

"I wonder what is detaining her so long." said Violet. "She was never so late before."

It was plain from her face, and from the faces of her sisters, that they were all im anxious, for while Adele-De-Fob had been scouting one or two of them had frequently gone forth a little ways, and had searched long and anxiously down the road, hoping that the figure of their little brave sister would come to view, with some explanation of the cause of her delay. At first they thought she had dos discovered something and that detained her. But by now it was time for the sun to be low in the west (if never still shone) and the glare of fierce conflagrations made by the battle brought to light the figure of no little girl hurrying toward them. One ob ject that was thought to be her proved to be only an animal of some sort scared away by the thunder of a shell high in the air, who turned off at the cor co cross roads and vanished...

"De fob" said Jolice. "We'll remain in the old school building for shelter. Go and search for her. I'm sure something out of the ordinary has happened. I'm afraid she's either lost or captured by our friends as an enemy."

The boy spy was glad of the order, for he was on the point of demanding permission to hunt for Jennie.

"I'll still till I find out something" said De Fob "so don't worry about me. I am well used to the country and can not get lost."

"But you ought not to be gone so long" said Angeline, whose anxious face showed that he was debating whether she should not join the boy in the search "For itsurely won't take long to find out where Jennie is."

"I'll bet she had been suddenly become ill, and has stopped in some shelter hoping we'll search for her" ventured Daisy.

As the saying goes Adele-De-Fob did not let the "grass grow" under under his feet. He was more worried than even Jennie's sisters were, they less, because they (new she could take care of herself, and as soon as he was in the road he started to run at a trot, which he continued untill beyond sight, the six Vivian Girl Children standing in the schoolhouse yardyard and watching him untilll he faded from view in the gathering twilight.

The point where he disappeared was however beyond the house of the Edie Farmer so it was safe to conclude he had found no trace of Jenni there where he was seen to halt. Indeed there is nothing more wearisome than waiting in such suspense amid the roar of distant battle, and the glare of conflagrations, as came to the hears of violet, and her sisters, while they sat in the schoolyard watching and listening for the sound of their foot steps and voices whose music would have been the sweetest on earth to them. The only sounds however heard were the rumbling roar of battle, the glare of flames and now and then a long drawn sigh from one little girl or the other as one strove to offer a comforting word to the other.

All at once the gate was opened and shut hastily with a loud clang. Then a hurried step sound along the short and road.

"There they are. There they are." exclaimed Violet to her sisters, starting to her feet, and she too.

Almost on the same instant he came within easy view of them. But as he came up to them he was alone, and in the glare of fire they could see the expression on his face, and they realized before he said anything that he had brought bad news...

Indeed when he had set out to find the missing Princess he made the search as complete as possible. The first house he stopped at was that of the Woman Farmer, which it will be remembered was only a short distance away from the Schoolhouse. There to his disappointment he found no one there the building was abandoned, and entering the house with his flashlight after he had searched every room he found no trace of her. Without wasting much time he resumed his trot, and soon after turned into the lane leading to the home of Mr Mason. No one was there. But as he was going forth he came upon two fugitive country children but they were terrified at his gray uniform and he had to grab them before they'd have run away. But they had nothing to tell. When any one of us are more than usually anxious to learn something it seems that every one we meet is stupid beyond endurance. If we are in a strange place and apply for information the ignorance of nearly every person is exasperating. But not in Abbieannia. If they saw an, one you're searching for they'll tell you. The two children realizing from his speech he was no enemy said they remembered seeing a little girl in gray clothes during the fore evening, and that she had been going into the woods.

"I'm sure she didn't come by this road" all the way" said the girl refugee who had given her name as Sallie stamping her foot to give emphasis to the words as was her way. "And she seemed to be in a hurry as if she was in danger."

"I'm sure she was in danger" declared Bobbie Winifield equally equally emphatically "We hid from her at first believing she was a girl scout of the enemy. We didn't believe she was one of the Vivian Girls. I can show you the route she went.

"Are you sure she went that way?" demanded the boy scout.

"We certainly did."

"How do you know?"

"Cause we seen her." insisted Bobby.

"What a dence head." exclaimed his sister. "You are leaving something out. "She was shadowed."

"Yes that's right. She was shadowed. We can show you the way."

"All right" come ahead.."

There were no more houses between this building, and the Schoolhouse and led by the two children the boy resumed his dog trot, untill he came to the house of a little White painted cottage half in ruins to the left.

"I wonder if she's in there" said De Fob.

"No" said Sallie. "We were in there yesterday. We are scared of all out to little fighting so far away."

Adele-de-fob although strict to almost severity when in command of his own boyscouts was a good and a kind hearted boy nevertheless and was fonder more of all his fellow children than he was of himself, he was bright and cheerful and obedient, and as all bota boys and girls are no miraculous by good and obedit obedient in the Abbieanian country for never give trouble to one or another or two teachers and parents and other superiors and Pa Ferrel [illegible] foreign never gas anywhere

among Calverinian or Abbieanian children ever such a thing in the slightest dispute. At first because of this he had been a little afraid of Abbieanian children as they had seemed very unusual to him. Adele-de-fob was also a foreign and despite his name had been born also in the United States, his mother being an Irish woman and his father a half German and English. He when he first came to Calverinia couldn't understand a bit of Abbieanian, but had been such a bright lad that he caught it up easily. At first though good he had never been as the Abbieanian children, and just caught it from them. Of course if any one of the reader would believe that Abbieanian children don't play all the same games children do over in any other country, he'd better not read this any further.

Adelede-fob listened to the story of these two Abbieanian refugee children, and his sympathy was aroused at once for them for they had lost their father and mother in the flood. They were brave children overtheless. (find an Abbieanian child that's ever afraid of the dark, or of the least thing and I'll give him all my money). The boy bobbie said;

"I'm so sorry that the good Vivian Girl Princesses not to be mentioned yourself should be so sorely troubled, but I'm not, but for the reason that as serious as a situation is surely I'm positive she can take good care of herself. But I do hope this is not serious. I saw one of them come to me yesterday, and asked me whether I believe I and my sister would be safe in this neighborhood if a battle came. I saw Jennie go into the woods and though she was shadowed by some one, the way she acted I'm sure she was fully aware of it."""

"Was she followed by a number of men?"?"?????"Asked the distressed boy scout boyscout..

"He was shadowed by something that appared to be scouts your size but girls, about ten or twelve of them. I saw her a start toard the woods and she was going somewhat fast and was in such cheerful spirits that I and my little sister stood at the window of that house and watched her until she passed around in the bend of the road. It was then I saw her shadowed by child scouts in purple..."

Adele-de-fob felt his heart sink within him for the words of the little refugee had let in a great deal of alarming truth in him. The danger was greater because it was evident because of her uniform she was mistaken for a Glandelinian girlscout spying round the neighborhood, and surely even to save her from capture he couldn't think of firing on his own comrades. and they girls. Yet he felt sure Jennie new the situation perfectly and was the priide of the best of the good Vivian Girl Princesses but when she's shadowed by her own side what could he or she do them. And surely unless they understood who she was, enemies couldn't be following her in disguise of purple uniforms. And indeed Jennie had reached the crossroads half an hour before, and then not wishing to sit down and wait she had started up the road in the direction of the schoolhouse to meet him and her sisters. She surely must have entered the countless mile stretch of woods from the south about the same time he, and her sisters decided to await her return. An supposen even she could finally convince those shadowing her that she was not a Glandelinian spy, what if a terrific forest fire storm should come up. How could she escape the flames that roll so many hundreds of feet upward in clouds of fire. And she and her sisters and he should have met near Vardura Stream, but she hadn't been seen since she went to scout. Her sisters and he had remained near the school house as a matter of course, had retained the road, but that had become of Jennie? This was the question the poor lad put to himself and which caused him to feel so faint that he sank down on a log unable to speak for a minute or two.

Then, when he tried to do so, he had to stop, and was kept busy swallowing the lump that would rise in his throat, until finally the tears, suddenly appeared and putting his hands to his eyes he gave way to his grief.

"There. There. "said Bobby, soothingly; "Don't cry boy scout, for it will do you no good./

"She is lost---- lost----lost---- Jennie"said the boy scout as tears he could between his sobs..."I'm afraid we'll never see her again."

"Oh, it isn't as bad as that, said, she couldn't get lost. I saw she has observed her foes following her, and hid from them until they gave up the search."

"If the good little boy meant this to soothe the boy scout it had the contrary effect, for the picture of the lost Vivian Girl Princess wandering alone in the woods teaming to doubtful with fierce enemies, or endangered by the battle fires which if coming here might set the forest in a blaze, of the main conflagration of the "Southeaster might come in" was some of the most dreadful that could be imagined, and it to kall the manhood of his brave nature, to keep him from breaking down again. While, the interviews as Adelede-fob, the boy refugee and his little sister, felt even worse than Adele-de-fob, all do, but, not that he, or, not it did not, but that from what they had heard of Violet and her sisters they didn't believe any other could happen to Jennie, and that instead of being lost she must have been in to dodge her secret enemies who they felt sure had been shadowing her. But nevertheless as the two to cheer him up were very willing to help the boy. They even approached Hensel vue for not having tried to find where she was going.

"I know the way she went." said the boy. "Therefore we must hunt for her. A leader can help. too."

"Adele-de-fob however felt like the leader, as he's the reason like out is his sister and he is sure to make sure they are in the proper condition before sai[illegible] the signs of a [illegible] of the record of the [illegible] and [illegible] the record of the [illegible] evil [illegible] added by a "indroom of [illegible] [illegible] carried to the [illegible] that it caused another pick throb of Adelede-fobs Adele-de-fobs heart, but he forced it down as the threeee started back over the road,, and the crossroads. .2.

"[illegible] of sight [illegible] flashlight [illegible] will be go into the forest." said Bobby"for the fact is don't need it and I hope we won't need it after we reach the forest, for if we [illegible] are in the woods the place will be set up [illegible] s. [illegible] the little have dreadful experience and have [illegible] dreadful they friends need if she was lost and the forest would not all ablaze.."

He regretted the words, for the two or three sobs that escaped the boy scout before he could mister himself, showed that his heart was all [illegible] beating. The night was very hot even for an October night, although a little too hot to call it a July day. The glare of many fires caused by the battle penetrated the forests, and where there was no shade one could because of the distance glare of flames see for a hundred yards or so without difficulty and with great distinctness, that is to recognize the figure of any person in motion. Opposite the lane leading to the house of the [illegible], the boy and girl stopped.

"We will wait here."said Bobby"And you had better hurry home for Jennie's sisters. On your way on the [illegible] and get some christian soldiers to help you if you can; that will give us a pretty large party. We will remain here or unless you wish us to go on and hunt for her. Then you will meet us before you reach the bridge over [illegible] Creek. Needn't [illegible] us. We know the woods well."

Adel-de-fob did as told, and still on a rapid trot reached where he had left Violet, and her sisters, parting and excited, with the story which the [illegible] reader has just learned. Violet started for the gate. With her hand on the latch, she paused and glancing toard her sisters commanded her voice so as to say;

"Joyce You and sisters, and Adelde-fob do not need to wait for me. I'm going to search for her."

"Oh Joice"---pleaded the boy scout, moving toard her"Would you have me stay here when our sister is lost, and then I have the clues already."

"No I did not mean that I said"remarked the Princess in a confused way"I am so upset I am sure I am not conscious of what I am doing or saying. Sister Sisters don't feel too bad, we will come again as soon as we can get on."""

Again the half distracted Vivian Girl placed her hand on the latch and a, and she had drawn the gate partly open, when her sisters gale,, and trembling came forward Daisy Daisy crying out in a voice of touching [illegible];

" Joice dear our hearts would burst with grief, should we be compelled,, to stay here, when no one can see but God and His Blessed Mother where our darling sister is, but wherever she may be safe or in danger, no sorrow or pain, or suffering can come to her, that we do not share, and cannot share, and may our Heavenly Father, and His Sacred Heart let us her sisters accept it all upon their own shoulders,."

"Come on sisters, come on and bright bring the flashlight gone with you."

When Adelede-Fob and Jennie's sisters reached the Crossroads a few minutes later, they saw not one of the two children they expected to meet there.

"They have gone on to the woods to look for Jennie"said violet.

"They can't be far off"[illegible] Joice, "turning [illegible] the left...

All were too anxious indeed to lose even a second, and they started after their two friends at a rapid walk, Adelede-fob [illegible] taking the lead, and now and then losing into a trot which he would have increased had he been alone. A chill of apprehension despite the heat seemed to settle over all as they reached the deep shadows of the forests, which was the outer section of the Marie Osborne Forests which was one of the largest tracts of forests in this state, in the world. The road which bisected them was of an unknown number of miles in length, as already had been stated, which the forest was heavy and [illegible] some miles the trees being three feet apart from one another, and greater in extent in the other direction. Being of such a large area there were necessarily but large portions of these woods which had not been explored by the [illegible], because hunters were never allowed to go through these woods. Not in this country, in a day allowed to be shot, and if [illegible] to be shot wild and [illegible] animals are allowed to be killed.

Dangerous animals however did not roam these woods, and besides if there had been any they were not there now, because of the awful noise of the immense war and the nearance of fires all animals and birds had cleared themselves out of the woods. and those who were able to judge were surely certain that if the glorious depths were explored, there were no dreaded animals to meet be met (except the "animals "be Glandelinian colsiders) but if such were the fact, the glandelinian scouts and marderers roaming those woods were in so few numbers that no one gave them a thought....2

It was now four miles to "[illegible] river and by common consent, it was agreed that the missing Vivian Girl Princesses must be found,, if found at all before reaching the stream.

There was no need to worry even if this river was deep enough to drown a person who could not swim, not to mention the large body of water of which it formed further on, and there was no awful dread that Jennie had drowned if she had gone or fallen into the water, for if you can be accident drown any of the Vivian Girls, then also go ahead and drown a fish. In water..

But there was one dreaded thought. Suppose she should have fallen into the stream at a point where it wasn't deep, and there might have been a dangerous quicksand. No one said [illegible] of it, but the thought was there all the same. Shortly after entering the wood,,, Adele-de-fob called to the star like points of lights in the some distance ahead [illegible].

"They are the flashlights of Sallie and Bobby"said the boy, who immediately added "We forgot to stop and hookfor soldiers to help us."

"That is too bad"said Violet,,,,"[illegible] it isn't worth while to waste the time to go back now,"and she had not slacked her speed.

And the [illegible] flashlight which Bobby was seen suddenly flared out.

Vio[illegible] flashlight [illegible] children in [illegible] Adelde-de-f b.
"Have you found any [illegible] of Je[illegible]"ddes A[illegible] clive, [illegible] parties came together.

"I could not be [illegible]ssible so soon."[illegible] in a kindly v[illegible]ice. "We have just reached here, and have only [illegible] along the road,,,.I have little doubt that he is somewhere hiding from secret foes somewhere not far off or maybe has been [illegible] ied t[illegible] she has have [illegible] dropped off to sleep[illegible]

While all stood still Adelde-fob lifted up his voice and in clear loud penetrating tones called the name of the missing "Vivian Gi[illegible]l.

" Jennie.""

The [illegible]icking of Adelde-f[illegible] Fobs big [illegible] in his pocket [illegible] had as the little company awaited the answering call of the [illegible] Vivian Gi[illegible]l. [illegible] it came not, and six times [illegible] the name of the missing V ivian Gi[illegible]l repeated by one or the other, who broke do[illegible] simultaneously the last time.Adele-DeoFob jolted his thumbard finger against the end of his tongue and [illegible] emitted a blast as from a steam whistle. It resounded among the trees , and then followed only the same answering sound of the far distant battle. It was useless to remain where they were any longer and without a sigle word [illegible] between [illegible] the eight of them moved on. The seven flashlights were [illegible] above their heads and they peered into the gloomy depths on the right and left.

Adelde-de-fob as might have been expected, retained th[illegible] the advance [illegible] and he [illegible]ed his own flashlight. As the other flashlights were behind the boy scout, the latter saw his [illegible] shadow continually dancing in front and forming [illegible] manner of grotesque shapes, while if the others had glanced to the rear, and would have been timid, and would have observed the same thing, as the lights affected their own figures they would have gon got scared.

"Whit"suddenly called out "Daisy Vivian",Maybe Jennie does hear us but doesn't answer for some good reason or other."

"Therefore she ca lled to her as before, Adelde-edafob ebding ending the appeal with with an earsplitting whistle, which must have been heard more than two miles on such a still night, despite the sound of [illegible] battle that now seemed to be also waning. However there was not the slightest answering sound, and with heavy hearts the little company moved ,on again.

"I believe"said the boy Robby"that she may have turned aside, there possibly some faint path of some sort may have brought her attention for a good hiding spot, and it may be that we will discover it."

"Let's search around here."

"It was Nerie Vivian [illegible]" upon this time, and as they turned toward her, she was seen bending over the ground, at the side of the high [illegible] where something had arrested her attention.Instantly all the flashlights were clustered about the spot, and it was seen that the eyes of affection had discovered just such a place as that named by the boy ref gee. Persons who strode or road along the road were accustomed to turn aside in any woods, and the two boys and the seven girls, did the same now moving now moving slowly, with the flashlights held close to the ground and then swung aloft while all eyes were peering into the portions penetrated by the yellow rays. The path was followed some fifty yards or so, when to the disappointment of all it returned to the road in another direction, but indeed it was one of those teasing whimsical foot paths often which we meet with in the country, the persons who started it having left the highway without having any real reason for doing doing so. Again the name of the missing Vivian Vi, Girl Princess is repeated, and again the woods sent nothing back but the echoes..s.s.s.

"Listen.Ha'S."

It was the quick eared Adele-de-fob who spoke just as the [illegible] of the conversation began, and all listened. As they did so, the rattling [illegible] ering roar of a whole fleet of galloping horses was heard coming down the road from the direction of Lebanon. The peculiar noise and the sound of accoutrements enabled them all to recognize the cavarly coming as made by a heavy body of Winnie Abusinkillon cavarly or Dragoons. The Colonn however was proceeding in a sort of trot, and not a full gallop.

A few minutes later the cavarly came into sight and one of the leaders seeing the party of nine shouted;

"Halloothere you children in gray uniforms.Why they're the Vivian Princesses, Adeledefob and two others.What's the matter are you lost."

The voice was recognized as that of John Evans Jack Evans's younger brother.Instantly a ardent hope was engendered that he might be able to tell them something about Jennie Vivian. Adelde-de-fob called to the cavarly general telling who they were, and demanding whether the general had seen anything of Jennie Vivian.A[illegible] t is General Evans and some of his officers urged up their horses, and rode up to the party of searchers. "Why precious is she lost?"asked the general, forgetting the anguish of his dear little Vivian Girl friend in the sudden fear and misgiving of from the fact.

"Yes she strayed up this road [illegible] in [illegible] a little [illegible] she was to return but someone or other [illegible] mislead her, and we are all anxious about her."

"[illegible] precious I believe you [illegible] would be, and [illegible] would drive some of us crazy if any of the children [illegible] would be [illegible] such a critical time."

"I suppose from the way you speak" [illegible] Adelde-de-Fob "[illegible] have seen nothing other?"

"No I [illegible] had, for I tell you [illegible] a bad place for a little Girl Princess let alone any child [illegible] lost in.Hope shall [illegible] these dreadful times.There's a part of the Bear [illegible] Eastern College? [illegible] forest fire comin[illegible] and [illegible] bi[illegible]---and---and""

B[illegible] j[illegible] [illegible] half and[illegible] away from Violet, and her five sisters [illegible] alone [illegible] [illegible] general that he was [illegible] giving [illegible] by [illegible] comfort to himself himself, and to [illegible] is afflicted friends. [illegible] beg pardon [illegible] to sir with tears in his eyes, and in an [illegible] to apologize."Come to this V of it I hope I'm not sure it is not so bad [illegible] understand, but maybe it'll go another way. [illegible] I'm joining in this search as she must be found.We will help you.I'll [illegible] to my command and give orders and directions to my officers,"

And John Evans hastened to his command.

The cavarly were deployed through sections of the woods while John Evans and some of his higher officers joined the little sa searchers. Then the searching party by this time began to realize the difficulties in the path of their success..Indeed if as they all believed and even hoped Jennie from being overtired as she had and her sisters had had no sleep all the slight before, and then all this bloody day had fallen asleep some there in the woods they were liable to pass within ever half a dozen feet of where she lay without discovery of the fact... Should they continue to call her, or should Adelde-de-fob continue to emit his resounding whistle, she might be awakened provided only such a brief space seperated them but the chances were scarcely one in a hundred thousand that not only would they be so fortunate but that she would even go asleep in the perilous woods at all.This view, even at the worst, seemed a favorable one in some respects, in others not so favorable, and behind it rose the phantoms that caused all to sa shudder with a great dread which they did not dare to utter.They came upon another path only a short distance further and this this road diverged from the side of the main road,,, but turning out to be another main road in itself.

There an unusally careful and cautious search was made, and Adelede-fob and the officer and many of the soldiers almost split their cheeks in their efforts to send their penetrating whistles throughout the surrounding,, country.Every one even called out the name of Jennie as loudly as they could but nothing except the hollow echoes and the far distant sound of the battle came to them on the return.

Adelede-fob examined the faces of Violet, and her sisters,, by the by the beams of the flashlights they carried and he saw that they lacked the appearance of giving up hope though they were more distressed than ever. He then examined his watch and saw it was close to seven. They had been lo searching for the lost princess as this proved for nearly threese hours since they started.

"It seems to me "said general Evans, as the party came to a halt"That we are not going to accomplish anything by tarrying in this aimless fashion".

"What better can we do, you're soldiers are scouring the woods in scattered groups!"demanded Adelde-de-fob.

"Thus far lad we have been forced to confine ourselves to the road excepting when we diverge a few yards or so; and therefore this renders our efforts about the same as if done by only a single persons. What I propose if that therefore we should separate."""""

"How will that help us, if none of the others are coming back...."""!!!!

"It may, and it may not but we as the soldiers shall cover three or four times, the amount of space, and it follow that some of us must pass closer to the spot where Jennie may be lying if she is asleep.I suppose Violet, and her sisters would rather remain with Adelde-de-fob."

This seemed indeed to be a sensible suggestion, and the two men turned to the afflicted Vivian girls to learn what they thought of it, and put the mian suggestion to Adelefob.....

He however refused to consider the proposition.

Nothing doing, nothing doing yet.----not yet, we go a little further. What those soldiers do not succeed in doing we could not on the same proposition either."

Nothing was added by any way of explanation, and yet even Violet herself understood why he had protested;;; he wished that all might stay together untilll they reached the river.. If nothing was learned of their darling sister there, then he would follow the plan of the general...2.2.2. But something seemed to whisper to the boy scout leader that the place where they would gain tidings of little Jennie(whether good or bad) was near that wide river, which if she could drown in the waters at the deepest part s might at shallow spots have treacherous quicksires which seemed to be always reaching out for some one to strangele strangle in its infatuomed depths. ...

"Perhaps general John Evans is right"said Violet after a silence which was even very oppressive even though brief"but it is bestiooo we should retain our oth company together--for if is lonely work tramping through a woods menanced by two enemies landslidiana, and fires. and especially where there is no beaten path to follow and where in some places for great stretches it is so dense as to be gloomy even at noontime."

Thereupon the strange procession resumed its march toward the inner recesses of the forest in the direction of Lebanon passing at the short est intervals to call and signal to the missing one.... . . . It was a vast relief to all that the weather continued to be so mild even in so sultry for that time of the year, and according to John Evans in the earlier part of the day, there were some signs of an approaching "five americane" but the signs had vanished, and the night was seen to be "the most pleasant in that month of October. Had the fires began to approach, or had the temperature gone up hotter and hotter, Jennie's sisters would have become distracted distracted, for nothing could lessen the pangs caused by their feeling that their darling little sister might be in dreadful peril and suffering. Though the true mother lives for her children, and their joys and sorrows are hers, so it is the same case with a true sister to her brother or sister. Whenever the Wind rustled among among the heavy pine branches around them, they shuddered and in instinctively seemed to feel as if they were scary persons seeing a vison

vision of an evil spirit or [illegible] out, indeed they could have [illegible] even a year old could they have found her lost and she seemed no dear to them as then, and they continued to mutter the full lines of the Rosary as if they could do nothing else.

"Adelde-fob"she Violet whispered in stopping the prayers for a moment; and t[illegible] twitching his elbow, "I WANT TO SA" OUR WORD TO YOU TO YOU."

"Say it out Violet! I cannot overhear."he answered, alluding to the fact that they were within close hearing of the others, and that she wanted it a secret.

"Yes, but I don't want my poor sisters to overhear what I want to tell you."

The [illegible] Boy therefore followed her to the rear a little ways, and as she stopped by a tree he stood beside her and in a strange emotional voice she said;

Do you remember when Jennie was lost in the woods over a year ago?"

"Of course I remember further back than that, why do you ask?"

"When she was injured by the swamp and overcome by the heat of a big fire and from that reason caught a terrible fever and how long it was before she was getting well and I thought she was going to die?"

"Yes I cannot forget it poor little girl, and her face was so hot I almost could light a match by it, but praised be God and His Blessed Mother she got overvit."

"You also remember Ade le-de-fob, how delirous she was, and how cross she was in that state che[illegible] she did not [illegible] what she was doing and [illegible] hard it seemed to be also to please her.?"

"But that was because she was wounded burned, and ill from her experience what she was well she also [illegible] laughed."

"But bit"and there was a [illegible] in the voice ro"Oh-[illegible] then she was getting partly well and she made the request for a glass of water and Penrod was sitting in the room and jumped up and brought it to her, but that she was partly out of her head again, and refused the water from him believing him a Glandelinian boyscout in disguise trying to give her poison, and that she would not recieve it from him, and would have secured a gun and shot him had I not stopped her on time. I thought she was deserted entirely, and I held Penrod to set it on the table near her still she came to. Penrod had felt so bad he left the room, and my sisters were sorry, but Jennie was getting well, and it seemed I needed some firm attention to get her out of her delirium. The was very [illegible] thirsty for her fever was a terrible one. I was tired and dropped into a doze. Then by I heard Jennie's bare feet pattering on the floor and softly opening my eyes, without stirring I observed her go hastily to the cooler and swallow every drop of water in it till I was afraid she'd burst. She was so weak and dizzy that she finally staggered back to the bed, and almost reaching sleep fell to the floor as if she had died... How sorry for hard I and my sisters cried, but most of our tears were caused by the remembrance of her the Glandelinians have been cruel to so in before the war be begun."

"But Violet, you and your sisters did sing."said Adelede-fob, who had been a witness of this affecting incident and many others that she and her sisters had gone through over and over again,."And the say these Glandelinians are some children it won't do to lump the devilish scoundrels, it would be better if we---"

"That may be, to send them to the "bad place,"all of them I suppose, I cannot help thinking of that all the time, it would have done to burn the homes the Glandelinians at that time, and "shield the lives of our children when we are such and so many and good children.Our Country don't deserve this no more than any one else."

"You say the truth, but---but--"

Violet had spoken so bravely to keep up, but she broke down and was unable to speak any further.

"Never mind Violet"said Adele-de-fob ,"O our losaries will bring Good results.Our Blessed Mother promised that---"

At that moment one of the soldiers called out.

"Here's the bridge."

The long procession halted, though the glo mus it needlimly lighted by the flashlights and all went rapidly forward until the stood upon the rough wood planking(planking) Suddenly Violet, and her sisters together started cries, as one of them stopped down and snatched up something from the ground close to the entrance to the bridge. The startled friends gazed with glanced with fright toward them, and saw that Jeice held the hat of her little sisters in her hand.

Indeed on the very edge of the bridge over Ventura river Jennie's older sister had snatched up her hat which she had dropped in going out from the road.It had blown aside down, and lodged in a piece of [illegible] sort of [illegible].To to her the afflicted Vivian girls offered half a [illegible] suppressed screams, when she picked up what seemed a memento of their "dead" sister. While the flashlights were held in a circle around the [illegible] which Adelde-de-fob [illegible] from Jeice, to [illegible] the dirt out.There was not a dry eye then all gazed upon the hat, while Adelde-fob softly and gently returned the hat. No one ventured to speak a single word,, but never [illegible] were all the same. One of the soldiers stepped to the railing [illegible] the side of the bridge with Adelde-fob the others doing the same and [illegible] the flashlights toward the water.. The rays in far as the eye could reach extended to the right and the left,, and far enough downward to reach the stream, which could be seen dark and quiet, flowing beneath and away through the woods to the big stretch stretch of water more than a mile beyond. In the oppressive stillness the soft gurgling of the water was heard as it eddied about the small [illegible] which grew out from shore, and a tiny fish, which must have been attracted by the white [illegible] floated a few inches above the surface and dropped down with a splash which seemed close to have jarred over the railing of the structure...

The troopers grew close to the waters edge, and as the rays fell from [illegible] were dirly revealed,, they appeared as if they were looking [illegible] deep [illegible] that flowed by ...

All [illegible] child [illegible] which [illegible] did [illegible] to find, [illegible] reasonable [illegible] of the [illegible] and [illegible] (the [illegible] the [illegible] Blessed Virgin [illegible] spared them, for Adelefob could tell by the action of the water and [illegible] as deep for as he could see its stretch, for [illegible] seen, and a sigh escaped from each.

"We are all relieved and very [illegible] by the thought that Jennie may have been [illegible] and got [illegible] dogs in a quicksand bog trying to cross the stream and been swept [illegible] said The boy Robby." I cannot see any grounds for any such fear. There's no evidence of her having been in the water at all."

The inquiring looks of her sisters, and the others caused Robby Robby to explain more fully..

"Child [illegible] years would not wander from this very safe bridge with such [illegible] railing, and also I could see no circumstances which in my judgment would have brought such a mistake to Jennie, and if she had jumped in to escape her foes, the water is too deep here for any dangerous bogs, and she could have easily swum across as the stream is free from underbrush and slow current and is [illegible] shallow here. I believe she's gone clean away."

"But but, what of it?"demanded Adele-de-fob.

"One has dropped that from some cause of excitement if not [illegible] that of itself is a favorable sign also, for had she jumped in [illegible] water she would have [illegible] here."

"This indeed [illegible] good news, but it did not remove the fears of any one. The stream in the [illegible] was for the many dangerous bogs mostly of sand and [illegible] quicksand. In dark And even the [illegible] offered the words could not bring himself fully to believe in their truth for none under stood better than he that the Evil One Nine If seems to conspire with [illegible] and pistols that appear to be reloaded, and with water that appears to be deep and harmless for the least good evidence and may have a dangerous bog beneath.To find faith in the declaration as to protest was [illegible] Adelde-de-fob brought [illegible] a long pole and drove it down into the water in the bridge was only three feet above the water. The pole [illegible] as far as he could reach in stooping over but the pole did not touch bottom. The stream was indeed deep. Therefore as nothing was to be seen or learned where they stood, they slowly and painfully crossed the bridge, and descended the wooden slope until they reached the edge of the stream which wound its way through the dense forest toward the big forest lake.

Even Ned's [illegible] throbbing painfully and no one said a good word, there was no need of speaking for no comfort could be gained therefrom. Adelde-de fob and Polly moved carefully up the river, while the soldiers, and Violet, and her sisters went on toward the lake which lay to the right. The two boys wished to be some [illegible] apart from the others that they might consult without danger of being overheard by those whose hearts were suffering so much anguish.

"It's very strange "said Robby" that she should be found on the bridge close to the railing, with it full of earth, what do you make of it to scout.?"

The boy scout shook his head.

"It is strange indeed, had there been [illegible] in the river so could have set it down as certain that she would have attempted to cross it and get caught in a treacherous bog which she could not have done without going down to deathly suffocation, therefore I am inclined to believe---"

The boy hesitated, as if afraid to pronounce the dreadful words;

"I believe she is captured. "said Adelde-de-fob, sadly, the answer being the question."Seized by Glandelinians and carried away on the bridge."

Robby nodded his head by way of reply, and holding the flashlights in front they began creeping their way along the margin of the river. Sometimes by raising the lights a little above their heads, they were able to cause the rays to reach the opposite shores, also lighting up the water between. This too seemed so daily clear, and they could see the bottom some distance from shore. Both felt that she may have been surprised and captured by Glandelinians, or also it could be possible she may have been taken for a Glandelinian Scout by a party of christian soldiers and carried off as a prisoner by them.But that wouldn't be so bad, for if that was so, and it was positive Among all are assured necessary for Violet and her sisters is to go to the christian lines and intervene in behalf, for her freedom as their word is law.There couldn't be no evidence of her being caught in any bog for the water was too deep over there so could see bottom for any good [illegible] to drown or too deep for even a man standing up to reach bottom.

"Hallou"suddenly exclaimed the boy robby, flashing his flashlight close to the ground... ."I don't like that it all.."

By way of explanation he pointed to the damp ground where no or very little vegetation grew, but [illegible] directly in front and close to the water's edge indeed that portion which was free of [illegible] the river [illegible] there was an [illegible] of rain and the water of the river rose [illegible] above its natural level.. Parallel to the stream for a distance of several hundred yards or so, were a [illegible] of footprints of various sizes and some of smaller which no ever seemed to have considerable lead as if they were made by some little child on the fast run, and which the first glance showed were made by some little girl, and by [illegible] were [illegible] soldiers or men....2.2.2.

"It [illegible] have a [illegible] of [illegible] and I'll be [illegible] need"
[illegible] the boy [illegible], he had [illegible] of soldiers and
[illegible] expected [illegible]

"de Ide-de-fob [illegible] head.

"The [illegible] can be [illegible] mistake about it, but [illegible] they were in a mystery. They are after her or were but I'll [illegible] they're Clandelinians."

"You're not mistaken Dobby!"

The boy answered impatiently.

"I have been the [illegible] of Clandelinians [illegible] and my sister too often to be mistaken. I tell you what I know the imprints of the footmarks from Clandelinian shoes and from [illegible] soldiers. I can prove that by having one of [illegible] soldiers make one here. I can tell their forms their trails among christian ~~tittitts~~ footprints among a hundred others, and the footprints of these bigger ones, are Clandelinians, and the smaller in no doubt Jennie's."

Although Jennie Vivian was now only nine years old she was again [illegible] ~~interesting~~ experience. She was not lost in this big woods, she was too shrewd to be lost, and the good training from her father and mother and her many military experiences showed them in such a [illegible] degree on this memorable occasion that it proved a [illegible] she would have even if two or three miles in the woods been able without even a compass to find her way back to the very cross road she had left her sisters at. She had been frequently taught by her own Confessor Father Antonio that under Heaven she must rely upon God and His blessed Mother more than herself or herself or others to get forward in all she tried to do. her sisters when younger were hardly ever been allowed by her parents to extend her a helping hand or extend a helping hand to each other in their various classes military or otherwise, and each of them had been given to understand that whatever was possible for her to do must be done without the aid of any other than herself, unless they were in such a tight fix that only a miracle may be needed to save them. As for sitting down and crying when in trouble without any one of them in an any effort to help themselves they knew better than to do that when either their father and mother were surely to find it out. Being so religious as all Acadian-Cajans are throughout every state, it would be out of the ordinary for one to be found out as a weakling, or a coward and it would be woe to that one woman man or child. It was a penalty to even jump at the sight of a bug, rat or mouse according to age of course some were over found it to be so. Friend they were in the Acadian-Cajans called them, "The Yellow, Jelly Backed Worriegher." Jennie's intention when she left her sisters that hour after noon to scour around was to be on a little trip for their fun the purpose to climb big tree and see how the battle was still raging out. She turned off the crossroads, and did not leave her path till she reached the woods. Her rapid speed however [illegible] not forest fire rather caused her to feel uncomfortably warm, and the [illegible] of the woods was still warmer. Suddenly observing that she was being shadowed she pretended that she did not notice them, but apparently began wandering aimlessly for a rod, swinging her hat in her hand to give the demonstration as if she was not conscious of their presence, singing snatches of catholic hymns and apparently feeling just as happy as a little girl can only be in country, health, high spirits, and without an [illegible] conscious which she never did have. It was not the time of the year for flowers, and yet [illegible] not have expected to see them [illegible] they had dropped and died long ago, the leaves even of the pines were turning on the trees and they have a peculiar beauty to the autumnal forest. And she not been occupied in the [illegible] of her peril she would have enjoyed the scene. An interval she caught glimpse of the cleanly [illegible] maple, which many of its leaves turned fiery red and appeared [illegible] as if they were afire or flame [illegible] as in evening [illegible]. At the least rustling of the wind she thought they were close behind her coming much closer, and instinctively her hand flew to her pistol and even when a little brown squirrel scampered up the shaggy trunks and out upon the limbs, where perching on his hind legs and peering mischeviously down at the girl as if inviting her to play hide and seek with him she thought it was a hidden foe and instinctively drew her pistol and [illegible] now and then a [illegible] far and awkward from the [illegible] of the richness around him jumped quitly a few steps and placed a girl around with his big, pretty eyed, she then over drew her pistol and would have opened fire had she not seen the [illegible] off. The woods at this section were fragrant with ripening grapes and [illegible] decaying dried vegetation, and were parching on a [illegible] indeed whose flaming splendor surpassed the hues of spring [illegible] everything [illegible] to which a girl or boy away from study or work and to cause the fish on the part of both that they might be a bird or a squirrel squirrel with no thought of the responsibilities of life. Jennie observing that she was shadowed by foes of which were unknown to her, or whether one may be mistaken for a Clandelinian boy scout by an Acadian shadowing her forgot for the time everything else except the peril that confronted her, but by and by the woods took on such tempting appearances that hoping to allure her foes, she turned off from the high road and been so carelessly hotfooling, thus intention of trying to place a distance between herself and her sister foes without increasing however to allow any [illegible] to come near to get out of the dark forests and get lost [illegible] of the road. The first view which stopped her was that of a large [illegible] of purple coated figures coming forward. Some of their leading however wore uniforms that green, while others were a blue purple, and red purple, and [illegible] Clandelinians would [illegible] would be [illegible] purple and [illegible] They were so far off [illegible] see her, but these soldiers [illegible] the woods she had [illegible] in the

[illegible] in [illegible]. Some of them were in the action as if they were trying to [illegible] in the woods. The main or foremost of the van of these advancing troops were in [illegible] a column as if [illegible] the van of an advancing force that were to either flank the christian line of the enemy, and the line of men coming behind in the open where the trees were not numerous were as if it were a great African Conqueror seeking to strangle the whole forest. Other columns branched off from the sides or flanks until not only was the [illegible] particular forests seemingly enfolded and smothered by such a numerous body, but the column reached out and seemed to turn the woods into grotesque movements. (advance of Quelue-se-parbee well planned flanking movement. For a moment Jennie felt as if she was a fox facing a national movement of hunters, who found the capture of the fox more tempting the more they pursued.

"I'm going to get out of their sid sight or they'll have me sure." She said to herself, and straightway proceeded to get out of their view. The only way was to nimbly climb a tall tree, and she climed as readily as any monkey could have done, and never did she stop until she was so high that the sapling bent far over with her weight. Then she reached out her hand and held a bunch of leaves for aid to slide herself. However she was not hidden a bit but exposed fully to the view of the advancing hordes. Near her was a grape vine and it was so full of leaves that she grasped it and pulled the whole thing over herself. While she was in hiding she started eating some of the grapes for she was hungry, and they were a most delicious fare at her peril. She had managed to crush a handful of the globules, when she caught sight of another column coming through the woods. It was much larger but moving another way. A bunch of Clandelinian soldiers seeing the grape vine were also clambering upward as if they were mon eys never pausing until their weight bended the tree top she was in so badly that she was affright afraid they not only might see her but that the tree would yield to their weight and cause them all to go to the ground.

At this new peril Jennie concluded she was not very hungry for grapes just now, and without eating or gathering more, she devoted herself to a brace so that the Clandelinians if they came nigher would not cause her to fall. Standing with one foot on a limb and the other on one near it, she grasped a bunch above her and held firm. The Clandelinians however had descended and one of them who was a Scoutlier said;

"Shake the damn tree and we'll get the whole vine down. Then we'll have grapes for a whole regiment."

The soldiers below had grasped the tree and began swaying it to and fro with the vim and abandon as if she was a child in a patent swing. The tree bent far over as she was forced to swing outward, and then straightened out as the tree was let go and her weight passed over to that side. Any one looking at the picture would have said that a general crash or smash and flying way were sure certain in which case the girl was sure to go sprinning through the limbs and branches as if driven forth by the springs within the big gun which always flings the young lady outward and just as soon the snow gun touches off the powder.

But a green sapling is very elastic, and too though the one climbed by Jennie bent backwards and forwards from the pulls of the soldiers as if it was a toy, it did not give way and neither did the vine. besides too Jennie was a strong little girl for her size and sure hold on tight. Her long, golden hair streamed from her head, and there was a thrilling feeling as the wind whistled by her ears, and she seemed to be shooting as if she was a bird through space... All this was well enough, and it was no more natural that Jennie in her excitement of the peril should have forgotten several important effects, she was so far from the highway, that she could not see whether the Clandelinians were passing down it or going straight onward through the woods, the roar of the wind in her ears shut out the sound that otherwise would have been noticed, and she had gone so far and had been compelled to linger so long by the way that it should have been more than time for her to go and look for Quelue-see-fob and her sisters at the crossroads, even though things should not have been as they were. It was while she was swinging in this fashion, and while she was also wondering whether the soldiers were going to shake the tree and herself until they came to pieces, or that she would finally have to let go and go tumbling among them, that Quelueforob as close to his and neighborhood with the searchers without either suspecting the closeness of foes, and not close they were to her. Fortunately they were not so close at the time or the whole would have been captured.

Jennie displayed however a natural childish thoughtfulness by retaining her desperate position even enough the Clandelinians continued this sport for over half an hour amid curses and imprecations because the grapes would not come down, and finally when most of their commades had gone on, and only about six or seven bunches fell only they gave it up and went away. When she saw there were no more Clandelinians in sight she came cautiously down to the ground.

"I'm tired of such amusement" she said. "If it isn't one thing it's another. I've got to watch out. This woods must be full of them yet. I felt so sure they'd have shaken my insides out of me had they continued that much longer. Oh I feel almost dead already."

Although ought out of sight of the main road she managed to find her way to it without trouble, though she had to go from tree to tree and keep a strict watch for every column of troopers and her shadowers if they were still around.... With her hat in hand, (the string having been tied around her wrist, she continued in the direction of Lebanon, taking several mouthfuls of the grapes she still retained. She was because of her danger forced to stroll forward in an aimless manner stopping to and then to see if she was still followed, and every [illegible] a squirrel or a rabbit or some [illegible] bird, startled or [illegible] by and by flying [illegible] some other [illegible] made a sound she [illegible] immediately dart behind a tree with both pistols drawn ready for action. The first real sample of [illegible] she reached the bridge. This proved that she was more than a mile from where she had left her sisters, a distance much greater than she had suspected.

"Where can they be [illegible] Adelaide-de-fob"one at [illegible] of [illegible], [illegible] once [illegible] have [illegible] left [illegible] by [illegible] time and [illegible] to [illegible] and time [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] day [illegible] [illegible] noticed the gathering twilight will [illegible] itself upon the forest.

"I don't believe I [illegible] further."she said."I'm [illegible] be alone, [illegible] helpless [illegible] them as I'm as [illegible] an a hen without legs."

She stood on the bridge, and glanced down the road.The [illegible] for the sound of her friends coming was somewhat irksome to Jenie's active mind, and it was not long before she continued on some more of the grapes she had being [illegible] her, and then dropped the little seeds into the water and the peels too. As they hit the surface of the water, something [illegible] little fings toward the shore, several [illegible] fish came up after the food. Jenie laughed outright, and in her carelessness, forgot for the moment the perilous conditions of the woods. It occurred to her that she could make a short cut toward the close woods by going down to the edge of the stream, and where she would not lose her way into a quagmire which she was understood was in the neighborhood of the bridge.

Childlike or so she did not cease to think of the wrong of so doing, but for the moment she didn't remember that Glandelinians were coming through the woods at other sections too.and she realized that she would not have consented to such an act as she was usually obeyed little girl, but sometimes they too can be fooled. [illegible] there, Jenie as many other good little girls made a great mistake, a mistake which was to cause her some fright, but a loss of life among the other parties too... When at bay she is so to say in phrase" a little demon"

A little child even when as good as an angel is like a butterfly, [illegible] only of the pleasures of the moments. Jenie came down close to the edge of the stream, and being queer times some shapes out upon the water. In the clear water she could indeed see the shadowy figures of the various fishes, as they chased up and snapped at the morsels.

So she became so interested in the sport, too that she continued going down the shore flinging out the grapes until there was none left in her hands, then she debated whether she should cut through the woods toward the road as a short cut, or go to the bridge road.

"It's a bother to go left through woods, better for a clear way and see your cornered"She said to herself."I'[illegible] quit till the come,I'll go on and call for them if I see I is safe. I couldn't they have been scared had they seen me tread by those sharks."

From where she stood, she observed the [illegible] above her head, and consequently her mittens and Adelaide-fob could look directly down upon her when ever they should reach the [illegible] Jenie felt that she could wish to continue on down the stream to the big pond [illegible] but she knew better than to do that, for she could be certain to miss any of her friends, and it was already beginning to grow gloomy, and also it wouldn't lead her the way she desired to go. Brave as she was she couldn't help getting a little scared.

"I wonder what causes the distance to seem so long"she said to herself as she sat down on a half [illegible] tree to examine her leg as she scratched it badly on something."If it's not one trouble it's another. And my leg hurts so now I'm afraid that I can never get the four miles to the line again. Ave what's the use the battle will be over anyhow and the enemy will lose."

She had sat thus only a brief while, when her head began to droop her bright eyes grew dull, then closed, and leaning against a limb, which jut out from the fallen tree, she went into the sweet dreamless sleep of childhood and health. Had she not been disturbed she would not have come out of her sleep until the next morning, late, but at the end of only ten minutes, an involuntary movement of the head, caused it to slip off off the limb against which it was resting, with such a shock that instantly she was wide awake as though it was mid day. At [illegible] then she sprang to her feet, and stare a stared about her in the gloom she was dreadfully alarmed. She was quick witted enough [illegible] and here she was and now it had come all about. A sudden [illegible] overhead a star shell from the enemy lines [illegible] and there a [illegible] with her firm unconstructive fairness.

"A full column of Glandelinians is going over the bridge"was her instant conclusion as she heard the noise of many men tramping on the bridge,"and with this misfortune to me Violetta and [illegible] my sisters and Adelaide-de-fob will be [illegible] about me.And I is expected this I would not have ventured out alone.If ever [illegible] a dumb Dora I'm the one."

Her decision as to what she should do could not be the one thing could to the one thing--[illegible] no chance in going through the woods or if the [illegible] passed out of sight [illegible] bridge, cross it and hurry toward the crossroads if she had the fight [illegible] there was a throbbing of the little heart, [illegible] she reflected that she had several miles to travel, lost of which was through the lonely woods full of [illegible] Jenie, the [illegible] of her parents [illegible] have crouched down beside the log and sobbed in terror [illegible] she fell into deep slumber [illegible] in fact though she [illegible] feels [illegible] if he heard [illegible] alone if it increased the [illegible] made her dangerous to [illegible] tried to [illegible] her. A [illegible] fear and [illegible] suffering [illegible] a little wildcat.

A wildcat at bay is dangerous, she is not [illegible] with either.

"I have been badly [illegible]"She [illegible] herself as she reflected on her situation"And [illegible] they, how surely must have missed me for I know they [illegible] and they will [illegible] if I [illegible] enough but [illegible] can I get [illegible] If I [illegible] myself the Glandelinians will capture me.If they [illegible] Glandelinians [illegible] fear [illegible] metal [illegible]."

"There was [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] she understood the [illegible] of the [illegible] as well as any other could [illegible] experienced [illegible] Jenie indeed [illegible] some disturbance [illegible] the point where the long bridge spanned the [illegible] river, [illegible] the [illegible] of bridge [illegible]

[illegible] bloom [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible], and she started [illegible] in her [illegible] still in her hands.[illegible] did she [illegible] for the still [illegible] her frightful experiences in the Glandelinian "child stealing"pens and [illegible] for [illegible] and she and her sisters did not [illegible] and often [illegible] of those terrible bloody days. Therefore she would never if possible allow herself to be captured and to fight to the death if cornered.. To her the bridge seemed higher than usual, but that however was because of the circumstances, which seemed or were different from any from which she had been placed.Dancing about cautiously to see if any one were still shadowing her the brave little girl made her way as best as before along the streamm in the direction of the bridge and had almost reached it, and was about to set her foot on the top of the bank,, when brave as she was she was frightened almost out of her wits by hearing a sudden thundering roar on the flooring of the bridge almost the same rattling roar that is heard from angered [illegible] from enemy C[illegible]s, but it was approaching some point just ahead of her.The sound was accompanied also by something loudly [illegible] metal id.It was a sound imaged that would have startled the braves man. and Jenie was transfixed for the moment.Had it been a [illegible] Gwarnie that would more than anything else mean her safty but she understood full well"Glandelinian cavarly v cavarly of the dangerous Carpolian Cardes. She at first did not turn and run, nor did she fall to the ground in a swoon as might have supposed, but she stood just where she had stopped, until she could find out which the cavarly really were.She Knew full well when there is christian cavarly, there is no sound except just the horses hoofs.

She was not long in at all either, for in less than a minute the noise was far too close to suit her, and she caught the form of a huge swarm of the Glandelinian "Wheeler cavarly, and the fm formost of the Glandelinians were galloping fiercely as if ward her.Fortunately she was not seen in the deep gloom but she saw them. They however were about [illegible] hundred feet off her. When it is remembered that these Glandelinians would do to children which I would not care ever write in this story and that the cavarly were proceeding at slight speed the child it seemed impossible to have done anything to save herself.To shout at them would be suicide. And the sight was enough to deprive her of the power of motion and speech, especially in the terrible gray ghostly form of uniforms and headwear they had on. But in such a crisis as this that Jenie showed that she had not forgotten the teachings of her friend the priest her confessor"God helps them that help, and helps themselves."With scarcely a seconds pause she shirled on her heel and dashed down the stream with the almost speed at her command.The enemy did not see any running figure but they heard the sound, and the foremost of the column halted.

The rest continued on.

"Who goes, there friend or foe"shouted the commander.

There was no answer, and a frightful crash of hundreds of rifles made the woods in a blaze. And the Glandelinians fired in the right direction, the story about Jenie would have ended right here. But they fired in another direction and the bullets only rought down leaves of a tree. Again the volley was repeated, and again, and still again, in fact a score of times in increasing numbers of rifles but with no effect.

"Scour the woods and see if we hit the fleeing fool"commanded the officer.

The Glandelinians thought they had heard the fleeing childs footsteps had failed to see her in the dark,and the men thought it a miracle to go looking for a dead or escaped fugitive in such a dark forest and they felt sure they hit no one either as if any one either hit the person at least would emit a cry. Of course the Glandelinians had not in the first place been looking for any fugitives but had been a portion of those moving to storm the christian rear. Furthermore had she reallly been seen she would have fallen a victim to the terrible Glandelinians in an instant. But those who dismounted and scoured the woods went in the wrong direction, and they didn't have even any lights to guide their way and were afraid to light pink torches for fear of seeing the forest ablaze and cause all to perish. It required no [illegible] to teach her that in the well in have was only one way in which she could escape, at all events, and that was by climbing a tree. Even if they did search through the [illegible] would be in vain in such gloom. And there been a large one at hand she would have [illegible] ascended [illegible] as soon as possible, but fortunately the first [illegible] one to which she fled was a leafless birch not even half as high as those she had climbed in fleeing Glandelinians little [illegible] if [illegible] before now and no one could have ascended to [illegible] point [illegible] Jenie did the frightened little girl. And the tree was also only twenty feet high. Indeed even if she was [illegible] instead of a little Princess Jenie could not have seemed to make a more foolish selection of a low [illegible] without a single leaf, and she was really even less than fifteen feet above the ground and [illegible] beyond the reach of the marauding Glandelinians though she were in their very grasp. Only the terrible forest gloom saved her from being seen even here though the Glandelinians [illegible] under it at once searching in every direction.Nevertheless the position was a terrible one for her, she in her haste had even lost her two pistols, her valet was almost torn off of her so that the upper part of her was entirely bare and her dress was badly torn.For never in [illegible] which seemed [illegible] years to her she believed the Glandelinians might light torches and [illegible] her. If they did she's so [illegible] the [illegible] fierces [illegible] of the pass.

[illegible] "Oh [illegible] can't we start a big forest fire [illegible] find comrade and [illegible] jump for one [illegible] said another in [illegible]

"But if it was [illegible]"

"We [illegible] said the other. "We can't find [illegible]"

"We'll be better off if we can find our [illegible] back [illegible] heard another say [illegible] "Oh [illegible] foot caught [illegible] for [illegible] head."

"I'll bet anything the spy climbed a tree."

"Shoot [illegible]."

"Look about [illegible] said a [illegible] the small space."

"A small tree as that. Why [illegible] man. And I see [illegible] climbing upward.

"I have done all I can for myself" [illegible] of her parents and now God and the Blessed Mother will do the rest. I'm glad its dark and they can't see me."

[illegible] beautiful [illegible] fairy of childhood, of Abbie [illegible] children. Of such is indeed the Kingdom of heaven.

"What the heck is the use of searching round here then"?

"Who [illegible]"

"Yes a good idea. You're a big man. See if I'll hold [illegible]. I'll dare, half [illegible] take a flip to the ground climb up over half [illegible]. It's only a [illegible] and doesn't hold a child." ([illegible])

The Glandelinian who was a little six and a half footer was direct [illegible] the little Princess and had [illegible] stooped down so could have touched his shoulder with his very hand. [illegible] lanced [illegible] and [illegible] tree at first dejected to the [illegible] comrades [illegible] could dare over at the [illegible] of a fall, but then he [illegible] be relieved of the chance too for should he climb and [illegible] comrades would all laugh [illegible] he "fan down and go "boom".

The Glandelinians had evident [illegible] the capture one fugitive [illegible] ever it was if [illegible] could be [illegible] felt [illegible] either dead and [illegible] where they couldn't find him or [illegible] over [illegible] them.

[illegible] did not seem inclined to go away, but continued to argue about the [illegible] of the fugitive, some [illegible] one was dead, and other [illegible] their idea that [illegible] escaped. The big man [illegible] remained standing where he was, and again glanced upward, as [illegible] could be there. The small tree in which Jennie had taken refuge was several yards from the edge of the stream, the shore sloping so steeply that the water never reached the base, excepting during a freshet.

[illegible] the Glandelinians remained so long that it seemed as if they could have expected her to be there and had [illegible] to climb [illegible] to descend and [illegible] under herself [illegible] dreaded [illegible]

It was a small birch whose stem [illegible] bark and [illegible] like a sapling, and it was so smooth that, [illegible] being [illegible] to it, it would have been very difficult to climb [illegible] Jennie [illegible] as a monkey [illegible] the ascent [illegible] pole. The old Glandelinian soldier stood against the tree for a while, and then started to make the [illegible] to climb and it was during these few seconds that the girl thought nothing could save her from him [illegible] but, [illegible] could [illegible] up, but only [illegible] so threatening [illegible] for fear of a fall (and [illegible] shaking [illegible]) he gave it up.

When he ceased she peered downward through the branches, and just could see the [illegible] Glandelinian soldier still standing against the tree, as if deserting of himself [illegible] the next best thing to do. It should and must be [illegible] son if Jennie Vivian [illegible] children of [illegible] places, in fact [illegible] part of [illegible] go through in the future [illegible] self possession.

Indeed if [illegible] plantation as brave as ever [illegible] probably [illegible] because she knew she was hidden from the enemy [illegible] comprehended [illegible] the Glandelinians [illegible] could [illegible] the fires [illegible] frantic [illegible] blaze [illegible] and the exit [illegible] would have been much [illegible] of [illegible] and [illegible] one [illegible] did [illegible]

But [illegible] one [illegible] which she had fulfilly convinced, she had complied [illegible] and [illegible] the place, for [illegible] said [illegible] she called or heaven [illegible] the top of the little tree [illegible] Glandelinians still [illegible] conversation, and one [illegible] Dairy, and the O. [illegible] she had been [illegible]

[illegible] of [illegible] divine [illegible] never ed.

[illegible] self [illegible] possible, [illegible] branches of [illegible] limbs with considerable [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] to [illegible] herself [illegible] comfortable [illegible] over the [illegible] situation

in which the good brave little girl was placed it would be thought by many of our readers would be enough to drive away for even a little girl tired as she was all disposition to sleep, but with her at the end of less than half an hour after she had climbed up there the little head was nodding again, and forgetful of her extreme danger,, her senses soon left her. However it an be said and understood by the readers that Jennie's danger was rendered that more greater by her so suddenly without her being able to help it of falling to sleep in such a situation, for her whole body would relax in slumber, and unless her position was unusually secure she was certain to fall, and even if any of the Glandelinians were no longer around she would suffer severe injuries in the fall...2.2.2.22

But the Good Blessed Mother and Our Blessed Lord in whom she and all Abbiecanian children so implicitly trusted, watched over the brave little Princess as He and She always does, and she remained seated there as though she was a part of the tree herself...

Then at last she moved slightly and was on the point of danger from falling. She awoke so suddenly that she saved herself just in the nick of time. She however was somewhat shocked and startled but regaining her breath she held fast with her right hand while she thrust the branches aside with the left and carefully peered down among the limbs.

"Those Glandelinians are gone" was her joyious exclamanation. "I knew Our Blessed Mother would as Our Blessed Lord to make those Glandelinians go away because because I begged Him to."

She was right.. every one of the Glandelinians had vanished and all danger from that source for the time had passed. The Glandelinians had evidently given up the search, and see so many of these Glandelinians had never been in these woods before it was reasonable to believe that they may have been a portion of Adelde-de-Zarbes force going that way with his purpose to carry out the scheme of clashing against general Hansons rear with the hope that it would speedily end in the defeat or destruction of the christian army. Jennie did not feel surprised at all for as it is well known she has the faith to believe that all good prayers if worthy ones are always answered.

"I believe it is safe to go down to the ground now and start for where the Christian lines are or shall I remain in the woods. I'm afraid if my sisters are searching for me they'll be still more worried if they don't find me or I them. I guess too those dirty foolish Glandelinians are not far off either, they're those troops going against general Hanson rear I'll be bound. But the Good Blessed Mother will not let them see me. Heaven here are my guns at the foot of the tree. It's strange the Glandelinians did not pick them up. If they had they'd been suspicious already that one of their enemies was up the tree and I'd been in for it."

She carefully descended the tree down and stood on the ground less than half a minute later.. She found that beside her waist and undergirt being torn from her dress also was badly torn, and she had lost part of the uniform ribbon of her hat. This situation of being rescued to almost nudem nudeness troubled her more than anything else but since it couldn't be helped it could not be.

"I suppose I was so scared or excited that I forgot to look out" she said bitterly to herself, after examining the amount of damage done to her clothing. "But I guess Adelde-de-Zarb will have to lend me his coat as I cannot return into the christian lines this way. I would like to settle with some of the Glandelinians to for causing me to be in this fix."

She now set out resolutely for the bridges determined not to lose any more time in finding her way to her sisters. As is the case after all the very short time she had passed in sleep seemed many times as long as was actually the case,.. and she began to feel, and even dread that it was near morning. If it was then it'll soon become daylight and the Glandelinians if there are any more in the woods, would be able to see her now easily. She had gone but a short distance, when she stopped again being again almost startled out of her wits.

"My gracious, what can that be. Are the Glandelinians now scouting the woods with flashlights or lanterns."

A number of lights appeared between her and the bridge, flic in flickering about like a number of ignis-fatuus or Jacks lantrens or apparently as if they were the willo-the-wisp.... Jennie felt as if she should take to a higher tree this time, but these were so close she would not have the time to even reach one and therefore she bravely stooood her ground until she could satisfy her curiousity as to the nature of these lights. If they were Glandelinians then she would get behind a big stone and fight to the last... She watched these lights very closely, and not observed shadowy figures flitting around the lights in a curious and grotesque way. She was in greater doubt then ever when she heard voice.

"I'm sure I saw her footprints lead this way, from that tree we just inspected, and I'm positive sure. Jennie sure knows too much to try and cross a stream where the woods are surrounded by Glandelinians. She's there near by all right."

"I hope so, but my heart misgives me sorely. She's captured I'm afraid because we ourselves had to hide so long as these hordes of rebels passed through the woods. God be Merciful for if she is lost I or my other sisters cannot recover."

The first speaker indeed was Adelde-de-Zarb, and the other was Daisy another of the Vivian Girls Violet adding

"Why she came through or into these woods is more than I can make out. But her footprints seem to show in a way that she got away instead of being captured. Our Blessed Lord does well I'm sure we'll find her soon."

"Oh Violet, oh Jennie, Adelde-de-Zarb, my sisters it is I Jennie. I was besieged by the Glandelinians and couldn't return. Oh I am so happy so have Returned."

And indeed poor little Jennie was little one left alone, the shore of the river.. Julie, and her other sisters were the first to recognize the voice, and Joice rushing forward enveloped her sister in her arms murmuring;

"My dear sister, my dear sister .God and His Dear Blessed Mother be praised."

"My dear Jennie"cried her other sisters.Can it be you. "!

"Oh so it is dear Jennie my friend."Cried Adelde-de Grb"what a scare your long stay has given us. How glad I am to find you."

and the little Princess who was lost and was found was even as she is hugged first by her sisters, then by Adelde-de-Grb, and then by her long time dear friend Joice Evans and then all strove to get hold of her at the same time, till the b boycout ceased through fear that she could be torn apart. Jennie was laughing and crying and wondering why it was, that such commotion was caused by her return to her sisters and loving friends. The other soldiers who had been searching for her had gone when they heard the tumult a few minutes brought them to the spot believing at first that the other party of searchers was being attacked, and seeing the glad scene their no greeting was nearly as demonstrative, their eyes were filled with tears over the exceeding joy of the united sisters. When the excitement had subsided somewhat the group listened to the story of Jennie. She told it in her childish straight forward manner and it was all the more impressive on that account.

The listeners was greatly touched, but the probability that many more of the Glandelinians were in the neighborhood advancing on hastened their footsteps and they lost no time in hurrying away.

When they reached the highway above crossed the bridge and had gone some distance but on their way toward the christian lines they then began to feel there was nothing more to be feared of the enemy.

They were however soon out of the woods anyhow. Bobby himself referred to the Glandelinians as being mostly Omarians but he said he would never m have mentioned it unlil the fate of Jennie became evident for the suggestions which must have followed were too dreadful. Nothing has been of the Glandelinians in sight and as the distance from the bridge was increased the party finally gave up all thought and conversation respecting it. They were all grateful that early night as they continued on their way.Joice clung to Jennie's hand and now and then she shuddered, as she glanced through the dark woods and pressed her little sister closer to her.

Her sisters thought it strange that she ventured on such a dangerous tramp without suspecting what may happen but it was the duty of all to take chances for the sake of the cause.Jennie said she did not know could not have believed there were any enemies in the woods, and wondered why it was they were so long delayed before they could have come to her rescue, and they told her of their long and almost vain search and how they too had to hide in a dark ravine to escape the enemy who was passing through the woods..

General Clancy lancy before this time at sometime after six in the afternoon saw the Glandelinians flying from Ste Mare before two long lines formations of advancing christian troops who were greatly victorious General Baptiste who was seated upon a horse with his arm in a sling was weeping bitterly at the sight of the disaster. The terrible drama came home to Clancy and his assistant Lafty with equal resulets. Clancy saw that Lafty's eyes were blazing...

"We will have to get general Shoemanning army away from his position before he's caught between two fires."he said."The battle sure is lost now."

Lafty Nonnod nodded, and the two rode forward a little ways. At first they were not recognized through the clouds of rolling dust. It was Brigadier general Ranotte, joice who saw him first. He uttered a sharp exclamation and pointed to the near advancing lines. At once the two found themselves suddenly in fire shell fire, and had to retreat to cover.The expression on most of the faces of his officers was mostly terror.but some sneered at the scene of the adv nce advancing christians, some cursed, others blasphemed half audible words were passed which Clancy did not believe worth while, though only because he did not understand them. The news reached general Simson Duval or he was riding forward to rally a recalling brigade, and he rode ward general Clancy, his pale blue eyes fixed on Clancy.The christian batteries was still playing their Hellish crashing thunders, but all Glandelinian officers within close to him as if sensing the importance of an affair of greater interest and concern had returned to have turn from their grot.

"Ma gen eral Clancy you see now we cannot beat that Christian peg of A Hansen Vivian."said Simson pointing toard the third disasterous issue of the dreadful battle."That action is at ends an challenge and an ever overture to be not repretated in either fashion,sir, and if general Adelde-degarbe does not accomplish his great rear guard action we'll have to flee from the locality of Lebanon to morrow morning. Do you believe he will succeed sir?"

General Clancy shook his head.

"I don't believe so Simson."he answered sheepishly."I realize that's no angel that can even beat that Christian peg."

"You want to bet that Adelde-degarbe will win sh?You want to be sure he will?"

"There's no need to bet.I do not.The Vivian girls were in this army and either they or their accomplices frustrated all of my plans."

"You want them captured sh?"

"Do we.It's too late.They're gone."

"Don't you want to organize some body of men to pursue them?"

"What'sthe use.They're gone , tell you.and with the army torn up as it is."

"Her to investigate what they did?"

"Not to fight Simson.It is useless..."

"Then what are we going to do about it.Why in the first place did they come to our army for,and what are they.These damn Glandelinian Princesses, daughters of emperor Vivian.If they are I'll..."

Simsons blue eyes glared as he broke short in his speech.

He was well acquainted with the Vivian girls indeed.He was also well acquainted with general Hansen Vivian, and understood the great strength strength of that christian general, that Hansen could match his great army against any Glandelinian army with no exception whatever, and Hansens exploit upon even general Federal once had a great restraining effect upon him.

"I've come mainly to have a view of the situation now"said Clancy. gently.

"Well you see how it is now general.What do you think of it now sir. retorted the Glandelinian general."Maybe you like to plan something new eh?"

"I believe the situation is just what I suspected it was going to be" said Clancy."I hear general Hansons main army is opening a terrific counter drive upon our right and had full possession of St Boniface Crossroads."

All the other officers began to edge about them.Sentiment while running strongly about the situation yet was not altogethey disconsoringly. The officerwere more than eager to assist general Adelde-degarbe would bear himself against general Hansen in his great well planned rear guard action and they hoped for some great turning point in the battle, and that the christians would be wiated a ater all after all and Hansen lose his reputation as a great general .General Clancy saw among them the face of Shoemannin's younger brother Hennie.Near him was Leblanc with a grin on his sinister features one eye fixed seemingly upon the recoiling Glandelinian troops while the other wavered between the christian line of advance and the disaster impending. General Hansen Pierrie was not present having been among the wounded.

"General Shoemann in's brother is here"said General Lafty. He could show for himself.He is not afraid sir.But you believe sir because you thrashed Hansens army twice to day sir, you could thrash him again.I'm afraid our army is done for a mighty disasterous defeat.If Adeldedegarbes rear guard action is not a success we will lose. Do you believe he will succeed sir?"

"No Idon't.I wish I was wrong though"said Clancy. "If I were right I would run down there to view the situation at this moment and save the tide turn right off the reel. But I see the whole thing in a nutshell now and if Hanson runs a force through the region south of St Boniface's Crossroads we are Done."

A few of the generals present understood his exact meaning, but an ominous growl showed that this declaration was appreciated at more or less its correct value. It was seen other sections of the Christian line began to move forward and yells were coming from them with the noise of a terrific whirlwind mingled with a confused roaring and crashing sound that drove all reason out of existance for consideration or of noise. General Lafty grasped Clancy by the arm by the arm and tried to get him to retreat a little ways further, but Clancy would not budge and Lafty resumed his place beside him, seeing to it however to remain near him to prevent anything happening to him. General Fiddler craned his head forward as if to sense what was happening.For a few moments the situation along other sections of the line appeared very menancing for the christian assailants.Their lines of advance was being torn to pieces and swept away by the Glandelinian artillery and rifle fire but other lines came on anew.But most of the Glandelinian divisions were badly shattered, and nearly all had their divisional and every other officer been wounded or dead, there was none of reliable circumstances to be in command now, so far as could be seen---at least not immediately about, and if there had been it was doubtful whether they would have been inclined to place themselve in command when it would be absolutely useless. The result already was coming on to be 1,000 times so bad as Napoleons Rout at Waterloo,and it was growing worse, and threatening to extend all along the line. General General Clancy decided to again take the aggressive as usual while there was yet time.

"Leblanc"he called out."go out to your new Jobs I am starting out to cut down on that limit ever yonder.Your batteries are strong. There's more good troops yonder.Go and grab the route."

Leblanc saluted and rode off.General Simson said Paid already a heavy price on his own part of the battle line, do soon as he the st general Hansen was "frozen" out. General Hansen showed no signs of being frozen, and his arrics were cutting Clancy's to the quick.

"All that we can do is about all we can do Simson"Clancy called. "I never wish when I'm ready to strike, but I'm afraid Hansen is doing the striking."

"Adelde-de-garbe can take care of himself.He ain't afraid of general Hansen"said the general who was as cool as Glan Clancy..

"Maybe not"said Clancy."But general Hansen is one of the most dangerous of our opponents, and I don't believe all the devils and angles angels could worst his army in battle."

"But I guess we ain't going to defeat as that general Clancy" continued general Simson. "I'm afraid we have to do something.Now you are going to stand your ground at Lebanon eh?"

General Clancy laughed out loud.

"If you believe you can do it go ahead sir"he said.

Simson planted his horse right in front of Clancy.

"What you say. you mean we are defeated?" he demanded truculently.

"I'm afraid so.See that line of our troops over there near Hebebeno Bend. It is only resisting now as a small tree resists a gale of wind, but see it cannot resist the full strength of the assault of those purple coated devs any longer, and is beginning to give and recoil rear guard the e rear.See there they come. If they can be rallied it'll be a miracle."

Some of the officers observing this scene were,. The christian troops had fought their way through the long heavy line of resisting ch Glandelinian troops with irresistible energy, and came surging forward toward the very Bend. General Simeon turned away to give orders for his own troops to hold fast, and the others except Lafty did the same. At once in the dis tance the whole scene was disclosed. Glandelinian soldiers in giant numbers did not go in one direction in the panic but ran this way and that, or tried to resist in vain, becoming a wild flying confused mass. It was one thing to be brave and dare devil enough to show a bold resisting front to a tide of advancing christians, but quite another to defy and resist the tireless advancing heroes who but through the Glandelinian front as a comb does a head of hair. Whether the disaster was spreading anywhere else yet or not no one seemed to be able to observe but it was all the other remaining officers could do to have Clancy come away while the crowd stampeded past them toward the rear a cursing, blaspheming screaming mass ornermass as a tidal wave in a retreat, threatening to carry Clancy and others along with it.

In a dense Clancy and Lafty pulled themselves out of the crush which they had tried to rally in vain. Then general simeon was reported wounded. All this section of the Glandelinian army was in a record breaking tur bulent. It was turning out a defeat a hundred times worse than Jonnston had met at the battle of Jennie curnors. Here or the disaster had not been long in spreading elsewhere almost with lightning quiftness, and all the soldiers within sight were running in wild panic toard the rear.

A breil of bloody fury was in progress further up the road between a swarm of Glandelinians and victorious Angelinians, a fierce hand to hand battle of the most savage character. General Blackstone rode by a desperate on his chest and his head wrapped in bandages. He still retained command, though two of his officers were trying to induce him to go to the rear and have his wound tended to. Suddenly they p: received Violet and her sisters among the crowd.. Their eyes were wide with surprise but not of fright and yet they were with a boyscout (adeldefob) struggling helplessl in the resistless crowd borne this way and that by the conflicting currents.

General Clancy tried to force his way toard them but they got a a mighty rush the crowd at last and disappeared in a cloud of dust. Then Clancy had to ride away. Thus is the related circumstances of Clancys leading this part of the rout and which as written before caused the trouble that brought Jennie to be o lost.

Adeldefob soon observed to his surprise that Jennie was almost numb. He went over her as they were resting after their withdrawal from the perilous woods. His face was stern. We got to move on soon. "He said "We are not at all from danger."

Jennie glanced up at him piteously. She appeared to recognize that he observed her as she was, but she was too surprised to understand as he wrapped his coat around her, or at least helped her get it on. Then they all came to their feet and started anew and they began to continue their way quite by t a ward the direction of the christian lines a case as far as they knew where it should be located if it had not moved off its former positions. As they started adeldefob happened to glance back and saw a crowd of Glandelinians running toard them on foot. These were the same soldiers who had been seen on the march before, and who had dispatched themselves from the main body as they saw the children emerge from the woods. Adeldefob saw them coming and he realized why and his eyes were dilated with impotent fury. There was more terrible fury as Violet and her sisters saw them and she by the help of a light from a small fire cried out;

"There's one of them who chad us in a horror of slaughter when we were bathed in the blood of little children murdered by him." and she pointed in the direction. At the mere mention of such a scene as he remembered well from their many horrible stories Adeldefob shuddered.

His impulse was to wait for the man to come within range, and then he threw himself flat on his belly, aimed his rifle and fired. The man dropped without a cry. Again he fired and another man dropped.

The Glandelinians behind returned a withering fire but hit no o e one.

"Let's use the other road" said Aideldefob indicating a short cut across some fields at the rear of some mountion. It's less exposed than here. We get to ma e ourselves scarce. Our soldier guard will come to us at the sound of my firing but it'll do us no good. Hurry."

Violet who was close to him nodded, and they all set out on their way. Suddenly Jennie slightly gobbed and held back for a moment saying I'm hit. I'm afraid I am."

A quic investigation showed the wound was not serious and they grew more calmer. The dresses of all were ragged and draggled with mud her uniform finery awry, their hats gone except Jennie's and they looked pitiful but excited and more defiant and brave. Aideldefob felt a great wrath growing in him as he thought of Jennie in particular. He hated the Glandelinians worse than before. They were following but more slowly as they had been engaged with the christian soldiers under John Evans and had suffered considerable loss and were therefore cautious.

John Evans was wounded however, and was lying astride a horse, and dirty of his men were dead and one hundred wounded. Aeldefob cast a glance to the rear, and saw now that the Glandelinians was not following them any more. Indeed with so many christian troops coming round and who might appear suddenly as if from the ground the Glandelinians were afraid to proceed.

Aideldefob however continued to urge violet, and her sisters to hasten, and at last they gained the dreadful where they had been before, and with the soldiers reached Farmer Masons farm house and buildings.

Now the Jennie felt in what was left of her dress for her Rosary. She wished to pray and he drew it forth with shaking fingers.

"I hope we shall never have this experience again" he said. "This is a lesson to all of us that the Glandelinians are more dangerous when facing defeat than when victorious."

When they had indeed Aeldefob waited untill the lamp was lit with a blac Shade.

"I guess we'd better have some of the soldiers on the watch outside" said Jeice."

"Yes we have had our lesson too" said Jennie. "Never will I do that stu again without a guide. I've seen and done through enough this evening too. I see by my wrist-watch, and heaven be praised I didn't injure my watch that it is only seven thirty o'clock. It sure gets dark early. I'm almost ill to see that there are so many wretches so vile enough to continue these horrible massacres we went through and survived."

"If we can prese all the Kare Abbieans din disaster to any of these chief generals" said Clancy" Heaven help them."

There was a grateful butch of little "waints" in this story inside that house that evening when they gathered together and returned grateful Thanksgiving to Him who had been so merciful to them in all the dreadful but perils of the battle of Lebanon. Surprising as it was al to be said Adeldefob held two of the Vivian Girls in each arm while they prayed the Rosary in Thanksgiving and then when in gratefulness to him for his goodness to his Jennie threw her arms around his neck and kissed him he hugged her as tightly as if she had been his own sister and kissed her in return. Her sisters smiled at this and one of them said;

"Never mind James. We are sisters too every good boy and girl as you are. We would do that to any one any time as she has done. That is our way. But to a coward or a cowardly deserter we show them as a afraid for cat foreign girl shows a spider or a mouse."

But nevertheless Violet and her sisters to all good boy and girl companions are none the less affectionate little Prie Princesses.

It seemed too with Jennie missing that time, her sisters had with Aeldefob suffered the worst far more than did Jennie, though she had been conscious of it all the time and would have given anything to have rejoined them. As Jennie sat on Aeldefob knee, Violet said;

"You sure made a serious mistake in venturing on such a dangerous tramp without looking out for yourself. We sure were scared."

"I knew it" said Jennie.

"But what made you do it." asked Daisy."

"What made me do it. Why why, in the world thought when we are in our own christian territory we'd face enemies in the woods. It's a movement of an army upon Hansens rear. I'm sorry for them not Hansen. Hansen has no more rear because of the swing of the battle in that location. Aeldegarbe is advancing to disaster."

"We thought you so long then?" said Ann Angeline.

"I did you. Then I was on my return I was cross twice by these Glandelinians. I escaped the second time because they didn't believe the one they were after was up in a tree."

"Well if you sure ain't a calamity Jane" laugh ed Hattie "I'll eat my chow. "Jennie you go into more dangers than we do."

"Well a good calamity Jane always wins out." answered Jennie."

Happily indeed there are few little girls in this story or in reality who have been called upon to go through such trails as had often fell the lot of violet and her sisters, and so many terrible and immeasureable onc sings they ever began to understand what trials was. None of the boy and girls of the scout force at their worst experience ever went through horrors of that sort, and in fact never will. Every time violet, and her sisters had gone through such dreadful perils or experienced fright ful scenes it created much conversation and consternation in every christian army and in all the neighborhood as well as on the enemy side, and violet, and her sisters were every time complimented on the bravery they had shown through all these trials trials, while though even he was so far he away in Angelinia Agathia with His heavenly Wife their glad father became more confirmed than ever in his favorite belief that God helps those that helps themselves. All the christian generals and even all the friends of Violet, and her sisters always felt the same way.

"Suppose you did not try to do your best to save yourself" said Aeldeldefob to Jennie as they were not in conversation over the matter.

"I would have been captured by the enemy sure" she answered.

"And go through some more of those trails and this time maybe never come back." said Aeldefob.

"It's a good thing for one even though she be a little Princess to be able to do her share when overshoe used by danger" said John Evans.

"There can be no question about that" declared Hattie. "But it would require a great deal of training o for me and my sisters to bring up the boy and girl scout of our many various organizations to that point, even when they are either under or double the years of the oldest of ours. They never went through the awful bloody adventures we had and if we can help it they never shall."

"I believe they're not trained that way because we did not start right with them" said Angeline. "Our father and H other certainly started right with us and believe me though they were as good to us as any one should be we had to toe the mark with the rules. They started with us when we were so small that we did not know much, which is why we know so much now."

Great as was the interest excited by the adventure of Jennie it was however shown in the shade by another fact which was brought to light by tha that same experience, that was the existence of the advancing armies of Glandelinians under Joe Aeldegarbe swing through the forest to move upon the rear of Jameyns army which rear was supposed to lay to the east and west of the road leading to Lebanon. This forest as has been already described covered a very large tract of country, in which a few years before the war, animals of all sorts had been roaming but the noises of the war had cleared them all and mostly all more timid birds out of the region. Large inroads had been made on portions of this wood and by some sections of the southeastern Calverinia forest fires. There were clearings extending over several miles or so, while again any man may wander for a month without or emerging from the heavy timber, which included mostly nothing but pine, but there were occasionally to be met with such trees as found even the United States too many to name here and others of far less importance.

The pine resembled the pine of the Rocky Mountain regions and predominated..w

Where there was such a large area covered with timber about every variety of such surface was known. In many places streams ran through the forest such as Centralia Ma Centralia, the Ramona, the Hue Hueany, the Twiliger, and the Arcoburge pun too, the main river being the Santa Maria connecting with the Oxbomb Turner, giving the woods the name of Marie Osborne. Also in many places there were high weeds, big stones dangerous ravines, caverns, hollow glens, and quicksands in others there were marshy swamps through which any army would find it hard toil and immense difficulty to force its way, especially when dangerous bogs were to be encountered. Ventura River entered from the northwest and was of considerable volume. In many places it was the deepest and widest river of all, while elsewhere it widended into broad and shallow expanse where quicksands might be found. It wound its way through the immense forest, in the sinuous course always taken by streams and rivers and crossing the road where it was spanned by a long bridge it continued onward for many miles, when it reached the Marie forming a branch for that still wider river.

From that it can be said it could be seen that the immense forest could shelter from the eyes of scouting christian officers the movement of Glandelinian troops and therefore it was the best reason to belief believe that if the Glandelinians were going through these woods they could probably easily surprise general Hansons rear. The universal opinion was that general Adeldeg arbe would exterminate the christian rears. So long as they were in the woods the Glandelinians were a standing menace not to only Violet, and her sister's but to all other men, women and children. The children were especially rare in great peril. There was more than one officer among Evan's troop that contended that if the enemy was was in the forests and were left alone they would add to that degrees that they would sally forth from all sections of the forest nearest Lebanon like the millions of Indians of the last century and carry death and terrible destruction before them.

A few individuals like Adelde-de-fob, said that there was nothing to fear concerning what Adelde-garbe might try upon general Hansons rear, for Hanson's flanks were well guarded, and it would not at this near be a very difficult duty to repulse Adeldeagarbe either. But no one could dispute the desirability of seeing the whole region rid of the dangerous Glandelinian armies, of whom may so often came near destroying the Viviam girls with thousands of children, and where there was so much so much conversation something unexpected to be done or at least attempted for the safety of general Hansons rear.

It was believed it would be possible that good sections of Adelde De Garbes army would get lost in the woods and would go tramping through for many days, and yet the opinion of those most best qualified to judge was that the Glandelinians who would be lost in the woods would be a menance to every one in the neighborhood.

Adelde-de-fob while he sat there with Jennie on his knee said to them all:

"I near met a disaster one day when I was pursued by the enemy. I had found in an old building an old Musket, and I supposed before The Country of America became free from England. I thought of using it on the enemy and when I turned a charge down its dusty throat, not knowing that one had been resting there for months, and pulled the trigger it hung fire for a long time. The foremost glandelinian ran up to me grabbed the gun and as I ran aimed it at me. He was a good shot but when it did go off, he being about to use it better than I it went off in an overwhelming fashion bursting into a dozen pieces, killing the soldier and narrowly missing killing me, and several others of my pursuers, and mangling the horse of the man who discharged it/ However it was the first time in my life I ever handled such a gun.

I had been so so anxious to own a gun of that sort that I bought myself one, and the gun I bought was a breach loaded sort with four double barrels. It was a sort of army shot gun of course but best for amatur hunters I had practiced with this piece however only a few days after my strange adventure with the Glandelinians, when my ambition am bition am turned in to my hand Glandelinians rifle, and I met a party of Glandelinians under some "Hotty or Goofy faced general whom they call General Willchild. I have heard a lots about him, but believe me when I tried to shoot it off it also exploded in my hand almost maiming me, and bringing about my capture. It was only that I ran into a deep ravine and covered myself with leaves that saved me from capture."

"It must have been some experience" said Bobby who was ten years of age. "My father who is dead now had been a soldier in this war and had given to me a fine breach breach loading rifle. I had owned it for two years before my mother died, and under the tutelage of my Uncle who was disabled in the battle of Jennie Turner and who is now lib living upon a pension of 10,000 a year, and everyone says I have been very good and skillful for my age. If I had one of the soldiers rifles I could prove it.

Besides this boyscout friend, as I could have shown I was fond of hunting some years ago."

"If you want to prove your ability at a rifle" said Jennie Vivian "You are welcome to my rifle" for you must understand a shotgun isn't exactly the thing to defend yourself against these Glandelinians with."

"But I don't want to take your rifle." said the boy with surprised eyes.

"But I have many to spare." she answered. "Of course I cannot give it to you untill we are in the camps but the rifles the soldiers use is far too heavy for you."

Nothing is impossible to any one with courage, and perserverance. The boy or girl anywhere who is determined to become brilliant in his studies, no matter what their nature, or to master a difficult profession or to attain any point possible of attainment, is or are sure to win if he or she will but stick to it like glue.. Violet and her sisters were more careful with the rifle and pistol than any boy or girlscout now through such patient practice. Even before the war when much younger they had given all the time they could spare to practice with the gun and and

and pistol. Adelde fob was dependent of anything for the christian lines that very late evening but the sensible Vivian Girl Princesses gave a toss of their heads.

"No Adelde-de-fob that would be doing wrong. It would be dangerous for us. Our Blessed Lord himself doesn't too fit to step in and help the reckless and careless ones. you now like once said that those that seek danger shall find it. Of course we are all ready of the weapon but the weapons do us little good in such gloom so we decide to remain here all the rest of the night untill the danger is over and Hanson had or has whipped general Clancy's army to a frazzle. Of course in the day time we never miss a shot, while it would be no during the night. Only to morrow morning will we venture out of this house. I don't believe the Glandelinians will come here."

Although a lusty lad Adeldefob found the situation wi quite a burden, and he therefore preferred to remain in though he believed if the enemy would come toard the house they would be battled up and that every one would have to ply all their energies to escape. Violet and her sisters were very fond of the bright and good natured boyscout, who had so often helped them in all their efforts. By the time they had gotten out of the woods and reached the house the evening had been well advanced and Adelde-de-fob had therefore guided up the securities of the ways of the Glandelinians and said he was afraid the glandelinians who were to assault Hansons rear may have gone in the wrong direction and would never reach their destination.

"I don't believe we could dare go forth again till the situation near Lebanon gets settled" said Adelde-de-fob, why to be frank, even now more about the fury and savagery of the Glandelinians, than Violet and her sisters did despite all their experiences" and even if we did go out by mid night when all is still, we may encounter foes either still advancing or on the retreat. Nevertheless we may have to go for they may come in great numbers for refuge here and if they see us they'll, surround the place and if we do defend ourselves so fiercely that they could not get at us will bring up artillery and fire us to pieces. If the have not artillery they'll use fire. If we can only fight our way through the forest to some sheltering cave it is all right but if we have to travel by day and the enemy would still be in it is not likelihood, we'd be in still greater danger."

"Why not?"

"Why if they're on a retreat after the battle most of them will come to shelter themselves in these woods, and you do know" yourselves Princesses surely when Glandelinians are defeated they are, terribly dissatified and also fierceer than the fiercest wild beast, and then if we were in the woods by day we and better loc out. There can be so many Glandelinians in the woods too that that if it is day, we would not know which way to turn, and if they ever got hold of us!"

At this violet and her sisters shivered with the remem brance of the horrible past...

"Wild beasts are nothing than little puppies compared to the Glandelirians even the fiercest lions and tigers are nothing at all compared to them" declared Joice with a shiver. "But I don't believe its any safer in the woods either according to Jennie's experience. So you see we are in a hole."

"We are in danger here too" said Angeline.

"The Glandelinian may and can do everything which we cannot even bear to imagine." said Betty. "But I don't believe they can make much of trying to come to the woods during a retreat. The Christian troops know the in and outs of the woods better than they do."

"Well they can do it anyway, there's so much woods around, and you understand" declared Adelde-de-fob that "That if the wind if off from them toard the pursuing christians they'll set fire the forest to save themselves. Yet if the christian generals are smart enough to keep out of the woods in that situation, they might not be outwitted by the enemy. The enemy are just as forty as we are, and if they do get into the recesses of the woods and never when themselves during the retreat they might get through without once being disturbed by the christian pursuers."

"I ain't so sure of that that they won't get so well off" laughed Hettie "For every one of the Angelinian soldiers are acquainted with all the woods. I'll bet Adelde-de-garbe will not be able to get on Hansons rear for every one of the officers who went with him were opposed to the move and so was Clancy fearing it would be a blundering failure. I Guess he will soon give up all idea of defeating Hanson, and I shouldn't wonder if Adelde-de-garbe will do things. I don't hear much firing again. I believe it'll soon be over."

But whether such was the result or to be the result or not remained to be seen in the chapter further on, yet Violet, and her sisters though it even was even more dangerous to remain in the house too long, and dangerous to go out into the night yet believed it was safer than by day, though Adelde-de-fob and Bobby and even his more timid sister Sally yr were sure of plenty of danger in the all night forced ramble through the dreadful woods...

During all this time those of Violet's sisters who had not said a word, were planning something in their shrewd heads, minds, and they could do so for even though they went to Military School of their own accord they had always maintained more than their places in their studies and no one had yet ever surpassed them in the excellence of their department even those very boy and girlscouts and others were as we willing in their studies. Violet and her sisters no matter how strongly they desired their early morning sleep, always rose as early as it was possible for them to awake not always the same hour, however but the last latest they ever arose was at six fourty five. Therefore they had never been idle they hated laziness and when any of their boyscouts failed to get up in the morning before six, they let him lay till some of the superiors came along and gave him a morning's bath in bed with a cold pail of water.. .2.2.222

Dangerous as it was they decided to depart lest as one stated to be besieged in the home by the fierce Glandelinians should they really approach the place.. Adelde-de-fob his rifle slung over his shoulder had rose up at attention. There did not seem to be no sound of battle anywhere now that would have indicated that Adelde-de-fobes assault upon Hansons rear had started, and as all were satisfied as of the stability of handling their rifles and pistols, they decided to go through the woods by means of the road and to keep a watch out for Glandelinians who had so frightened Jennie a few hours before.... However Violet, and her sisters were little anxious over the dangers of the trip, though both of the boys seemed as cool and as stolid as ever.

However his eye beamed more kindly upon the brave Vivian Girls who he now was to watch as if he was their guardian. He however said to Bobby and his sister,

"You too are guides as you are acquainted with this section of the woods. "Look out now for us, and don't be too venturesome in going ahead."

"And remember the Glandelinians are more crafty than the craftiest fox"said Jennie"for I have had many experiences with him."

"Sure and the soldiers of the Glandelinians are awful"said Sally.

The brother, who was in the act of leaning over his sister to kiss her drew back with a reproving look.

"Why is it sis, you can't say anything without saying awful in every sentence. I wish for Heavens sake Sally you and all the rest of the girls would leave awful out of one sentence in a hundred, because everyt time I heard that word it gives me the creeps."

She hung her head, and her eyes were growing misty, when Bobby took the kiss with a laugh and moved for the door...

"There lets start, we are delaying so long that it seems as if we were going to the United States to hunt Dragons."

"Violet snapped him up in a flash"There ain't any dragons smarty. Come along and don't delay or we'll leave you behind.Hurry.You suggested going and so don't talk such nonsense the both of you.Come along."

"You got us both that time."laughed Bobby"Where's Adelde-de-fob?"

"He went out the door only a few seconds ago.He is standing by the gate "said Joice after a quick glance through the window.He"He is trying to see if the way is clear."

Adelde-de-fob was leaning on the gate post, as if always a favorite custom of his.. He looked at those inside the house without stirring or uttering a word, and also as they passedout the gate, and gently closed it so as not to make a sound that might attract enemies if they were close by... When they had gone a rod or so, Adelde-defob stopped and said;

"L t Let's halt. Bobby."

"Yes sir. answered the boy, wheeling instantly.

Adelde-defob answered "All if you come here.I see something."

The boy and his sister, and even the Vivian Girl Heroines obeyed instantly, and they all lounged immediately in front of the boyscout who was at attention.2.2.2.2.2

"We have to be specially careful"he said."There's sounds as if there's more Glandelinians in the woods than I suspected and if they see us they can do away with small.Glandelinian soldiers are also strong, they're cautious as we are, maybe more so, they can find their way through the woods as good as we can, so we'll have to look out that none of those skunks see us."

"We will take good care, you may depend "said Bobby.

"Those Glandelinians are as sharp eyed, and as cautious as cats, you must be especially look out for them Bobby."

"I sure will.And so will my sister."

"And Princesses, when we go through the woods, the glandelinians if they are conscious we are here may hunt for us as hunters do bears, so if we get into trouble we all must help each other."

This seemed an all important sentence that the boyscout had prepared himself to utter.It seems that it might have been some violation of emperor Vivians often repeated creed, for it clearly called the two children, and Violet, and her sisters to render each other mutu mutual support should danger from the enemy or forest fires arise, and they would have been janiles had they not done so. Of course Adelde-de-fob understood Violet, and her sisters very well, but he was impelled to impress the necessity of it, ; he meant them and even himself to understand that his declarations were subject to amendment under certain conditions. Every one gave the pledge, and then they all stepped swiftly up the road untilll they were fairly in the woods. As the glandelinians when seen and treed twice Jennie were near the Vantum river, they agreed to follow the road to another direct course and avoid the locality of the bridge and therefore they descended the stream, and then went forward tward the wider expanse of water, and finally off into the main woods. where they intended to make a short cut twixt the distanced christian christian line.

They had reached and passed the trees in which Jennie had refuged herself the first time , when Adelde-defob suddenlyexclaimed in a whisper;

"In for hiding.Glandelinians ahead of us.and with flashlights. Behind the ledge of rocks quick. If they see us and charge open fire."

They obeyed and Violet said it;

"I told you we'd find plenty of Glandelinian skunks in the woods "said Jennie Vivian curtly, who nevertheless from her place of concealment scanned the Glandelinians with interest."There are thirty of those skunks."

"I wouldn't call the Glandelinians skunks."said Adeldefob."

"And why not" demanded Jennie a little pertly.

"I wouldn't insult a poor animal of that sort by calling the Glandelinian soldiers one.There's no animal or insect in the world, no serpent nor fish that is as bad as they are. It's better they're called human fiends."

"I'd call them something else if it wasn't a sin.2" said Bobby, and all looked at him sort of reprovingly.

The fact that the brave children had been unconsciously following in the footsteps of the very Glandelinians who were still searching for Jennie finally raised the suggestion, that perhaps the Glandelinians were engaged in scouring the whole woods as if on business or sport as it might be termed and it was therefore believed it was best to go by way of the bridge after all.They could easily annihilate these thirty Glandelinians, but the noise of the firing would bring down upon them such overwhelming numbers of the enemy that escape would then be utterly impossible. After being sure they were not see the brave party of beautiful children slipped from their hiding place and hurried their pace so as to reach the bridge.

"However they were seen by another party of Glandelinians for some one suddenly shouted;

"Halloa there you children in gray.Hold out.Wait a minute.Are ye christian dogs in disguise."

However the children disappeared up abruptly from their view, but in their retreat Violet had turned her face to see who it had been that hailed her and her companions, and as she did so she gave a low utterance to an expression of great fear and astonishment.

"Who was the Glandelinian"Asked Adelde-defob.

"They were some of those whom I recognized made up that awful slaughter of children at Andreas and who had us in the slaughter pens among the dead and wounded children"said Violet. "The leader seemed to be James Deldon but I'm not sure."

The one who had challenged them was general James Deldon, the one who had made life Hell for Violet and her sisters that one dreadful year and from whom they had come through some of the worst experiences of all. He was unusually tall and had the face of Satan himself and a bulldog combined. He was well known by Violet and her sisters. When she had gotten the glimpse of him she noticed he was arrayed in a most gorgeous uniform of Glandelinian gray-green with all the paraphernalia which some high Glandelinian commissioned general believes necessary when he honors the sinful devilish country of Glandelinia with a tramp after more children for whose bodies he desires to tear open or apart for to satisfy his enraged fury against the christian cause. The scoundrel was now seen by the others, from their hiding place, and they saw beyond question that he was fitted out in fine style, and there was nothing lacking, and no Glandelinian soldier or officer was as useful as he was or probably as dangerous. However he was more of a raider, and a child slayer deeper than anything else . He had not been at this moment on a hunt for any one but children marching through the woods with a portion of Adeldefs Arbes army on its movement against general Hansons rear.He carried one of the finest of breechloading rifles which would be very effective for him if he did not know how to use it he certainly would not carry it.

"Halloa you little brats there are you Are you christians or or of our side?"he demanded again. "If so why do ye run away."

All of Violet s sisters recognized the Glandelinian devil but of course he was a stranger to the three others. Adelde-defob glanced rather askance at the party of officers, but as they were well hidden all reserve vanished.

"That's a dangerous looking gun he's got there Violet"said Bobby noticing it in the flashlight of one of the guid Aors."I hope he would not venture forward to see where we are."

"I certainly wish it." and Jennie said it very bitterly indeed.

"But don't you understand he's a very dangerous man"declared Adelde-de-fob.

"Yes "answered Jennie laying her rifle "I would wish he'd come and within range. He wouldn't be pester us and other children any more. I and my sisters have plenty of score to settle with him."

"Be carefulthough"warned her sister who was nearest."If you fire it'll attract the others."If he comes too close we can club club him down.It's better.Then we can get away in the confusion caused by his death."

Jennie's rifle was a beautiful weapon and a long range creedmore. It was a war remington rifle highly finished, and cost more than two hundred and ninty dollars.It had a front sight, called the wind gauge, with the spirit level and with the vernier sight on the stock, which is raised from its flat position when she wishes to open on a enemy soldier in defenge of her self and sisters when the assailants are at a long distance, and is graduated up to twenty five hundred yards, carrying an eighty eighty eighty cartridge.

"I don't believe they're coming forward. "Said Bobby.

"Your rifle is great for this part of the battlefield"said Adelde-defob "and its light enough for I don't suppose it weighs more than four or five pounds but the cartridge is an explosive one and would report so loud that we'd be surrounded in a moment."

"It's just the thing to bring that murdering scoundrel down with"said Jennie in her bitter manner"I can calculate to bring him down a half mile away if he happened to be that far.I could muffle the cartridge. The gun has a sound muffler."

"And provided it will stand still and you can sight the exact distance in the gloom id have to chance it if you can muffle the cartridge." he continued.

"I can tell that by my eye easily enough."

"I see but you can't guess within two hundred yards of him if your life depended upon it in this dense darkness.. "

"That remains to be seen."

"In this gloom Jennie?"

"Certainly."

"Well then you sure are a good shot.But you understand you've got to use your breechloader off hand as I do my own rifle or it won't be worth a cent to you. It's the first time you ever had such a rifle.If you can muffle the cartridge report try it on him.If he's the sort of Glandelinian you say he is I'd be glaeful to see him bite the dust."

"No use now"said Joice."The Glandelinian devils are gone."

"Searing an ambush they went"Exclaimed Adelde defob.

"Yes but understand many Glandelinians are in the woods"said Angeline and "and if they see us first, we'll be like those children we used to see so terribly murdered..2

Our experiences are enough to give us wild nightmares for life. If you saw the horrible scenes Do Fob you'd have never forgotten the m."

"I've heard of it."said Adelde-defob."That's in say I'd almost wish to see all those who did it burning in well right now."

"Why Adeldefob.That wouldn't be right."said Violet."We'd be willing to forgive them all if they'd repent."

"Yes if they'd repent"said Adeldefob sarcastically."Let a snake first bite you, sink his fangs deep in, and then repent."

Violet, and her sisters glanced significantly at each other as Adelde-fob continued."That is the sort of Glandelinians that may be in these woods now. I believe though that your main enemy and his band is gone now. Shall we go off from our hiding place now."

Instead of responding promptly Jennie said;

"Well I don't know as I have any objection, but you must promise to do as I and my sisters say.We are in grave danger you see."

After giving this pledge, the two boys, and the little, girl said they would render all the help they could, and the party moved on down the stream followed by Jean Evans and his strong swundron of soldiers.

"Have the Glandelinian soldiers got hunting dogs or bloodhounds?" asked Bobby of Adelde-de-fob.

"I hope not."But maybe they would only be a bother in the woods to them."

"If they only have a common ordinary dog it don't believe they would be of much help to them, except to find the footprints of a bear or of our own but if they were bloodhounds we'd be trailed and then---- -2-2-2-"

"There did you hear that!!!!""""cried Violet.

At that moment came a sound of a strange far away hoarse resounding bay which sounded as if though the strange voice had also changed, it seemed too the sound was that of half dog and something else mighty uncanny too, and the cry ended into a strange sore squeaking howl that resounded far and wide in strange eerie echoes that made all shiver as brave as though at they were.

"I wonder if that's the "g o Ghost of" of a Glandelinian bloodhound on our trail"said Adelde-defob in his excitement.

"It's not a dog,ghost I'm sure even though the sound was terrible" remarked Bobby with a strange look!"But don't you know what!"

"A dog whose sound is brought to us that way by distance I'm sure." said Violet almost jollingly.

"That sound is no joke.I'm If I'm not mistaken it's a maddog."

All of them started off at a rapid speed at this, which occassionally changed into a trot, and listening to the strange baying of what they believe believed to be a mad hound, they turned to the right before reaching the big stretch of water,and to avoid what might happened went into the very heart of the woods.. Adeldefob was so much taller and lighter than his best companions that he accidentally drew away from them once or twice but was obliging enough to halt and wait for them to come up.Hurrying along in this headlong fashion they soon stopped, all pretty badly out of breath. Although Adeldefob was somewhat stronger than any of them he nevertheless had exerted himself more than they did, and was the most exhausted, and the first one to sigh to rest.

All this time the strange baying far away continued, but now the sounds showed that whatever it came from had circumcircled and was approaching their way and coming nearer, and they were not astonished at the unexpected turn of the affair.

"There's a pretty strange warning in that sound."said Adelde-defob."It's either a maddog or someone is trying to show us foolin before the whole world."

"There is no need of that so far as any one is concerned."said Jennie losing patience with the situation."We had better wait and find out what it means a mean.If it's a mad dog we can dispatch him in a hurry.If not we can get up the trees till he passes."

"Adeldefob made no answer, for the sound was now so close that the interest of all was centered on what it reallly was to be.

"My gracious what a terrible racket it is making"exclaimed Angeline "There mo must something more unusual that from a mad dog.I wonder if Glandelinians ain't trailing us with some crazy hound."

The dog was now not heard for several minutes minutes, but now there was a crashing through the underbrush sounding nearer, and nearer, and showed that whatever the animal was it must have steamed up and if not after them was going for something else. suddenly the bushes parted only a short ways from where the wondering party stood, and a big blood hound came ward them on a dead run, followed by more than a dozen Glandelinians. The group were too amazed to think of the guns they even held and only stared from their hiding place in mute wonder. Then they whirled away at right angles and plunged away as fast as they could. The Glandelinians seeing them pursued without opening fire, and the dog came crashing after them, and as he did so he exposed his flank to the young fugitives who could not have been given a better opportunity to bring him down, for the throwing forward of the foreleg opened his most vulnerable part to the bullet.Indeed not only at the dog but at the nearest Glandelinians the bullets came.The dog and eight Glandelinians fell at once, and the survivors of the Glandelinians after only giving a ineffective shot or two turned and retreated as fast as they could.

The two boys themselves were astonished that Violet and her sisters could fire so rapidly without even seeming to aim and not miss a single shot, even when they did not dare believe any more Glandelinians were anywhere in this neighborhood, and then they should appear with a blood hound in front.Before the two boys could give utterance to the amazement caused by the marksmanship of violet, and her sisters, another dog far

away began to bay hoarsely and the sound seemed to come from the ground. Then more Glandelinians appeared at a distance, and Adeldefob raised his rifle to his shoulder and fired point blank at him bringing the nearest Glandelinian to the ground dead, and wounded three others behind him with the same shot.

"I wonder why they're coming after us that way for!"demanded Bobby."Do they believe we are soldiers."

"Why I---I declare.They're after us just as well"exclaimed the boys abashed sister."I never dreamed they would do such things in a woods."

Violet, and her sisters seeing the Glandelinians retreating in the gloom was not disposed to retreat themselves now no matter what the peril and were strongly inclined to persue the enemy, but Adelde-d-fob compelled the angry Princesses to laugh by saying;

"Let's not be mad now, girls for the Glandelinians are only fools and we are safe as long as the Glandelinians cannot see as well to aim at us. They answered our fire rapidly but no see none of us are hit.If a Glandelinian soldier did hit one of us you can make up your mind it is an accident.They've good shots in day time but at night--pooh."

Violet or her sisters did not find words to answer to this for they saw nevertheless that the Glandelinians had done a very creditable thing, view it as he might so Violet made a radical turn in the conversation.

"Who would have thought of it lios boys.We have not only got the enemy scouring the woods for probably straggling christian soldiers, but they're now hunting us, and ha, in case we are hard pressed let the best of us on either side win."

And with this encouraging sentiment on her lips, the she started off into a rapid run followed by the rest to escape the other pursuers with the other hound, indeed the others following, forgetful of the little flurr flurry with the enemy a few seconds before, it was however not in the order of things that the Princesses, and the tigers should be able to crash their own way through the woods and underbrush with anything like the speed they were now going if they had not been pursued... They well understood also that the Glandelinian soldiers,, do not ever hope or expect to catch their fugitives in anything like a fair chase on or when all are on foot, but resort to stratagem, and so Violet, and her sisters decided on stratagem of their own.

By stationing themselves so as to head off their own pursuers a little further on, they secured the one volley which is all sufficient, however it wounded be counted an extrogely good piece of fortune little fortune could they obtain in sight of nine Glandelinian soldiers at once as a fair target, as has already been given the young fugitives and securing good advantage of the opportunity, and yet though they did not expect to be so favored again, they were, and were able to bring down double that number with two volleys from each one of them who were armed.When the Glandelinians ate were coming after Violet, and her sisters and the others are willing the fugitives opened fire, but nevertheless they were in grave danger for the foremost of the Glandelinians made a pell mell rush after them, but small as they were the fugitives fugitives were swifter and more agile, and soon their pursuers had only continued after them until some fell, and others stopped from sheer exhaustion wondering why the fugitives could continue on at such a gait. And by this time too the baying of the other hound came to them so faintly that it was plain he was a mile distant to their rear at the least, while there could be little doubt that the persuing enemy was much further off.Violet and her sisters bemoaned the fact that so many fires caused by the battle made so much fire and lights in the woods.

Of course too only when they also were getting jaded did the fugitives finally stop.

"Well""""e exclaimed the panting Princess Joice.

"Yes pretty well how are you."also panted Adeldefob but nevertheless I don't see or can't say I see much fun in this-it is too much as if we were being chanced by a swarm of devils while we were trying to escape from the Infernal regions, and yet were not lost souls."

"No"added Violet", don't ever see where there is any hope of the enemy being able to run us down, for we are more used to traveling through these woods than we are, but don't you suspect if driven to it they'll fire the forest to burn us out.The Glandelinians are mean enough to do anything."

"Maybe they'll try to capture us by going round in a circle"said Daisy"and they may give us another chase.I do not care what they do as though they try it as long as not one of them misses his gun and turns out to be a "Sharpshooter."

"I suppose we should understand more or something about the habits of the persuing Glandelinians, so that we could discover what course they would take in their trailing of us."said Hettie.

"Why!" demanded Adeldefob...

"Why! Why suppose they got ahead of us beyond our line of flight and cornered us.Then there'll be a fatal conflict between both parties. I'd sooner get there ahead of those fe fiends and fire as soon as they gave us the chance.I'd give anythint to plug that Deldon."

"Well""""added Angeline with a sigh"The Glandelinians seem to be chosing the same route which we are going in theur hut for us, so we may as well tramp along before they come too close again.We may get a glimpse of real demons yet.You understand I'm not saying this merely for saying but it can be true, as demons help the Glandelinians in this war, and I know of many of the possessed houses in this country of the enemy war zone and so does my sisters.Ain't I right sisters."

"You certainly are."

The baying baying of the Glandelinian hound had ceased by this time, and though the whole party had stopped and listened,,,,,,,, they heard nothing more of it.

"I believe the Glandelinians have given up the persuit"said Violet.

"Don't be too sure"declared Adelde-defob."If they are possessing the woods as you say they may be up to any scheme.They may be deciding to wait till day before they scour the woods properly."

But Catherine shook her head.

She understood the fierce glandelinians too well to believe them to be so patient as that.

"I don't believe they'd ever give up a hunt untill we are too near strong safty for them to go on. and we are not capable of such an exploit as to chance the angers of the foe by stirring them uptoo much. We are as good as captured if we do not reach the christian lines before the morning, and by my wrist watch it is only nine in the night now or nine thirty I mean."

"I don't believe those crazy Glandelinians have ever ran down anything with great success yet, unless it was more helpless children than we are, and---and-- hallo."

At this moment the subject of their conversation appeared on the scene approaching as stealthily and as quietly as if though the children were sheep that they wished to surprise. They seemed to creep along as if to sneak upon them unawares.

"Lay down behind those trees"warned Adelde-defob;

They obeyed, and he la, down at the feet of Bobby, and awaited the approach of the foe.

"They're very cautious this time and I don't wonder"whispered Jerrie "They ain't used to hunting helpl daring children, only helpless ones and probably don't know much whether we're children they are persuing or soldiers. They can't see us because of the color of our uniforms but their gray sho we out good despite the gloom."

"Then they don't know anything the devil"wat the truthful observation of Adelde-de-fob! "but they'll learn sometying if they come lo closer."

"It's my opinion that it's best to give up our flight through the woods untill we get a little more right of way about it."said Bobby."The woods must be full of them and we may be surrounded for all we can tell....."

By this time it reallly was close to the time of nine thirty in the evening or early night, and the persued ones indeed were beginning to feel terribly tired, and sleepy, and also were hungry for they had not none of them eater since the night before. They had not ever had time to bring any lunch with them for they had not time even to imagine provisions, though they had their own ability to provide food for them selves should the woods be be abounding with game. But the noise of war had scared all the game away. Neither they had their water canteens and in their little mess bags some of them had a little pepper and salt mixed with which to season their meal with as soon as it should have been secured. To dare to go to sleep in the woods nor was suicide. Even the common red squirrels were not any more in the woods, though they had been so plentiful that they had been nearly always in sight but now nothing was seen but even as they were hoping for game violet described the Glandelinians now coming closer.

"They're within range"said violet.

"Let each of us shoot one then."said Adelde-defob taking aim at a Glandelinian moving along a fallen tree. He slowly brought his gun to his shoulder, aimed most carefully, and the Glandelinian soldier who had percieved the movement had risen and aimed simultaneously. Both shots came as one, but the Glandelinian came tumbling down his head punctured by the "cruel" bullet.

The other glandelinians came exclamanations of surprise, and started to rush forward.

"I will now bring that one down "said odd Bobby indicating a moving object in gray that was nearer than the others. The others watched his actions with some doubt but interest as he raised the handsome breach loaded. He aimed deliberately but short and the glandelinian gave a yell the instant the boy pulled the trigger and the sharp report broke the stillness of the woods. The other Glandelinians scampered away in all directions and disappeared from sight. Violet and her sisters despite their peril of the situation could not help laughing.

"Well I'll be hanged"exclaimed Adelde-de-fob"I don't understand how that came about. They don't seem to be very brave glandelinian soldiers."

"I'll bet the Glandelinians don't seem to understand it either"said Daisy"I see some more still running"I'm going to see whether I can make them run worse girls."

"There is one Glandelinian on a tree no doubt trying to see us if possible"said Angeline Vivian."I'm going to try and bark him"and she cocked her rifle and aimed at the gray figure. Before she could be sure of her aim the Glandelinian started to crawl along the limb which was large and covered with thick shaggy bark, but the muzzle of the weapon swerved slowly in a corresponding direction, and just as the Glandelinian raised his own rifle to fire, the explosion from Angeline's gun came. The others who were watching the movement of the gray figure to note the result saw nothing because of the gloom but nevertheless the pieces of bark suddenly flew upward with such force that the man was toppled off from the limb, dropping almost at the feet of the fugitives dead.

"That sure was a good shot"Exclaimed Adelde-defob admiringly"No hunter in the world could have done that better than you."

"Yes there are"she answered primly, proudly. "My sisters can. They've done it often."

"What do you mean? Princess by barking a enemy!"asked Bobby, who had never seen anything of the sort before.

"It's easy enough, all you have to do is cut the bark right under the Glandelinian if he is partly lying on the thick branch so that the pieces fly upward with such force as to injure i or knock the life out of him."

"That is the way I'm going to try to put them out of the way after this."

"It is best to practice hitting them with the ball first."" Violet suggested..w.2.2.222

Polly solemnly removed the shell of the cartridge from his own rifle and replaced it with a fresh one, as he answered;

"I'll try my best to learn."

The other Glandelinians had gone off and as the boys themselves edged forward they secured the canteen barge of the dead men and found plenty to eat indeed for all his companions and himself. The sight of this food so sharpened the appetites of the good children that they sure ate their fill.

"There share some of mine"said Violet to Polly who appeared sort of faint and couldn't hardly wait for her's.

The unusually warm air, the vigorious air or exercise, and the rugged health of the children gave them appetites scarcely less than forceful than that of wolves, and so hungry were they, that they were sure they had never tasted such a delicious delicious dinner in all their lives. Ever Violet and her sisters accustomed as they were to the delicacies and refinements of a princely life admitted there was something about the meal which washed down even with warm water had a flavor surpassing anything of the sort they had ever eaten before. The cause why it tasted thus was because they have been so long without food.

The poor brave children were so tired from their severe flight and the rest was so grateful after finishing their supper, that they stayed where they were for an hour longer. Then realizing that nothing could be done by idleness, and that if they stayed there too long, they might fall asleep and be captured by the enemy, they slung their loaded rifles over their shoulders, filled their water canteens with the liquid, and made their way to higher ground.

"I have been thinking"said Adelde-defob when they were well on their way "That we will be more likely to avoid being surprised by the enemy if we separate for a time. All of us are acquainted with wood life and therefore cannot get lost."

"Be seperated for how long" asked Angeline.

"For about a a few hours we can'll the excitement dies down."

"But how can we find each other in the gloom."

"That can be fixed easily enough, if necessary we understand various sorts of signals, and we can therefore signal to each other, or we can secure for ourselves some landmark that can be seen a long way off even at the gloomiest night, and gradually approach that. And the light of the battle's fires can reveal a lot to us."

There was nothing brilliant in this proposition in such a dangerous enemy infested forest, but after some discussion it was agreed to by Violet and her sisters, and they began searching around for something which might serve them as a guide. Directly to the south, the woods rose in a series of hills of great elevations elevations, but among them were numerous large rocks of limestone formation some of them of such a bright white color that they could be seen a very long distance even in the thickest darkness.

"Over yonder"said Adelde-defob, pointing to said the largest"Is one which no one could mistake. Let agree to meet there within three hours and go into camp. Some of us then can get some sleep, others can be on guard, and if either one of us loses his or her reckoning he or she will fire their rifle and the others will answer, so there need be no danger at all..."

"I don't see as there would hardly be any danger if we failed to find each other before morning. I don't believe the Glandelinians will hunt for us any more."

"There ain't any danger"said Hettie"only it would be a great deal more pleasant to spend the rest of the night together, and we will feel safer by knowing that we are all close together in case the rascals do assault us."

"Yes"said said Catherine"for by all of us remaining close together there will be more likelihood of being hit when the Glandelinins fire. No I believe Adeledefob is right."

"And the Glandelinians haven't tried their best yet"said said Adeldefob "and they carry long distanced shooters, there's there they get their deadly shots in. If we are a good target for the enemy they'll have us easily enough, and---"

"Well I declare if that doesn't beat all."

"It was Adeledefob who uttered this exclamation. He had been gazing steadily at a broad flat white stone about one third of a mile distant to the northwest of them, and his words announced that he had had made some important discovery. The peculiar tone in which he made the exclamation caused the others to turn tward him wondering what the cause was.

"See that yellow white big rounded stone over there."he answered pointing tward it. "and tell me if that isn't anything a little ahead of all happenings yet."

One brief searching glance showed that the boyscout had sufficient cause for his excitement. Standing on top of the stone so that his figure was thrown in clear relief against the glary horizon behind him, were six or seven gray apparitions.

"They're Glandelinians on sentinel duty right here in the woods." Declared Joice.

"That's my chance"exclaimed violet in excitement."That's just my distance. One of those men. I've seen his face and oh how he used to love strangling me so often when I was helpless in his power. Get out of my way! Give me room, now I'll show you what I can do."

With great display and ceremony the little princess prepared to give an exhibition of shooting as that shown at the international matches. The others stepped to the rear a little distance, so as not to impede her movements, and she deliberately removed her hat, get down on her back, raised the rear sight, crossed her feet, and drew them half way up to her body, then rested the barrel of her gun on the support thus furnished between the knees and with her left hand beneath her hair and turned so as to rest against the stock of her gun while her right was crooked around with the finger lightly pressing the trigger she was in a much quicker time than it takes to even read this in the proper position to make a good crack shot. The others watched her actions with the closest attention. The condition could not have been more favorable the Glandelinians being to the northwest, and with the glare to the rear of the rebels there was no confusion of vision for that cause,

The atmosphere too was perfectly clear. While there was not the least breath of air stirring. There was no need for her to spoil her aim even by haste. Closing one eye, she squinted through her sights carefully but instantly lowering or raising the barrel so as to shift her aim to try to get three or four at one shot, and the explosion came.

Three men fell, the other uttered exclamations of surprise and terror as they saw this and heard the shots.

"Again"she panted. as she elevated the gun to suit herself. The other watched the remaining Glandelinians, while Jennie and Joice saw that Violet was holding her heath rifle her finger crowding the trigger harder and harder until again the explosion came. Then she hastily clambered to her feet as the remaining two men fled, put on her hat and said with a laugh;

"That bullet got the last one in the leg. I believed I've killed the tothers and they won't murder any more little children."

"and the survivors don't know who fired at them and their dead comrades." said Adeldefob as the two men were now out of sight.

"I'll bet they'll not be bothering us any more."said Bobby.

The confidence with which these words were uttered puzzled the rest and caused them to believe that possibly the boy may be right after all. The truth would probably be learned during the following hours. Now that they agreed to return it was decided that Adeldefob would go straight along the route they had been following. The others should diverge to the right, while the others would swerve far enough to the left to last the stone whereupon the Glandelinians stood at the time they were fired upon and all brought down save two. The number had been six.

"I'm bound to find out the truth shether the Glandelinians will leave us alone"said Adelde-defob with a shake of the head. and so he did but little did he dream of what was to happen to him during the search for the truth. Adelde-defob still had his watch with him WHICH he now consulted and found that it was nearly half past ten...2.2.2.22

"However the days are getting short as it is October"said the boy to himself with a doubtful shake of the head. "Nevertheless it will be longer before it gets dark light and yet it seems after all hardly worth while to part company. I almost wish I hadn't suggested it.

"What's the odds"laughed Jennie who was with him, and still more anxious to look out for the prowling Glandelinians"We won't be far apart as I was earlier this evening, as we may be to morrow when we will have to be."

Andwithout waiting to discuss the question Adelde-defob struck out to the left with his strong step the others following the courses already already mentioned.. Despite perils everywhere no night could have been more charming, with the fall going into later season and mellowing the approaching winter. The distant glare of either some portions of the eastern Calverinia forest fires or those caused by the battle, the faint smoky haze of the atmosphere, the heavy smoky sky, the unusual out of season July weather, the terrible grotesque shadows and formations in the woods the renewed roar of distant battle, the thunder of explosions in the far distance, and the flight of something hostly overhead looking as if they were mathematical figures in India ink gliding across the black ened and reddened heavens, the strange languid eve ywhere everywhere all these probably caused by the war were at their "very best" and he who was wandering through the endangered forest, where the sleepy waters flowed, could well understand why it was that now adays any one with not much courage would give these woods a wide distance between it and themselves. Adelde-de-fob was now moving quiquietly toward, the north followed by Jennie, when it seemed to him that a large leaf blew forward from beneath his feet and was carried swiftly over the ground straight ahead and away from him and then alighted some distance ahead while simultaneously had come the distant report of a rifle from the rear...

Glancing to the rear, he discovered that he could see nothing because of the gloom but nevertheless he and Jennie were behind the biggest tree in a moment. They for the moment felt the same as a quail would be when startled.

"Ah if I could only get a shot at that sniper"said the boy, half afrighted, half enraged. "what a splendid coal shovler you'd be for the Devil down below."

The words were yet in his mouth, when the report came again, and there followed a sudden whirring sound through the air, and some distance behind there came a stunning crash as if the woods was going to pieces before an eruption; and a number of fragments flew as if arrows below the principal limb and about them but fortunately no one was hit....

Adelde-defob had seen the flash of the distant rifle and hoping he'd get the sniper who hurled that grenade he raised his rifle, aimed as best as he could, and fired. Even the greatest sharpshooter could have missed under such circumstances, and the boy d scout came no where hitting the hidden enemy. Probably the rascal had expected a return fire for he too might have been safely hidden behind a tree. That man or boy who handles the rifle must be wonderfully skilful to bring down one of those hidden snipers in the dark. It was curious how the name of common Glandelinian "hero could be given to such a scoundrel who hides behind trees and surely in consciss of the fact that he is sniping at little boys,,, andgirls . There are plenty w I will insist that I should have called this sort of Glandelinian a word which is not in a Prayer book, but no mat er matter how ticked they are it may be a sin to do so, though one may feel like doing so. Adelde-defob would indeed have been glad if he could have hit that Glandelinian sniper, but there was little prospect of doing so in such a gloomy night, but as long as he and Jennie also remained b hind behind the tree, there was no chance of the sniper getting them either. In such gloom only was could see the flash and yet one of the lessons that Adelde-defob had learned from his instructor how to load his gun immediately after firing it so as to be ready for any emergency emergency.

Accordi accordingly before trying to fire again he threw out the carr ridge shell from his long rifle and replaced it with a new one. Just as he did so he heard the report of a gun only a short distance to the left, at a point where some of the Vivian Girls should have been.

"I'll bet they're also fired on"was the natural conclusion of the boy and Jennie smiled as she added;;

"I wonder if those Glandelinian fiends could hit a big bear a dozen feet off with those Wonderful rifles of theirs let alone any of us in such a gloomy night. They have good weapons, and I wish we had them, for they're good rifles and we can handle them as well having done so."

"You are right"answered Adelde-fob.

The boy now waited for a full minute line listening for some other sound of answering shots but none was heard. Then he and Jennie cautiously moved off from their hiding place. Now the boy began to appreciate thevalue of the number of big tree in the woods. In the gloom no one could hit any of them and did not even aim right. Jennie now stayed close to Adeldefo Adel-defob continually glancing wistfully up into his face as if to ask him to protect her from the unseen foes in the dark. However both had no disposition to time themselves any furtherand paid no attention to any other sounds. At it was anyhow the height of the "hunting"season for Glandelinians after spies and christian scouting parties and so forth the reports of countless guns was heard at varying distances in the woods and through the woods, so that Adelde-defob could partly judge when they were fired by his friends from their nearness to him, and could also wonder why was so much of the other firing going on so rapid as if all of the Fourt of July throughout the whole world would be celebrated in that woods alone. Maybe he was on a portion of the interior battle ground and was not conscious of the fact that general Adelde-de-fabos rear guard action was or had been for the time being far more successful than any one could have anticipated. and that that portion of the christian line was in retreat in the woods, and that on several occasions also and and the vivian girls, and the christian soldiers had in reality fired upon one another in mista ing each other for foes, and that the latter had suffered the loob alone, and that no Glandelinians really were molesting them except for the time that those had been seen with Deldon. It was heaven be praised Violet and her sisters would never find this out.

Adelde-defob was however well satisfied when he heard another shot closer to him that it must have been from Violet, while some others that preceded it a few minutes he was convinced came from the rifles of hidden enemies.

"My comrades seem to have been assailed also by hidden enemies and therefore have something to do to defend themselves, but I don't believe either side can see what they're doing and besides I'll say that----Hello."

His last exx exclamanation was caused by his unexpected arival at a vast clearing in the center of which stood an abandoned log cabin of quite a great size, while the thousand acres of clearing surrounding itshowed that who ever lived there before had cultivated it fully to and a little beyond the clearing. There too was that air of thrift and cleanliness about the place which told the boy and Jennie that who had ever lived there had been industrious . frugal and neat.

"That is a queer place for any one to erect a log cabin."said De fob as he surveyed the scene, "besides no one can life live in safty there now, and if he or she could it sure would be a long trip to reach the neighborhood where work and provisions is to be had."

"But they do."said Jennie."Lots of people live in these forests. There had been lots of game before the war which was a great help to them."

They were prompted by a strange natural curiosity, and therefore both of them trotted over the small but neat little path until they stepped upon the piece of hewed log, which answered for a sort of porch, directly in front of the door. Although the latch string hung invitingly out; neither the boy nor the girl did not pull it, but hammered rather gently on the door.

"Come in please"was called out in a little female voice, and the boy immediately opened the door. A pleasing neatly clad young women was a just preparing for bed, while a little girl and a boy were already in bed sound asleep, eac except the third child which was a girl of ten and who had answered to the knock on the door... The mother as the woman evidently was turn ed her head so as to face the visitor, and at first seeing the boys gray uniform and the little girls with him appeared to be a little afrighted, but as they stated they were not Glandelinians but christians in disguise, she bad them good evening, and told the children to help themselves to one of the chairs, whose bottom were made of cane. Adelde-defob was unnaturally courteous as all Abbieannians are and thanking the lady for her inviting and Jennie doing the same they both sat down the boy placing his cap on t his lap. He said he and the little girl with him were fugitives from the battlefield, and coming upon the cabin thought he'd call upon those within and warn them to be on their guard against the approach of Glandelinians, and also learn whether he and his little superior companion could be of any service to the lady and her children in case of danger. The mother at these words at first glanced curiously at both children as if she could not hardly believe her eyes, and said that fortunately she was not in need of any help, as her husband was home, and well armed, they had plently plenty of rifles in the house and a machine gun too and that her two grown sons who were in bed were well supplied too. Without giving the conversation in dey detail it may be said that the boy and Jennie learned a lesson during his brief stay in that humble cabin, which will surely go with them both through life, it was a lesson of cheer cheerfulness and contentment to which they often referred and which made them grateful that they were led to turn aside from their flight for a short while..

The husband of the woman had toiled for a farmer before the enemy came into the locality at about five miles away on the northwestern entrance of the woods near Lebanon, and who paid only scanty wages as he had all he could do to support himself.

Before the war he lived in the log cabin but nevertheless he fortunately owned it. He had erected it himself ten years before the war. The farmer himself was gone away and the farmers employee had entered the army. The man of the log cabin although once wounded by a stray shot during which he hovered between life and death was now the embodiment of health and strength strength. His wife had never left his bedside during that dreadful time for more than a few minutes, and the doctor was just as faithful. At last the results from the wound had vanished, and the husband and father came to the return of health and strength again.

"If my husband retains his health"said the cheerful woman"we shall not have much fear of the dreadful enemy. Won't you bring your friends and stay with us to night. You'll add to our protection."

This invitation was given with gra great cordiality, and both the boy and Jennie would have been glad to accept it, but he and she declined through consideration of the brave couple, who would certainly be put to great inconvience by entertaining over nine visitors. Therefore they thanked her for her indness, and rising to go both drew back to the door and the princess herself remarked.

"I see you have a good rifle over the mantle; I don't see how your husband ever can get much time to use it."

"He hasn't used it atall since it was here it is, who used to shoot the game during the good old hunting days, which saved us half the cost of food"but added the brave little woman"There is many a game we can see now which I am very anxious to bring down"

"What is that?"

"Those Glandellinian soldiers. They burned the town in which my parents lived, and I haven't heard of my parents since"

"That'd bad news indeed Mrs.But don't you realize you have your chance.There's many Glandellinians here in the woods."

"No I did not dear boy. I heard they're mostly all christian soldiers retreating this way from the christian rear.That Adeldegarve or whatever you call him has been successful in his assault, my oldest son saw the disaster and he told me.My husband also has seen it he's gone there again to see what will be the result further on. I believe the christians are fleeing into the woods."

"That'd bad news again. But why are you so anxious to shoot the Glandellinians.They' didn't murder your father and mother did they?"

"I do not know. Can't get no word about them, and too they are not very pleasant neighbors, and I have to keep my littlest children in the house all the time for fear the brutes will seize them carry them away and murder them in the fashion they do.Then besides that the Glandellinians four months ago did carry off some of Mr Bailey's children and murdered them, so that Mr Bailey said he'd give me half his income for the uniform of a Glandellinian soldier killed my ma or my husband that I brought him."

"I su to hope it may be your good fortune to shoot as many as you can, secile the woods."said Jennie, as the boy and she bade the woman good night and passed out and across the clearing into the deepest part of the forest.

"Jennie, is about the bravest woman I ever saw in my life"said Bob,as they both moved thoughtfully in the direction of the big limestone ledge, where it was agreed the rest of the small party should meet to spend the rest of the night.

"Yes; and she sure sight to win"answered Jennie"and if our crowd of fugitives succeeds in bagging other Glandellinians we will present her a uniform to bring to the farmer."

The thought was a pleasing one to Bob, and he and Jennie continued on a little longer; when Jennie added with a smile;

"But I don't believe the Glandellinians will lose any sleep on account of being disturbed by our crowd.It's we who are to lose that sleep."

Adeldegarb saw by his watch that he had remained longer in the log cabin than he or Jennie had intended, and it was quite near eleven in the night.They therefore moved at a swift trot for less than a quarter of a mile, Jennie tri trotting at his heels as though she thought such a laborous gait unsailed for, but they as the lad observed that the limestone was not far away; he slowed down his pace; and sat down on a fallen tree to rest.

"This is a queer sort of an adventure in the woods"he said to himself "and it isn't see at all what chance there is for any of us fugitives getting to the christian lines at all.The situation of the christian army has according to the woman isn't worth a copper to be in; all there was in the christian army expended itself when the battle raged so furiously furiously all day, and Hanson lost part of his army in the driving rain it of the shattered Glandellinian army got away from him thus exposing his rear open to a disasterous assault----Hallo ;Jennie what's the matter with you?"

"I'm hit by something"she said."It's not serious though.didn't you hear that rifle report."

"No,I didn't."

Suddenly from somewhere there came several short and sharp yelps and then all was still.Then something passed the two at some thing of a nervous gallop.Indeed the two were conscious that something or something was circumnavigating them in the opposite direction.All this time the strange dog continued his distant baying. The two children watched the scene with amusement and interest.

"I guess we'd better move from this spot."said Jennie:

"Why?"

"I cannot understand why I want to do this, but something something tell me all is not right."

The boy studied the strange maneuvers of the distant objects, the boy being satisfied that something was amiss.They were christian if they were christians creeping upon him from believing he was of the foe, he understood the signals that would cause them to see their error and come up in a friendly manner instead;

"Jennie your signal ."he said.

Jennie did so, but there was no answer.Both became more and more excited every minute. Adeldegarb slowly rose from the fallen tree on which he was sitting, and as he did so his cap fell, lifted from his head in terror.He caught the flint even in the gloom and scintillation in a glare of flashlight of something on the ground on the otherside of the long log, and returned from him and Jennie only by a few feet at the same time his sight detected something of a gray shape almost ghostly which told the fact that a Glandellinian soldier was creeping upon them on his front as Indians used to do in their assaults upon the whites.

"Up quick Jennie"he screamed, and she never leaped so suddenly as she did in all her life, for she bounded several feet from the log with a childish scream as if the ground beneath her had suddenly become molten metal and she was going down through it.

There surely is nothing on the face of the earth which is held in such universal horror as a Glandellinian creeping upon you from behind, boy and girlscouts would rather take the chances with a rattlesnake, and the sight of the scoundrel sent a shiver of disgust and dread over every one that would experience this.Then both he and Jennie sat down upon the felled tree; he was probably almost near enough for the rascal to bury his bayonet into the lads body.The instinct of the lad told him somehow or other of the peril and that made him rise from the log and turn partly about.The boy and girl moved around the head of the fallen tree so as to place himself on the same side with the Glandellinian who had now risen to his feet, and the first feeling that comes over one in seeing a Glandellinian thus creeping upon you from behind is to shoot him down without mercy, and Adeldegarb did not wait long before yelding to his inclination.Standing less than a rod distant, he brought his gun to his shoulder, and sighted the head of the dirty scoundrel.The aim was true and the same head was shattered as though the cartridge had exploded explosed within it.The man pitched forward and lay still.

Jennie was too horrified to look, but Adeldegarb viewed the ruin he had wrought for a minute or so, and then said;

"Another narrow escape for us."

General Adeldegarb o worked almost like a slave to get his enormous force of Glandellinians through that portion of the woods to strike general Hanschs left flank on the rear. The advance was so terrific that he was fierce and not even sparing himself or his men.General Turner one of Adeldegarbes staff was a little puzzled by the generals pallen manner in his efforts probably being attribute it to the great generals personal distress at what had happened along the whole of Landys army at the battle of Lebanon.He had determined to himself rewin or crush general Hanschs rear or I'll die in the attempt. Hansch himself took no note of general Ba Garbes movements, and felt joyful in the commercibusness that he had done of general Clancys army for good and all. It was now about sixthirty in the evening and good prisons of general Clancys army were apparently giving up the struggle.Nothing would have pleased general Hansch better than to have seen his great struggle with the Glandellinian army still more disasterous for the Irish brigher. The movements of Adeldegarbes army was however going to be disasterous.Of course some parts of the christian positions had been fortified immediately with great trees put down for the purpose, lashed and even nailed together resting in triars and thron thorn barrels.Hansch earlier in the day had examined and approved of the work. It seemed to remove all possibility of danger. Under normal conditions and circumstances there could have been none. But Adeldegarbe was a writer of histories in his earlier day; he had learned by heart all movements of every general in any army ever written of and had studied very hard the peculiar movements of General Jackson at the battle of Chancellorsville. and was sure he could execute such a move against upon general Hanschs army.And too general Hanschs rear especially of the left flank was in a veridifficult and dangerous place, just where the Glandellinian column could come upon it in an assault fierce and strong, and it could be possible that the tearing up of the rear of that wing behind which floods of Glandellinians would be moving would soon sever that christian rear from the field with a force which would sweep through the whole victorious christian line so as if the christians didn't resist at all.Everything for Adeldegarbe depended on the first minute after the blow was really given and the line was shattered.If the torrent of Glandellinian troops he could carry before them the troops and lead them through the woods in another direction, in the main the Glandellinians would find an easy passage through the fields and woods and drive the christians before them as if they were sheep. But actually the position itself seemed strong enough to resist the torrent of Glandellinian advance without any likelihood of disaster. On the successful marshalling of the of the advancing Glandellinians against the christian rear depended every thing.And everything that could be done had been done.General Lane had accompanied general Adeldegarbe and so had Shoemanna and though usually pessimistic went about the advance smiling.General Bartlett also went with his own division and had done a highly creditable piece of work for the advance by prolonging the line in such an extent that the whole could by signals right about face, toward the christian line and advance in one long wave. The charge against the christian line was to be made at about the time they all came within sight of the christian rear.Before the move had been made Adeldegarbe had been busy in his tent going over the map of the locality for half an hour in preparation for the changes of the enemy line formations in the advance.Gangs of officers had been retouring

had been recently set ing from the other shattered battle front and he had signed it a number in code in his mind and memorized. He was aware that some of general Beauregard's divisions could not possibly arrive in the christian advance effort in time, and Maldegarbe had also discovered that the St. Marie interprise existed only upon that of the grounds of St Boniface Crossroads being recovered from the christians and the ... plantation plant altered when in fact and ... was withdrawn. It was about quarter to seven, the originated time for the advance to be started when he pushed his papers and the map aside and the advance was begun.

At the critical moment general Hanson had learned through the ... Bad Butter of general Maldegarbes design and he rode up the path ... that led toward the woods and the region to be ambushed. It ... later for he had neglected to set his own watch which by general Beauregarts own time clock, which never erred and not the time for the night of the expected advance. General Hanson had left the region of St Boniface behind him and was approaching the region of the Ste Marie from which he could hear the apparent "wild wide" hurricane of shouts from the advancing flood of Dandelinians in the woods already already ... forward to the guage. When he was 3 miles ... the little ... scout or advisortory scout riding along the road toward him, having returned from a scouting tour and had evidently been in the Ste Marie section, and he expected to see what lurk the enemy was up to the last was harter with the descending. Short of the wooded section of the river, on one hand and a completely ... overgrown with young spruce and pine upon the other, the position was an embracing one in view of the fact that the christian general Hanson drew rein and ... to the left ... rest for the moment while ... on top of his tent and was watching the trotting horse now swiftly ... and wondering whether he ought to ... a sign of recognition. When he was almost thrown off his horse which fell by a sudden strong vibration of the ground followed by a prolonged dull thundering roar that grew into an infernal crescendo and rolled away, seemingly into the air and ... ground in a prolonged reverberation only to ... range into a wilder more continuous burst, and in that direction there seemed to be a long line of volcanic eruptions. The officers in charge of the ... had seen the Dandelinian advance and had let go bit with all artillery. General Hanson saw the little girls horse rear, carvet, and then hit by a fragment of shot and indamed by pain and fear, and by shells exploding like mad thunder overhead leaped wildly forward. An instant later it became clear that it was no longer under control. The terrified and wounded animal bolted at full speed along the road trard him while the rider ... obtained her seat and pulled with all her might but unavailingly on rein and snaffle. She was on a of the most practiced horsegirls for none could have retained her no seat when the horse went rearing backwards, but no amount of skill could avail unless the beast were got under ... trod before the downhill into the region of impending danger was reached. The horse plunged directly in the direction of the advancing foe.

There was a sort of field gate across the road which general Hanson had closed. Flung over this it would be a miracle if the little girl escaped with her life, and a large locse stone projecting from a ... of the foot, and the gorge of Vanfum river below with its projectile force and boiling foaming stream with tossing trees and logs would receive her.

General Hanson made his decision in an instant, made it with the ... of the successful escape of the enemy in his sais, and the crazy ear-splitting thunder of hundreds of cannon, the crash of shells tearing ... earth and heaven, the noise of receding rifle fire on the christian side and other battle sounds rebounding from and buffeting one another into a wild insane uproar that a million volumes could not describe to miss the bride. would be instant death for both he and the child and there was no room in the narrow way in which to point himself for a spring and to stop the runaway by reason of his own horse. Sidesids could not be as the road was only wide enough for single file. Therefore he jumped himself directly in the course of the maddened animal whose hoofs ch ... up a shower of sparks.

"Please hold your seat," he shouted to the girl.

For one ... he saw her, pale with frightened eyes but fire in the saddle still pulling desperately against the court gi while the ... mouth distorted by the bit and chain that pressed the unfortunate foamsand the white of the eyes showed dangerously beneath the rare FLAT with the head. Then with another crash of shells close by Hanson saw the horse rear, and the ... shed no hoofs upriss. Then somehow he caught the reins, and leaped for the shelving bank, but missed because of the concussion of a shell that vibrated the ground ground. He lost his foothold, but he clung to the reins, while the horse plunged and reared reared, each jerky almost tearing his arms from their sockets. For one ... he was ... against the branches of the trees that overhung overhung the road, and blinded by the switching twigs and boughs, now the precipice was under him and the roar below, amid the din of the dandelinians yells as they rushed on victoriously and battered their way and carried all before them to and twaid the main christian rear. He saw the little girl still clinging to the saddle, then to the beast mane, he tried to reach her with his arms but he could not stop the bolting animal, and then a solid shot from somewhere hit the animal right in the belly, and the riderless horse fell into the gorge below. General Hanson must have been stunned sure by the noise than anything else for a few minutes, for when he opened his eyes he found himself lying upon a ledge a little distance from the top of the bank. On the same ledge and on top of him crouching ... a portion of the horses hid for, while Jennie Turner was clinging to a sapling that overhung the river and trying to stay while shots were whistling dangerously all around they but never hitting ... the trees.. the period of unconsciousness could not have lasted more

than an infinitesimal space of time for in the distance ... general Hanson could still hear the roar of the rear guard battle dying away (not out) in into the distance as if a ... ... He scrambled to his feet to find that in spite of painful bruises he was unhurt. He gave Jennie his hands and pulled her out of the branches, and they stood looking at each other.

"Your horse must have been a new sort as it bolted at the crash of our cannons." explained the general. "I am sorry you did not know about the extreme danger of coming this way."

A little varied a ... prominence of fear came upon her face, and then it hardened and her blue eyes flashed angrily.

"You the chief general of all have saved my life" she cried in astonishment. "I have ... and for your cup ... times, I have ... ... thousand miles or more away from here, I wish I had never seen you or ... here. That Clancy will destroy you rather he's an dangerous as you are."

"There is no need to let that trouble you Miss Miss Turner," answered general Hanson stung by such a strange warning. "There's enough room in this country for both of us, and I'll fight it out as long as he will. If you will let me help you up this steep bank, no doubt you can find your way back to camp. Or perhaps I may permit you to ride to the lines with me on my horse. But I ... I am not going to let Dan Clancy win it ... if I can help it. I have enough troops to renew the battle to morrow. If I do not win to day and he hasn't."

His determination seemed to beat down her anger and fear of the Dandelinian army and of general Clancy. She looked at him with mere surprise and astonishment as if one the first time she had been face to face with great general Hanson, and he believe it was her request.

"Oh I ... I been you came way up have your Excellency. Why did you begin to play a part of the war here in such dangerous territory?" she whispered as if in terror.

"Suppose you let me first assist you up the bank Miss Turner before I answer your question. We can hardly discuss the matter here as we are liable to be under fire," said the general.

He stepped to assist her in her descension.

"I don't believe there is any need ... to answer me," she replied ... Perhaps she permitted him to push the dust and gravel ... her uniform and to give her his hand. They scrambled up the side of the ... and stood breathless upon the road again. As they general Hanson heard the crash of battle ... another portion of the rear, as if the christian troops were flung far from their strong ... position, and were toiling toward the inner position. The noise while not so loud seemed to fill the atmosphere with a hurricane of rattling and thundering sound drowning the rustling of the trees, the ... of the river. Jennie Turner turned and faced general Hanson.

"Well, your Excellency," she demanded.

"You'd better come along it's getting hot here too," he said as a shell exploded dangerously close and showered them with clouds of dirt and gravel, and he clasped the little girls hand in his as if to lead her toward the horse she rode and him for a moment ... at him in astonishment and ... Then the general handsome ... the look of fear come into her eyes again. He could not understand the cause of it nor why she fixed them upon him so imploringly like some hunted creature which had been brought to bay.

"It is too late," she whispered.

"Why, Miss Turner," he ... have misunderstood the situation as well as Clancy did ... perhaps but ..."

"I tell you it is too late. Maldegarbe has struck your rear a terrible terrible blow. Oh why could not some one have warned you before," she cried and suddenly broke into uncontrolled sobbing. "It is too late I tell you. You don't seem to understand. I thought you were really going to win ... I hate those Dandelinians he will have caused me the loss of my sister Francis ... year ago. Go to your army general please for Heavens sake. Do let me go please general. Look to your army or you'll meet with a terrible disaster."

And snatching her hand away, she ran still sobbing wildly down the road leaving general Hanson staring after her in uncontrollable dismay. He could not understand her strange meaning though indeed her last words still rang in his ears. He watched her as she fled through the trees like a hunted deer, she was out of his sight around the bend of the road almost in an instant, her shoulders heaving and her hands outstretched in blind panic before a hot. General Hanson heard the shouts of the christian troops still more plainly and the battle was raging most wildly in the woods, the noise of the enemy wild blasphemous cheers yells rising ... the ... of the very first widest battle. Then while he ... stunned after Jennie ... in wonder there came a sound louder than any he had ever heard during ... the battle before rivalling that of all the artillery fire itself in ... close portions of the battle before, as if a million thors and the big hammer ... big ... had changed upon a monstrous boiler twenty thousand feet high and ten miles long as if the very earth were rent ... in a stitched current. There was no need to wonder what had really occured. General Hanson began ... riding his horse fast speed down the road still far ahead of the west Jennie Turner. She glanced one over her shoulder saw him and plunging into a little ... to the right among the underbrush was followed by in the christian side of the forest.

But general Hanson did not heed her. His eyes were fixed ahead where the battle was raging so fiercely along his own rear. He urged the horse on faster and a stupendous scene went in before his eyes. The christian line was at first as if a mitte mighty barrier had stood for a half hour before the ... and seemed to give promise of arresting the enemy ... But behind it came another Dandelinian column. All the Dandelinian soldiery of Adolfe De Garbe column farther to the rear was sweeping onward an irresistible army, forging past all defensive positions. The clanking of many ... bayonets against each other as hundreds of thousands ... in a desperate hand to hand conflict was like battering ram against a wooden wall... Then swiftly as general Hanson still rode on he saw the picture to his dismay and horror disolve. The wall of christian soldiery recoiled in furie, and as if it was a column of ... clouds from grape and canister. Then all went before the Dandelinian

Violet, Joice and Angeline Vivian when they separated from their sisters and two or threeee companions on that dreadful bloody evening assumed a lefthand of meaning which was far from genuine. In fact they were not satisfied with the situation they were in.

"I don't agree with the way even Nature behaves."she said to her sisters as she stopped to examine her rifle."It's pretty hard to hit a Glandelinian soldier a quarter of a mile off in this gloom and to say he may be firing on friends and they are mistaking each other for enemies. But we ought to have been able to get to some portion of the Christian lines by now.I wonder if general Aeldegarbe did succeed in his flank attack, after alles."

Neither her two sisters couldn't find word to say anything.Violet turned her weapon over and over in her hand, looked down the barrel, tried the hammer and trigger to see if the rifle was still in good order, carefully examined the wind gauge and vernier sights and then with a sigh of relief said her rifle was still good.

"I'm afraid it was our fault for getting mixed up in the melee when the christian troops drove so hard at the enemy"Joice finally said with a sigh of her own"But it will never do to bemoaln about it now. This is nothing to what we have often been up against. We must try and get to the christian lines by to morrow morning."

"I'll say we must"added Angeline.

After going a short distance and using a flashlight they noticed they were going over a little parth which was not traveled much it was in fact the route which hunters had worn for themselves.

That is good nevertheless"said Violet"for it's much easiler traveling over a path as this is, than trampling among the trees where you would have to go three times as far as there is no need of and---ouch something hit me forehead it."

This sudden remark was caused by a protruding branch which just then caught Violet under the chin and almost lifted her off her feet... Violet and her two sisters were sensible enough to understand that their failure to reach any portion of the christian lines may be due to the fact that Aeldegarbe might have been successful in his plans, rant rather than any fault of their going in the wrong direction.

"That general Aeldegarbe"said Joice can a beat almost any good christian general out of his boots in battle---I never heard of such a thing as that sort of flank movement we overheard him planning till we reached a small history of that we called general Johnston Jackson or whatever do you call that American rebel general in English showed the whole world how it is done when he whipped the hell out of that army of 130,000 men under Hooker, Pooler or what do you call him, but then the rebel was an older man than him. I wish we could learn how to pronounce their names.Well nevertheless that Aeldegarbe was always smarter than any of the many Glandelinian generals, he is much older than Hanley or that Irish Doodle Bag Nancy, and he has recieved military training from the best military teachers in the Glandelinian country, while I never heard of such a thing as "doubling up" on an army"but if he did pull his general Hanemne left rear, he'll have Hanemne whole army down, and will cut through the line so fiercely that the rear of Hanemne left wing will never get over the flustering out---Hurrah."

A gray figure as if it was a ghostly something seemed to flit across their path in front of her that moment, and made for them though it offered the best chance for a shot at him that one could wish.

That "That is a Glandelinian coming for us.Said, Joice as the three stepped behind a tree.

"Now we'll see what we can do."muttered Angeline sighting at the approaching gray guest who seemed to be ridiculing their purpose at her purpose to reach him in the gloom with a bullet at such a distance..Angeline aimed with great care, pressed the trigger and then fired.The gray figure fired simultaneously but as the two sharp reports rang through the woods the gray figure fell to the ground, with his head torn in two.

"That's business"she exclaimed to her sisters with a thrill of pride "But why couldn't we shoot that way, when we were altogether.I understand what a situation we are in and had we no, than a second too late he'd have had one of us.And I thought I heard all Glandelinians had been given lessons in marksmanship."

They left the dead Glandelinian fool lay on the ground,but Joice secured his cartridge belt, searched his clothes to see if he had any papers in his possession, and then went on. The serious question which these three Vivian Girl princesses had been discussing with themselves ever since being alone was what they would do if they came upon Angelinian soldiers who would mistake them for enemies and open fire. And they were and are just as good shots as they.They had got so much confidence in their rifles as to really save themselves from these sharpshooters which they would have to use to defend themselves even against friends to save themselves, in these gloomy woods, through the shooting of the Glandelinians themselves or rather than some hope they would accidentally meet with the others. The conclusion that she and her two sisters reached was that it would be just as well if they and even christian soldiers did not meet. Excellency as was their rifles and as they were a "henry which shoots sixteen shots in sixteen seconds they could easily outshoot it with them, but then they didn't want to do it to no one but the enemy,but if they had to why they had to that's all. According they slung their guns over their shoulder in true sportsman fashion, and continued slowly along the path... until the greater part of the distance was past, when they came upon a fallen tree as Adelideh and Jenie had, at a convenient spot, and sat down for a rest. They had sat there only for a minute when they started up in no little surprise for the reverberating report of a rifle came from the direction of the limestone ledge(adelideh shooting the Glandelinian there) and they felt no doubt that it was meant as a signal to direct them and therefore they hurried along the path in that direction.

"They'll be worried almost to death about me"was Violet's thought,"and I wouldn't wonder if they'll start out to hunt me up."

Joice replied by firing her rifle in the air and shouting that she and her sisters were coming. She did not forget to place another cartridge in

her rifle for to tell the truth she and her two sisters were a little nervous over this lonely trip through the woods so full of peril. They listened and heard the answering shout of some one that sounded as if it was Aeldideh, and communication being thus established, Violet and her two sisters held their peace and hastened forward as best as it was possible in the dense gloom'(the boom)

"I hope we won't meet with any more Glandelinians now"said Angeline. "For I am in a hurry to join our comrades-----""

Could they believe their eyes.

She had hardly given expression to the wish, when a number of gray figures loomed up to sight directly ahead of them.

"They're a big swarm of Glandelinians as sure as I'm alive"said Angeline as she and her sisters threw themselves behind trees as hastily p as possible possible..."They must have heard my shouting and the shots.There's no getting away from that number unless we shoot clear and straight.In Heaven save us from missing, for if our guns fail us now it is all over. These dirty gray coated devils won't give us time to climb out of sight in a trees and we must shoot as we never did shoot before.""""""OOOWR

They were sure that they heard the threatening footsteps of these new enemies which might as well believe he had the youngsters in their power. The Glandelinians opened a peppering fire at once, so steady and fierce and so close that the three Vivian Girls didn't dare to move a hand or foot to even respond respond.And indeed it was hard to imagine a more trying situation than that of Violet, and her two sisters who while traveling along this little path in the woods, saw by the faint glare of distant fires what they realized to be the figure of uncounted Glandelinian soldiers.They would rather have met a dozen tigers or bears than to meet with these terrible Glandelinians in a pitchy darkwoods and waiting for them to move either forward or to retreat from the trees before running forward upon them.As brave as they were they shuddered with fear, but when the firing stopped for a moment, with a courage hardly to be expected in this case, Joice then drew up her rifle sighted as best as she could and fired point blank at the top speck of the gray figure when no more than two rods separated the two. The gray figure fired also simultaneously.It seemed impossible for both sides to miss even with such an unsteady aim, and Joices rifle was hit by the bullet and hurled violently from her hand, but she had hit the man himself for he yelled, but had she inflicted a mortaly wound. The enemy fire again burst as fierce as before, with but without waiting an unnecessary second Angeline returned the fire while Joice flung out the shell of the cartridge of the rifle which she managed to recover as it it had not gone very far and placed a new one in the breech.Her hands trembled so that she could hardly prevent herself from dropping it but indeed she succeeded far better than would have been expected.

Once more she raised her rifle, and the leaden missile was buried in a gray object which pitched forward on his face.The other Glandelinians did not stir and the armed girls were transfixed.What did it mean, they wondered.They were well aware they were Glandelinians for if their own side had fired upon them there would be flashes from the rifles held by dark objects and these looked like phantoms firing upon them in the dark.

"I'll try and get another Glandelinian and if that don't answer---"

From out of the gloom in front she discerned a gray figure advancing upon her from the rear.He was too close to be fired upon and she clubbed her rifle.He clubbed his too, and he being a man was the stronger and had at one swoop of his clubbed rifle disarmed her, but before he could recover from the momentum of his swing, she had in an instant as sudden as lightning or with the leap of a tiger, dashed at him with head lowered and drove a sharp dagger into his stomach.The man with a cruse and a groan staggered, and then plunged head first downward his gun going off in the fall.

"The path makes a sort of bend here, right there"said Joice."If we can escape by crawling on all flo fours we'll be all right.They'll be firing at right ahead and not down toward the ground.They may be only then wasting their lead, it's a desperate chance, but they'll have if as if we don't do it.Our friends will near the firing and come to our assistance.."

"But they might see us and---"

"Not with our purple uniforms.We have thrown off our gray you remember."

"But if they carry flashlights"protested Violet.

"He assured they can't use them and use their rifles at the same time, we must try it anyhow for if they do get hold of us we'll have to go again through some dreadful times.Come lets go."

Fortunately they made a successful effort of it and were quite a ways off when the firing stopped.Then from the gloom they discerned a dark figure advancing upon them, but a second glance showed it must be an Angelinian soldier, instead of a Glandelinian. But they would not chance it without being sure and they suddenly said)

"Advance no further sir untill we find out who you are.We have you covered."

"Hallo, are you the Princesses.What are you firing at?Why threaten to shoot me.I'm your friend John Evans."

The voice was his alright and a cheery one in spite of the peril such a cheery one that the courage of the three girls instantly came back and it may be said that they were never more glad in all their lives to see him again.

"We were fired on by scores of the Glandelinians over yonder and got away quite fours."

"Well I'm blessed glad to hear you got away for there isn't much fun in being hunted by the enemy when it is too gloomy to aim well. May I ask why you are seperated from the a other party and your sisters?Did you lose them or they lose you."?

"I told of the plan."

"I thought something was amiss. I can not even find my men I had with me and I'm afraid they are captured or shot by the enemy as we too had been assailed. Aeldideh I believe must be at the limestone hedge over yonder some place."I'm tel believe impatient for the others to come in."

"Then lets go."said Violet.

"I hope those Glandelinians don't follow us."said Joice.

Violet, and her two sisters were anxious to be rejoined to the other party once more, for the fact that they had been fired on so often was no proof that they were safe yet, and that the Glandelinians were not still in the neighborhood, as the path which they were able to retain without difficulty led by the limestone ledge, where the two seperated parties were to meet he and the three little girls had not gone far when they caught the glare of a flashlight which told them they were not far from the spot.

"Hello Adeldefob, and Jennie"are you there"cried Joice while yet a considerable distance off.

"Yes what made you so late!"was the impatient response and question.

"We were attacked too often and couldn't get back"said Violet, as she and her sisters and John Evans hurried forward, and the few minutes later joined the boy and Jennie, who had a large camp fire going but never the long screwhat shaded off so Glandelinians couldn't see it at a distance, and had broiled some of the food captured from the Glandelinians he and Jennie had shot down.

"Where's the others?"demanded Jennie as soon as she saw the four were without the rest.

"I cannot tell."said V iolet."We haven't seen them since we partied. "I'm getting worried."

"It's mighty queer any way you may loo at it; Catherine and her sisters and the others with her are almost the most prompt to sep any bargain they have made, and I haven't seen anything of them since we seperated. They ought to have been here the very first.."

"Have you signalled to them."?

"I and Dofob have fired off our guns and shouted and whaggled till our faces ached, and we haven't had the first show of an answer."

The manner in which these disheartening words were uttered showed that Jennie and the boy scout were ill at ease not so much over the continued absence of the other party, as from their utter silence.It was fully understood by all, that if anything ever happened to either one, they were to signal immediately to the others.Evans tory of his men missing increased the alarm. Neither the four Princesses, the boy or Evans had heard the rifles from the others though they might have been discharged without recognition by them because there was no much shooting here and there in the woods at scimes far, sometimes far that you couldn't cersern one from the other. Violet, and her two sisters had been forced to use their rifles against the Glandelinians so often and so long, that they could have mistaken the report very readily, while Adeldefob, and the other Princess were so far from the others that the sound of their gun mingled with the confusion of battle so far away could have been thought as one of those fired by one of the battlers.

Every few minutes they all halloed and whistled, after their favorite manner of military signalling, and then they all bent their heads and listened o for the answer, which came not, except all the distant firing. The broiled food remained untasted for their hunger was much gone and all of them refused to eat while the other party was missing.

"There's no use in talking"finally so exclaimed Joice unable to repress her uneasiness."Something has gone wrong with my sisters, and I'm bound to find out what it is.

It will be remembered when Catherine, Hettie and Daisy left their sisters with Sally and Boddie it was with the resolution to find out whether they could locate an outlet from the woods tward the christian lines by the route of the bridge across the stream,near where Jennie had been fired by Glandelinians.This forced them to make a much longer detour than did Adeldefob and Jennie, and as the five were obliged to move with great caution they found no time to sit down and rest. The more they reflected on the exploit the more did they doubt that they'd ever get out of the forest.

The more they reflected on the exploit which they thought of the more did they doubt they'd ever succeed.The Glandelinians were more dangerous and fought far more viciously than was ever their nature, and perils were far greater for any one every day.

"I suppose those Glandelinian rifles could hit a target more than three miles off as Adeldefob told us"but that is when they realize the exact distance"said Catherine.

"I doubt that more than anything." said hettie.

"Why?"

"Why you ask me! no person can hit an enemy a quarter of a mile away we have good range rifles and that is all the distance they hit.They must be long range rifles even if we'd hit an object over a mile by chance. These Glandelinians have proved unconsciously to us themselves that they can't shoot anything close to them even in this night darkened woods and it isn't probable he'd hit one of us even by accident, for such accidents don't happen unless it is a person that you don't want to hurt. They're good crackshots in the daytime, too good for our comfort, but in the gloomy woods, they can only rely on the bayonet."

"But we can't be over cautious"said Daisy. "We might find out whether it is true or not, and it is in accordance with their disposition to do so if it is possible. and you must remember too there are Grenadiers and they're are our main peril.If they ever hurl a grenade and throw with good aim we'll be found later half blown to pieces."

Hettie and Catherine realized this was a fact, and also realized that if any Glandelinians of the Grenadier type were in the neighborhood it was necessary to proceed with extreme caution not to surprise them or be surprised by them.The wonder was that none of these had yet been in the forest if they had they had not yet met with them at all.

The not night weather was well advanced when these three Vivian Girl Princesses with Sally and their sister, saw from their surroundings that they were close to the spot where the Glandelinian picket stood when Violet and Jennie fired at them with their long range rifles.There were the bodies of the Glandelinians but no groans came from them it was evident that that three of them were alive and seriously if not mortally wounded.

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There were however no other glandelinians visible. Just beyond was a huge pine tree which have been uprooted by some shell explosion as the fragments of an exploded shell could be seen scattered about. The roots were protruding upward and from the sides the earth was still clinging to them so that the bottom spread out as if it was being transformed into a huge fan. The base of the huge tree lay on the ground but the branching limbs supported the top to that extent, that it was raised five or six feet, from the ground. Consequently it sloped away in an incline from the crested summit, to the base... Of course such a sight is not unusual in any forest for it is the general fashion of trees to fall that way either before an explosion or a storm. But The five children were surprised by the evident fact that although the big pine was uprooted, as it is termed by the explosion of some random shell that must have fell at its base yet enough connection with the ground remained to afford nourishment, and to retain life within it..... ...

The five started tward it but had moved only a few yards, when a slight rustling in the undergrowth arrested their attention. Stopping short in some alarm they glanced about them, and with alarm amazement which can hardly be imagined,saw a long group of white or graywhite ghost like shapes gliding in single fashion tward them... They however were in a clump of underbrush, and evidently didn't see the three Vivian Girls, but the little girl Sally had a white dress and yellow waist on which easily shows in the gloom and they evidently saw that. Their position was such that they were dangerously close to the children, and it was a remarkable thing that they didn't detect the four others despite the fact that they saw the white figure.

The sight was so unexpected however for both sides that they were all taken aback and had a spasm of that nervious feeling which sometimes seizes the inexperienced marines when they both meet a dangerous game and have left their rifles behind and only had short range pistols. Both sides opened fire at once, and unfortunately both poor Sally and boddy recieved their death wounds from six bullets apiece, while the Glandelinians lost ten of their number before the momentary firing ceased. nowing that enraged at their loss the Glandelinians would rush forward, Catherine having emptied her rifle drew her long range pistol and opened fire. again.Catherine shook as if she had a chill, it was impossible to control her nerves, but aiming as best as one could she fired the last cartridge from her rifle. Had the Glandelinians been able to aim as well as they could in the gloom the story about Hettie, Daisy and Catherine would end right here. Of course a bullet carried away Catherines hat, and another bored a hole through her dress below the knees without doing any injury and Daisy recieved a slight scratch in the hand.The Glandelinians were hit as often as the little girls fired, but the effect as not what they most ardently desired as there were so many Glandelinians. The remainder of the Glandelinians realizing the unerring aim of their unseen enemies in the gloom and realizing their uniforms because of gray were easily seen took refuge behind trees or stumps.

Then when the three Vivian Girls stopped firing because of this the result was amazing,to see.The Glandelinians were dare devil fellows and they charged for the three children at full speed firing as they ran and shouting;

"Surrender who ever you christian dogs are."

This seemed a most unusual thing for Glandelinians to do in a gloomy woods,when more dangerously exposed than their enemies though many a christian soldier has been shot to death by Glandelinians in the same situation, who have turned pon and assaulted them with the fury of enraged lions and other wild beasts.-Catherine Hettie and Daisy indeed thoughtblt it very singular, but indeed(you are in need) they thought it very alarming also and without waiting to watch matters any further and feeling sure the enemy couldn't hit them in the dark they fired once more and then turned on their heel and ran with might and main for the fallen tree tree..2

The lusty youngsters,, were good runners,, but the enemy being long lythe men made three times as much speed as they went for them still shouting"Stop you christian dogs and surrender who ever you are. Otherwise we'll give no quarter."

Catherine was about to answer when she stopped herself by realizing one signal word would enable the enemy to find out her location and bring her down with shots as they did Bobby and his sister, and too She and her two sisters had to think fast, but as fast as they thought they couldn't see how the fallen pine tree was to offer them refuge against the fury of these many Glandelinians, and unless it did so, they were in a bad precidament.

It was impossible to reach any tree in time to climb out of reach and sight,, sight, as Jennie did when persued twice by Glandelinians, and the highest portion of the prostrate trees would not protect them from the bayonets of the savage scoundrels. Had there been only a dozen there might be some wasy show but there seemed to be scores. There was no use for the empty rifles as it seemed, and the three Princesses were on the point of trying to stick their sheath knives into it to use like bayonets , when it occured to them that their rifles might still serve as weapons of defense.

They decided to clubbed their rifles and see what can be done. Catherine glanced over her shoulder to keep informed of the movements of her fierce foes who were certainly carrying things with a "hurricane rush." Finding that there was no escape away from the foremost of them Catherine and her two sisters just as they reached the fallen treeee whirled around, and grasping their rifles by the barel barrels swung the gun over their shoulders and poised themselves for the blow, which they believed must decide their own fate. The threeee girls made formidable pictures but it was all lost on the Glandelinians who however failed even then to see that their enemies had stopped on the dogensive, but who nevertheless did not slacken their pace but still continued to demand the "christian dogs" to surrender in the name of Glandelinians.....

It was a tr terrifying sight as the foremost of them plunged tward the three brave little golls, with fixed bayonets, and three of the Glandelinians were exceptionally large and powerful men who could lift a hundred pounds in weight with one hand, and they meant to slay the hidden christians that had slain so many of their commades. It may be said just here, that the three girls no longer doubted the failure of Glandelinian rifles hitting any one so often in the gloom, and the imperiled children drew deep breaths poised themselves on their advanced foot and swinging to one side with a view of avoiding the full force of the charge, they brought the heavy stock of their guns with the utmost of their little strength which they could command upon the nearest of the leaping gray figures and crashed in the skulls of three and down they fell dead. Catherine got then again descended with great power- so far as a ten year old girl is concerned--but it was not sufficient to throw the first strong man off his legs nor to interfere with his plan of action. He struck the girls rifle with tremendous force, sending the gun flying from her grasp, and hurling her against her sister's and the three were hurled a dozen feet or more by the impact of the blow and collision. Never in all their lives did the three Vivian Girl princesses recieved such a terrific shock which drove the breath from their little bodies and sent them spinning as it seemed over a hundred yards through space. Poor Catherine and her two sisters half believed their bones were smashed, and that they were mortally hurt, but the result of the strong man's blow was most extraordinary. As the butt of the enemy rifle hit Catherine's the was thrown against her sisters as if she was a limp dummy with her sisters tward the fallen tree, and in reality their greater peril was therefore. And they been given with full force against the solid trunk they would have been killed as if smitten from or by a lighting lighting stroke.

In their flight thr ough the air their feet also were entangled in some way or other together with one anothers and they fell headlong together simultaneously, Catherines head being a few inches of the bark and though her sisters flew over the tree and landed on the other side Catherine's head itself was driven under the tree which at that point was over a foot above the ground. Instinctively the nearly senseless little girl did the only thing that could save her... She immediately forced her way under the tree so that it was as a roof'(do boof) over her. Her head fortunately was tward the bark and she pushed along until the lessening space would not permit her to go further...

Thus she lay therefore, parallel with the uprooted tree, her feet at a point where the bark also at touched her heels, the space growing less and less tward her shoulders until the back of her head rested against the sharp bark and her nose touched the leaves..... She had scarcely done this when she heard the thud of bayonets at her elbow, and the curses and imprecations of the soldiers. The soldiers were trying to locate their fo christian enemies by prodding with their bayonets and they brought or forced them down near the tree with such force that had they struck the body of the child, as was intended they would have gone through her as if they were swords.... As it was not only did the sheilding tree tran prevent it, but the Glandelinians couldn't see where she or her sisters had gone in the dark, and sometimes grazing the bark the bayonets were driven into the yelding earth a foot deep.

"They must hav e escaped. "said one of the Glandelinians.

"They did not "said another. "It was the fault of "MR. STRONG MAN" over here. He had to thrust them away with a blow of his gun."

"Who were the fourth fugitives an yhow."

"Christian dog soldiers I suppose. They only do that. They must have had an escaped child slave with them."

Catherine heard the last of these words, and then her head seemed to spin, as though she had been whirled round and round with inconcievable speed, countless stars seemed to a dance before her eyes, the she felt as if if shooting through space than consciousness left her. The Glandelinians didn't know where the fugitives were, and had they known that one of them was under the tree she would have been secured easily enough and slain. They continued their search however one of them with a searchlight on the flare until they saw there was no use. Then they halted in their search. While one of them searched along the tree but failed to find any one. All this time Catherine, who had been so badly bruised as well as her sisters was oblivious to the efforts against her life, and that of her two sisters. Had she possessed her senses, she could not have done any thing more for her protection than she did by lying motionless as she extended along and below the trunk of the tree. But the last, rugged nature of the little girl soon asserted itself, and she began to rally from the shock.... Then a reaction [illegible] set in, and slowly her senses returned.

The Glandelinians even to make sure, prodded with the bayonet under the very tree, but their not doing it in the proper place prevented success which could have placed Catherine just where they could finish her. The tree barred their progress, and they even passed the spot under where she was lying. They searched and searched everywhere within the same spot trying all manner of maneuvers which their shrewd military means suggested but Thanks be to God none of them succeeded.

It wa wadwas a considerable time however before Catherine realized where she was, and what had befallen her. Her head was still ringing as though the clanging of a hundred n anvils were sounding in her ears and when she drew a deep breath, a severe pain as if made by fire was in her side. She wondered how badly wounded she was.. Then she listened but heard nothing of her enemies.. Then with a great labor and effort and more suffering she pushed herself a few inches backward so as to give some freedom to her little body and to enable her to move her head. Turning her face she peered out on her left, no gray figure was visible

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Then she did the same tward thevright, her enemies were invisible on that side also.

"I believe they're gone" said she to herself, still afraid to venture from the sheilding tree that had been the means of saving her from the fury of the enraged Glandelinians.. However she still believed the Glandelinians were still close at hand, waiting for her to make a move that would give give another chance to get at her with the bayonet or riddle her with bullets. After several more minutes, Catherine hitched farther to the rear so that she was able to raise her head a few inches. This extended her field of observation, and with a feeling of inexpressible relief, she still failed to catch sight of the Glandelinian soldiers..

"I believe they got discouraged and left." said Catherine, startled at the evidence of the wrath of the Glandelinians. Finally the little Princess blacked clear out from the tree under out, and climbed to her feet, it was climbing in every sense, for she nearly cried for pain for several minutes, and still fearful that she had been seriously if not mortally injured, she examined herself as best as she could.. A few minutes convinced her that none of her bones were broken although she after wards declared that she suspected her head had been fractured.

She not searched about for her rifle and found it within a short distance but it was useless having been shattered. Then she searched for her sisters and found them still lying on the ground and just beginning to come to. She managed to rouse them from their stupor and finally after they had recovered sufficiently the three t shouldering the two weapons they found uninjured started in the direction of the appointed rendez vous, and as they did so, observed that it was now darker than usual in the woods and that the atmosphere was quite scented of smoke. Catherine examined herwrist watch and found it was unharmed but it was too gloomy to s ee what time it was. Nevertheless they had a long distance to go.

But all of the Vivian Girl Princesses are full of grit, and are little dare devils of their own sort, and though every step they took as the three had been badly shaken by their being tossed, caused them pain they persevered with that grim resolution that was part of their nature from their verybirth..... After t limping for some distance they found the soreness and stiffness leaving them and they straightened up with a e something of their natural vim and elasticity of spirits...

"There's one thingcertain Daisy" Catherine said "We didn't have any one to help us out of that scrape except Our Blessed Lord who helps those who call upon Him for aid."

"Yes "said Daisy "and I never wanted His aid more than then, and if it hadn't been for that big pine you crawled under, as to told us we would been grieving at your funeral to morrow".

"There is another thing I have learned" Catherine added with that glimmer of h umor which was sure to showcitself in her "I understand considerable more than I did yesterday I have a good idea how it feels when some strong man hits your rifle with his ed and from the force of the blow raises us high into the air, and after this we mustn't go too close to any of them to fight hand to hand as we are too small and not so strong enough to fight Glandelinians at close quarters."

"Yes your right" Catherine" said Hettie" and and— Hallo."

The The reason she uttered that exclamation was that she came upon the dead bodies of the Glandelinians they had shotdown. The three girls stopped to search them for ammunition and Catherine secured the rifle of one of the dead soldiers and they were much impressed by the discovery.

"That came near being the end of both sides nothing but the tree saved us." said Daisy."

"I wonder if we are going right" said Catherine.

She raised her head from her own examination, and looked about her but she was without the means to jid judge whether she was following the proper direction or not (get a pot) Then leaving the scene of hthei encounter with the Glandelinians, they had indeed taken the course that seems seemed to be right without pausing until they could be certain of the matter. This is pretty sure in a majority of cases to lead to one astray but it so happened that the three girls headed in a beeline for the proposed meeting place, where the impatient others of her sisters and Adeledeb were awaiting them. There had been no use to search for Bobby and his sister for they were dead. There was no error in their going ahead either it was because the distance was much greater than they thought and they began to believe they had gone the wrong direction when the appearance of the camp fire which Adeledeb had indled was what led them to stop and make the best investigation they could..... The light was to their left, and there was nothing else that they could appeal to and they were in doubt as to whether that had not been flared up by a party of Glandelinian soldiers, but fortunately while the threeee little girls were debating the matter, one of them caught the faint but distant signal of Adeledeb, the was on the point of starting out to search for them. Catherine rolled,, and in the course of half an hour had joined her sisters and Adeledeb by the fire. They were relieved beyond measure to see the figure of the other little girls their own sisters as they emerged from the gloom, and seated themselves around the camp fire, but they were anxious and whated to know why Bobby w and Billie was not with them. They noticed too that the three little girls limped, and suspected something unusual must have occured to delay them. They had the most attentive of listeners when Catherine l related her dangerous encounter with the Glandelinians, and that of her two sisters with her which cost the lives of Bobby and Billie and almost cost so high ending t theirs. But happin happily the three had come out without without any serious injury, but they felt the loss of their two friends that they did not feel as if they could eat anything.

"The reason the Glandelinians did not find you under that tree, or where Daisy and Hettie lay was because it was so dark" said Violet.

"He was a mighty man to have forced the three of you to go flying up into the air the way you said he did, and that was very unusual" said

Angeline(ge out and d ine) who couldn't understand how such an incident could have happened.

"It's luky he struck your gun and not you"said Joive with a shiver. "But it seems strange how he raised you three that way by hitting your gun out of your hands.He must have been a hercules. an Everette True."

"Possibly so"answered Catherine butbut it sure did happen.I landed by the tree almost underneath head first, while my sistere Hettie and Daisy went clear over on the other side. They were unconscious longer than I was; and I'm surprised the Glandelinians didn't see them lying there."

"I don't believe we shall have much time to search for Sally and Bobby to give them a decent burial"said Jennie"For I believe we are in the most dangerous neighborhood and if the battle should come this way we'd then be into the frying pan from the frying pan into the fire."

Her sisters and Adeldefob turned to her for an explanation of that remark which was uttered with all seriousness.

"The rear guard action started by Adeldefobe had sounded very near for the very last hour, and I believe our own side is retreating this way.I'll bet Hansen'll be worsted.It is said you cannot thrash an Irishman either face to face or in battle."

"I believe he is a crazy fool to fight for Glandelinians cause." Observed Angeline.

"I didn't consider him of much account against Hansens lines untill he saved his army twice once in the morning and again in the afternoon from a disasterous defeat, and now after that I'm ready to believe he's got a good deal more sense than any glandelinian general is willing to admit."

Then Adeldefob told his story and added that he hoped most of the Glandelinians had by now left the neighborhood, and goe gone off at a great distance into the woods and that their exciting adventures with them for a while would be finished.

"There goes a glandelinian soldier now""suddenly exclaimed Jennie "Just watch out.If he sees us he'll have the advantage with his rifle and one of us will be dead."

The glandelinian disappeared out of sight however, and the good children listened attentively for some sound from other enemies but outside of the noise of distant battle all remained still.At the end of a few minutes more passed by a hundred it seemed this time but did not happen to notice the camp fire, while violet and her sisters and the boy had hidden themselvesbehind the trees.

"You can depend on it"said Violet"We ought to have made some discover descovery, though I have no idea what it is.Maybe they're batches of Glandelinians from the main army."

"Let's follow them on the sly and find out."

It was Catherine vivian who made the proposition.the others were inclined to hold back but the brave little girl insisted and it was agreed that these glandelinians may be up to something and it should be learned.....

Violet, and her sisters had scarcely agreed, to the proposition to follow these glandelinians,, when Adeldefob as if he understood their intention rose from the seat upon which he had been resting,, resting close to the camp fire glanced sharply out in the gloom(the boom of the surrounding forests,, and then move along the same course he had chosen several times,, before..... He did not trot as was expected but strode forward with A deliberate gait as if he felt the importance of being the leader of the party..

"Those Glandelinians must be up to something"said Jennie in an undertone "Or Dr Fob wouldn't go off that way in the ~~the ha~~ hard. lead."

"It's the glandelinians and sneaking of the rrear guard action upon general Hansens arcy, of course; see that your guns are, ready,, and when all of us fire we must see that we don't miss."warned Hettie.

"An idea suddenly occured to angeline vivian.....

"All the glandelinian soldiers are more afraid of fire than we are; t hate each form a tott torch and threaten to fire if the forest if they see us and move against us.The winds blowing from us and they'll believe we will do it and run."

"But to say that ondnot intend to would be telling an untruth which we neve never could think of"said violet.

"If they don't take the hint I intend to do the very thing." said angeline."If they would come at us in overwhelming numbers the torch sets the nearest tree alight so there."

The others therefore eagerly caught up a blittin blazing brand and strodes strode forward with more confidence than over. Each of the little girls found it a little uncomfortable and slightly tiresome to carry her load,,, and loaded cocked rifle in one hand and the flaming tottch torch inthe other. It cannot however be said there was any special difficulty in the leaves itself, but if the crisis came the children would have to surrender consider the weapons or set the fire as threatened. The young Princesses in their Violent uniforms formed a grotesque group in the gloom as they moved forward in single file each holding a flaring torch above her head while her gun was trailed in the other hand.Adelefob was at the head Joice.. next and the others still followed, and Catherine who still limped slightly brought up the rear....2.2..2.

However Adeldefob she e showed an intelligence which was surprising. He continued on a slow pace, so as not to leave his Princly friends, and now a and then looked back at them as if to make sure they were not trying to shrink from an important duty..2.2.

"Don't let your torches go out."called out Adeldefob, in a loud whisper as he swung his own so vigoriously that a large piece dropped off and falling on his foot caused him to leap up with an exclamanation of fright. as the shrubbery started ablaze.Violet with a flat piece of wood beat the little blaze out. The fact was they had gone more than a hundred feet from the camp fire, when Adeldefob began to feel that he had not shown enoughcare in selecting his torch, for the blze was feeble and in spite of continued nursing showed a tendency to collaspwe altogether.

"-eep

"eep

"eep close to me Princesses"he said waiting for violet,and her sisters to come nearer"For I do not like the way this torch is behaving I believe it is going out altogether and I believe I'll get a better-----"

"Look out there are a number of the Glandelinians now."exclaimed Violet in no little excitement."Look out they're coming."

As she uttered the warning words a shot came from some hidden spot and cut across violet's shoulder, and the force of the bullet at it hit her caused her to turn squarely about and then she for the moment dropped to the ground on her knee panting and moaning with pain.

"Are you hit violet."

"Yes I guess I am confound it.It's those glandelinians."

Just then a savage shout was heard, followed instantly by the sound of the hoofs of horses, and some unseen object in the gloom charged at violet, while Adeldefob was whirling his half expired torch around around his head with such swiftness that it made a ring of fire similiar to those w hich all boys delight to see during the pyrotechnic display on the Fourth of July. Adeldefob was so impressed with the importance of this action that he threw all his energy in it, stooping down and rising on his tip-toes with the action motion of the torch and grunting hard and with much regularity as he always did when exerting himself with unusual vigor. He caught the warning cry of violet, saw her slump to her knee when she was hit and heard the rattle of hoofs at the same instant.

"Shoot him shoot him before the darn thing rides her down."he shouted to her sisters for he had dropped his rifle in his excitemnt at her injury and who could not gain the view of the oncoming foe necessary to get in a pistol shot to stop it. The Vivian Girls at once opened fire, but the horse,though relieved of its rider continued on,in its wild fash dash and made for Violet full speed, who still kneeling was not aware of her danger danger untill too late. The only way she could save herself was to lie flat on her face and the beast went directly over her, and just as he did so Adelefob fired his pistol and the horse fell mixed up in brush and briars in great confusion while as another man and horse appeared they too were fired on and the horse in tumbling down the man rolled off rearward turning a full somersaunt and landing solidly on his head his gun g going off in the confusion and adding to it. As angeline threw down her torch from some distance off a blaze of rifle fire commenced but no one further fortunately were hit, and angeline prepared to use her rifle but she saw Violet's dilemma and waited to the chance to shoot the third assailant without danger of harming her, but the partial destruption of her wet torch and the total blotting out of Adeldefobs, rendered the danger still greater. while she stood with gun partly raised and hand on the trigger, Adeldefob fired his pistol and the Glandelinian assailant who had been about to cut violet with is with his sabre was shot in the head and he rolled off, but Angeline had not time to catch the fact, when from some where a long lance shot between her legs with such speed that she was thrown off her feet her gun going off as she fell, and then coming down on top of her breast butt first, hitting her a bad blow that knocked the breath out of her.

Joices torch was burning brightly and lighted up the whole scene . he she was in a stooping position holding her flaming brand so that she could see everything, and she was realizing the danger beyond measure. A Glandelinian s rode at her with a lance but she brought him down with a shot between the eyes..She had recognised the Glandelinians which they had held in such terror, as the Turnerannian type.There were quite a number of them and no doubtbpossessed undoubted courage, and yet even in the gloom only rego recognizing the purple uniforms couldn't see any thing else untill they were upon them, but the realization that they children in uniform only infuriated them the more.

"Well if that ain't the worst sight I ever saw"cursaned Joice."The dirty Scoodliars I'll--------"

At that instant Joice felt herself suddenly lifted into the air and found herselev herlsef on the back of a horse in frontof a graycoated soldier who was trying to grab her by the throat to strange her while with the other hand to use his pistol to dash her brains out. The astonished girl, almost strangled dropped her rifle and torch, and tried to scratch the mans,eyes out with her left hand while she grasped at his uniform to sustain herself against the peril, the nature of which she could hardly guess. The man still strangling her tried with the other hand holding the rifle to strike her in the front of her head, and as she was seated in reverse position on the horses back, he couldn't get to do it while despite his sta strangle hold she struggled with the fury of a wild tigress on a horse. The object which she grasped was the dagger hilt or beahard of the man, but before she could get that dagger out. a hot was heard, and which hit the animal, and it swerved so suddenly and reared so high into the air that both were thrown, the man flying head over heels,s and she landing against a tree ab and banging her head against the trunk hard enough to see a million stars..

Her body any hete where was not injured to one half the extent her feelings feelings were, while the other Glandelinians were roaring with their devilish shouts loud enough to be heard half a mile, and Joice hastily clambering upon her feet, and seeing the same Glandelinian who had recovered his feet lunging for her with his sabre drawn drew her pistol and brought him down with a shot in the head.

The other Glandelinians seeing that who ever the party was they were assailing were getting the better of them despite their big numbers rede off hasilty into the woods.As soon as the Princesses found their rifles and restored two of the torches to a blaze, they loo ed at each other and gave way to their unrestrained feelings into a hearty laugh despite the experience for several minutes before they could recover their

speech. Never had a pompous expedition of several minutes however end ded more ignobly, they had started out to trail a few glandelinians, and unexpectedly were overturned by some of the glandelinian cavarly. It is sometimes thought that as cruel and savage as they are many of the Glandelinians no matter what sort they are possess a sense of the mos more humbuous, and it seemed as if some of the wounded Glandelinians enjoyed the strangeness of this enpounter, as much as did Adelefob and Violet, and her sisters but they when recovered by their comrades did not renew the assault.

Violet had had her wound examined by Adeldefob himselfwho was well acquainted with doctoring, but he pronounced it a mere no account scratch though it was a painful and deep one, and after binding it up they pro ceeded about their business.

"Those Glandelinians al de almost put it over on us that time girls"said Adelefob.

"Yes and I tell you there is a good deal more in the heads of those dr dreadful Glandelinians than any of us may imagine"said Joice, after she had examined her rifle"I believe those Glandelinians wantewhom we followed wanted us to believe there was some sort of game out there so as to play th them fool with us."

"Do you believe they forsaw the scheme of the Squadron of Glandelinian cavarly"demanded Jennie, who was rubbing her bruises elbows and legs.

"That would have been impossible I'm surefor we could not have forseen it ourselves if we had arranged the schemethey simply meant to mislead us into a trap, and then we acted the fools for their amusement.They'd give anything to destroy us if they had the chance. Our desctr destruction is said to be the downfall of the Cause , that is if it is only a mere saying."

It often seemed as if Joice was frequently correct in this supposition and that the Glandelinians enjoyed even more than they believed the whole scheme they may have played upon them.

"I suppose there are big forces of them going through the woods. "said Hettie"trying to capture all christian troops who may be sheltered in the woods or retreating through it."

"Yes, but lots of them have been doing so much running that they may be parts of Adelegarbes army"added Daisy"and if Adelegarbes does assault all of Hansons rear there will be trouble, for it doesn& doesn'e take long for a rear guard action to become savage."

"It did didn't take those Glandelinians long who attacked us I'm sure I observed Catherine, sitting down with care upon the ground.

"But how was it they were able to dash at us so suddenly."observed Violet.

"They may have spotted us because we had the lighted torches"said Angeline."Then they had no d trouble in doing as they pleased with us."

"But the Glandelinians go in droves, and you wouldn't be apt to find so much cavarly in the woods."

"There must have been immense forces of cavarly close by, for I am sure I heard them,but it's a little curious the whole force didn't assailt assail us, for Glandelinian cavarly can do more than infantry, and they have no reason to feel that only ten or twenty of their number was more than enough for us."

"I don't see the use in talking about it"remarked Joice who gently stepped her body to the other side so as to rest differently on the groand ground."I am sure I never was so almost strangled, and then so upset in all my life. If I'd been thrown harder, I believe I'd have gone through that crack."

"Nor were we."added Hettie."Glandelinians of the Scoodlier or 'urmerannian type are dangerous and most s avage soldiers, if an army of them finds its going to be assaulted by our army, the cavarly will place themselves on the outside with the infantry within so as to offer the best resistance to the christian or other cavarly infantry or whatever the assaulting force is and they will fight with the greatest and most vicious fury.The horses of the Glandelinian cavarly can run with almost express train speed, and they're afraid of no size of our own christian cavarly."

"How is that"asked Adelefob, who had shifted his own position with great care, but feeling interested in what the Vivian Girl Princess was telling.

"I suppose because they haven't any reason to be afraid. With those frightful strong lances they have, and with a strength like Samsons in their sru sturdy arms they can hold their own against six to their one.Believe me Glandelinian cavarly are dangerous."

"I suppose all the Glandelinian cavarly men are very strong Hettie?" continued Adelefob.

"So strong indeed thatbthey all could be prize fighters."

Adelefob glanced at her for a moment as if he thought she was telling a dream, then reached out his hand to Jennie for her to shake over the most astounding statement, which was was altogether too much for him to credit.. Jennie grasped the hand and wobbled it heartily, but said,

"It is as true as Gospels, Da fob. I and my sisters are well acquainted with Glandelinian cavarly and when Hettie tells you anything for truth you can take up your mind it is the truth and nothing else.

They now lay for a long time by the camp fire in conversation over the events of the early night, while Jennie gave Adelefob many wonderful facts concerning the various sorts of Glandelinian cavarly.But as night were on all having had yet no sleep began to feel terribly drowsy and believing there was no further danger of excitement, they all made ready for sleep in a dark spot. The attangements for ding thi doing this were not so perfect as they could wish, for they had no lie on the hard ground but this was the best that could be done, but it gave a great advantage to them nevertheless thatthe night was hot and quiet. Nevertheless they got along quite well until past midnight when there was no much confused noise in the woods as if the elements had gone wild that they al leaped to their feet with so much vigor that they all bumped each others heads.

However it was just the sound of battle much closer which was raging with desultory force all night long but still very severe. After being aroused they were standing by the stream when Jennie suddenly stopped talking and looked fixedly at a point a few yards away. Then she walked

slowly forward till she got behind a tree, without moving her gaze, and attentively scrutinized the distant part of the woods. Then without saying a o word she turned and beckoned to the others to approach. Violet and her sisters did as directed and also saw in the distance a very large force of Glandelinians moving forward.All agreed that it was that much expected divisions of Glandelinians under the rest of Adeldegarbes army, and being under such an able general could be considered the most dangerous and dreaded Glandelinians of all, and that they were moving slowly and cautiously to the southward, so that in point of fact violet and her sisters suspected that the christian and glandelinian armies must be changing relative positions, and that they dreaded by the new scene of things and by the still further off sound of battle that the enemy were on the upper hand. Also Adeldefob directed the at attention of violet in particular to the long wave of foes, and wondered what she thought of the matter.

"I'm afraid general Hanson is already whipped or being worsted."said she."I have such a feeling anyhow."

"He wouldn't stand such any nonsense as that."said Jennie, g rasping a overhanging branch to lift herself up to see better."

They then trotted off taking a direction leading almost directly back over the path they had followed the day before with the purpose to try and get out of these perilous woods.

"We'll have to be sure that the Glandelinians don't get ou on our trail now and must get out of here before it gets daylight."

"Yes for if they do get on our trail, I'll consider our days ended.For the Glandelinians now have a greater fury than they have ever shown among themselves yet.."

In fact all of the party acted as if anxious to get out of these embat tled woods, and they went on quite swiftly, and were soon so far off that those Glandelinian troops coming down the road were out of their sight sight. Adeldefob was in the lead, and Violet, and her sisters were hurrying after him. A few minutes later some of the nearest sound of the distant firing ceased abruptly, but the young refugees continued on their way following a long trail to or through the woods which was easy to travel.

"I wonder why that firing had stopped"said Angeline.

"I guess some section of the christian line has either got whipped, or whipped the assailants."was the rather unoriginal reply of Adelefob who was ready to give information whether reliable or not.....

"The Glandelinians themselves seem to have a way of doing things which is different from the Glandelin ians---hallo there goes the distant firing again and much louder and nearer this time."

The resounding sounds of rifle and oven artillery in a perfect prolonged clamor echoed through the forest, seemingly at a distance of more than a mile and a little to the east of south.

"I guess the Glandelinians are rallying or who ever got whipped."said Adelefob, starting into a trot, the others doing the same as they didn't want to be caught in the confusion of battle, ab and vsd very much doubting whether the Glan d elinians under Adelegarbe ever did get whipped in his life as no army had worsted him yet to their remembrance."

A short run was on and then they stoppse and listened, and they then being experienced at that could tell by the sound of the firing that both sides engaged in the fight were at a still still. If the christian general in charge of that section had been a regular fighting commander, this fct fact would have proven that he had brought the Glandelinian assailants at bay. ABE As respecting this "christian commander" it was uncertain whatt it would signify for at times the firing would lull almost to a stopping point and then every time renew to a redoubled fury, of sound. It did not ta, Adelefob or Violet and her sisters long to hurry over the intervening space as they did who wish to see the fight and yet not get too close to be caught in it in case one side or the other came on a retreat ,and then they came upon the scene, and saw it was the christians who were standing their ground by the very bridge and along the stream where Jennie recently had been twice freed by the Glandelinians, and the contest was raging with such fury and seemingly more fury than the vigor which both sides could have possedded possedd possessed and that neither side could drive the other from the position.The christian had artillery on the other side of the bridge and on one end and the artillery was in a position to continue a cross fire upon the enemy who tried to cross the structure. Yet thesnemy were five to one to the defensive line.

"They have held against five times their number, I do believe"exclaimed Adelefob pres ing ahead of the others in his excitement. The others also thought the indications pointed that way but warned him not to show or expose himself or get too close. The belief that they were close upon a new formation of the battle line threw them all into a flutter of excitement and they went slowly from tree to tree.They had to be careful in case one or the other side had to be repulsed or driven.Had they been on the christian rear they would not have needed to worry but they were on the rear of the foe.As had been stated it was seen that the christians were holding against five their number, but they had the artillery and the enemy didn't and violet and her sisters hoped they wouldn't cause the enemy too retreat too soon until they could get around the scene.

But there was no such change.

"A part of the christian line is retreating.They're retreating"whispered Adelefob, just as he caught his foot in a root and pitched forward.2

"Where?"

Adelefob recovered his hat, muttered something impatiently , and then glanced forward again, and found he was mistaken.The movement of troops was reinforcements instead.

"I thought they were retreating but they're reinforcements coming" replied Adelefob in more surprised tones.

Violet and her sisters hid behind one very large pine tree,scrut inising the movement of troops so closely that a cat could not have concealed itself from their view. The result was disheartening; it was after all the christians on a recoil.

Some of the Christian gunners say movements however behindthe big tree two guns were fired, a shell exploded in the branches and a solid shot struck agaihat the bark, showering them with splinters of bark and branches besides a "cloudburst"of pine needles.

"Goodnight what a aim."said Violet."

"We're fired on by friends too. said Jennie.

"Good thing the tree is so big."

An examination of the bark itself however failed to bring to view any scratching or abrasion that would have been made by a solid shot, and they believed the damage was in the upper section of the trees done by the exploding shell. A full branch as was down. The shell had hit b pretty high but too high to do any harm.

"Those gunners are pretty good hitters ain't they."s claimed Adelefob.

"Yes we'd better be going on we'll get hit sure."

They therefore wheeled about, and going the trail again, trotted to the northward.No shots followed that however as they were seen by the gunners who couldn't dare fire on any one so small and especially when they did see their minute and realized they had fired on children in purple. They even recognized them and had a horror of thinking what if that shell had hit and killed V iolet and her sisters.

"Now's glad the gunners are not far off you can make up your mind to that" said Hattie s'ill i all excitement"if we remain close together we'll find our way o t of the woods very soon....."

In fact the youthful girl showed such an interest to the sport of getting out of the battle and infested woods that she almost forgot the danger confronting her and her sisters.Had she stopped a moment to reflect she would have seen that now was the time for all to remain closer to gether together for never was there likely to be an occasion which would demonstrate more certainly than in union there is strength. Forgetful of that Violet believing her sisters were close behind sped forward so fast that in a brief time she vanished from view.Adelefob shouted to her not to hasten to fast, and so did her sisters, but she either didn't hear them or were not to be halted in that style, and she continued her flight with undiminished speed.

"Let's try to gain up with her"said Adelefob increasing his own speed, in which the others j joined him"She's so sprithly she can our outrun us all....."

"Which is a good thing??.?.?.?.."

"Why sofffff."

"As soon as she catches sight of the Glandelinians she will turn about and run back with might and main to warn us.Maybe that is her ~~tuttoo~~ purpose."

"I'm not so sure she could have the chance to do that."declared Jennie who began to fear there was more danger for violets rash move than they could have even suspected..

"Sh e is so anxious to see what the enemy is up to at times that she doesn't see the danger she is running into. The fight you had Catherine with the strong Glandelinians shows what even a very strong Glandelinian can do when he turns to fights his unknown assailants."

"ut violet will be sure to wait till we come up to her if see if she sees any glandelinians advancing her way."

"There is no telling what she will do, of course she is not the sort of gir l to lose her head, but nevertheless she is only a little girl as we are and she would be opposed to a bunch of men and therefore the only chance for her is that we may be close enough so that we can turn in and lend our aid to her."

"Then we had better hurry."

"Thereupon they all broke into a run again which they continued untill they were pretty well tired out. They could hear lots of firing at no great distance, and consequen ly were sure that was what Violet went to investigate and therefore she could not be so far off herself.

"Ifwe come upon any glanfelinians trying to do her harm we ought to be able to hold her enemies at bay untill she can come to us without much danger to ourselves---that is if we use any sort of care in aiming at the Glandelinians."

"Must must try and do that---my heavens listen."

At that instant they were startled by the unusual report of countless numbers of rifles at a nearer distance being answered by a greater fire in some other direction, the distance and direction leaving no doubt whatever that the battle was extending into the woods.Violet and her sisters turned deathly pale and something like a feeling of horror came over them at the belief that Violet, might be dangerously close to the battle line.The firing was heard so close that as they hastened forward again they expected to come upon the battle line and see violet in the greatest danger.

"Hallo what in the world does that mean?"

The question was caused by the sudden appearance of the first of retreating soldiers, one who had his head in a bandage and was limping tward them in a panicof terror. At every leap he uttered a groan, which was of pain and fear.Adelefob and V iolets sisters stopped, and the man coming nearer fell to the ground whinning and moaning.He was an Angelinian officer/

"He is badly hurt."said Angeline, who noticed that he was bleeding from a wound in the log head and shoulder where not bullets but the sabre of some enemy cavarly man had struck him with bad results. Whether his wo nds were mortal or not they couldn't tell.

"How did you come to get hit?"said Jolco stooping over the fallen man and trying to giving him a soothing draught of brandy.

"It was done by a Glandelinian cavarly man"said he between gasps."and he hit me a hard blow indeed.I shouldn't wonder if I'll die."

"You are badly hurt sir but I don't believe you' re going to die."

They were still trying to comfort the man when this said all the din they heard a report which they well new was V iolet's rifle this time.Adelefob and her sisters started up and stared in the direction

whence came the sound and which was repeated again and again...2

"She has seen the Glandelinians....."

Just then the voice of Violet was heard ringing through the forest ac arches,!

"Help please help.quicksand has got me help.hurry up sisters the fools drove me into a bog and ran away to leave me die.hurry up or I am a gonar."

Adelefob and Violets sisters dashed forward excited and fearful they would be too late. The voice of the imperiled Princess rang out again. "Quick quick..The quicksand has got me sure.Hurry sisters.Hurry Adelefob for pitys sake I'm going down fast."

The next instant Adelefob and Violet 's sisters came upon an extraordinary scene. Before this violet had been set upon by a huge party of the enemy and as she had ran with might and main across a little stream for a large and high tree but in going into the stream where the water had been less than two inches deep she had got caught into a yellow sandy quagmire and the Glandelinians believing she would perish anyhow and hoping so didn't either bother to capture her or rescue her but went away to join their comrades who were on the search. Had she went only a few steps further she would have got across the stream safely, but she had not had time to think of that. Glandelinians were still within sight and while Adelefob and two of the Vivian Girls went forth with the ropes they always carry in their napsacks, the others went behind trees to cover them in case they were attacked. Violet not seeing them come still emitted her ringing cries for help which had a cry of despair in the sound this time, but they went with great haste to her rescue.Darting to a tree close to the dangerous quagmire of sand, and opposite that where Violet was already in beyond her waist, Adelefob cast her a line calling to her to grasp it firmly while joice threw her another so that she help two ropes by which in nearly a half a minutes time they had her safely on land again but dripping wet and covered with the slimy ooze.

The Glandelinians had seen the rescue and though they might have admired the scene in one way or regretted it it is hard to tell it was determined however by them that the party would not be able to escape, and they rushed forward with such speed that there can be little doubt that they would have caught the party of children, had not those hiding behind the trees been so prompt to rush to their rescue. They were no impressed by the danger, that they mised their rifles together and continued pumping away untill the rifles were empty, and they two of them continued to fire away with pistols while the others reloaded the rifles so that such a steady fire was continued that the foremost of the Glandelinians appalsed appalled by their awful loss so suddenly reeled and recoiled. But although the aim was deliberate as it should have been, yet they had brought down a Glandelinian for every shot, and had not missed a one.After recoiling the Glandelinians rallied and stopped short rallied and then in greater numbers made straight for those behind the trees trying to circle so as to get around their rear, and firing heavily as they did so.

"Scatter and c limb a tree."called out Adelefob, who saw they had no chance to reload.

"Now was the time for " iolet to recover, and reload her gun, and ta e a shot at the leader of the Glandelinians, so as to cause confusion and draw the rest of the foe off from their hot pursuit of Adelefob and the others, and indeed from behind another tree she continued her shots so steadily, that the panic stricken Glandelinians could not realize where the new danger came from, but while some retreated in wild panic the others continued on after Violets sisters, while Adelefob brought down a Glandelinian captian. Jennie whirled about to grasp for a branch of a high pine tree but caught her foot in an obstruction and fell violently violently to the ground.Joice and Angeline were so alarmed that they stopped to help her up while the rest of the girls reopened fire with pistols.

"I'm all right "said J onnie"Look out forselves .I'll escape."

"But her sisters could not desert th her, untill assured she was not mangled by the fall,and by that time the Glandelinians were too close to them so that they would not have the time to escape by climbing a tree.

It sure did seem as if.it would go ill with them all for no gun of the party was loaded, and the Glandelinians were almost upon them, when most providentially but unexpectedly, Adelefob had found a grenade in his coat pocket and this he threw and it exploded with terrific force among the Glandelinians bringing down every one of them who were so close to V iolet's sisters while Violet herself reloaded her rifle again and again firing on the other Glandelinians, and so great was the havoc even from the firing of one girl and the exploding of the grenade that the remainder of the Glandelinians fled panic stricken from the scene and to cover.

"Are any of my sisters hurt?"

"It was the voice of their plucky sister Violey, who hurried forward with anxous anxious face, the smoking rifle in her hands. followed by Adelefob alongside her.Then a general explanation followed.

Although Violet couldn't hardly see how it was there was no doubt that she must have fired her rifle and pistol machine gun fashion and that she and the grenade thrown by Adelefob scared the assailants more than the resistance of her sisters had done.They had come to rescue violet from the quicksand and after that it had been her turn to rescue them. She however had what is called a "pumping rifle" the sort of rifle that has a revolving chamber as that from in a pistol but which holds many more cartridges and which takes no time whatever to reload. he did the firing Adelefob did the reloading while she then worked at her pistol..This too place so near the cabin home of the lady one of them had witnessed or who had visited with her children that she too had heard the cries for help but had come up just when it was all over for now at this spot there were no more glandelinians in sight.

Mind you a goodly swarm of well armed Glandelinians routed by a mere handful of little girls, and one boy. Adelefob and her sisters overwhelmed Violet with thanks, and though she modestly disclaimed her right for all the credit---expressing her belief that she had as much to rescue them as as much a right to give them the credit for rescuing her as she they had for her rescuing them, yet they would not listen to it, and Adelefob said he was with the greatest little heroines the world ever heard of.

"We better be going though"said Joice"These are not the only Glandelinian soldiers in the woods,and they'll soon come to revenge what we did to them in this terrific fight to save you Violet.go let's get going."

"She thought so too, and shouldering their rifles they started on for the main road. Adelefob proposed that they should go by a short cut to examine the battle situation, but they this time decline to do so untill they were out of the dangerous forest.

The tale of the great battle of Lebanon as recited in the foregoing chapter is necessarily as best best at it could have been written.Yet it is but a birds eye view of one of the most destructive, if indeed not the most terrible battle calamities that hit both sides simultaneously that both armies tortured each other with, and that had ever g raged since the war commenced. As the battle is still raging though on its conclusion it is hard to say what its outcome is untill we go through a portion of the following chapter, but it must needs be said Clancy,so far has the upper hand hand has the four aces. The actual loss of life will never be given.The most conservative estimates of thedestruction of the armies wrought in twenty f our hours time,which followed during the whole of the throes of bloody b attle especially along the whole of the christian line assaulted by generals Reggio and Messinia, and the positions on the Ste Marie, and St Boniface Crossroads, where it raged the hottest, stagger the human mind to comprehend. It is a catastrophe for both sides combined before which all civilization will stand aghast when the news comes out.

"It can be said that general Hanson in this disasterous and vicous victous battle lost more of his men in dead and wounded, than the allies and Central powers combined in the four years of battles in the whole World War-----the most deadly combat in true modern history.General San Francisco's loss of life in his own troops, when christian counter assaults and artillery fire met his onslaught was insi nificant in com parison to general Hansons loss on his Central line, where the Glandelinian artillery fire demolished the G arden spot of Ben Lebanon town during the evening horror of the great and herculean battle.

The destruction of Glandelinian troops at Cedermine and Evangeline St Clare put together was hardly one hundredth part as great in the sacrifice of human life as was this dreadful battle cataclysmwhich will soon in this story because of its outcome fill the whole nation with sorrow.It is to be a picture of tragic pathos before which all civilization would stand in tearful, and yet in fascinated awe.

As the tidings of the dreadful night squabbles came in to general Hanson, many item of interest became manifest and certain variations in the yearly tidings were made.At first for instance, it was reported to him reported to him that terrible radical changes had been made within his rear lines by the violence of general Adelegarbes onslaught, the line of battle was demolished in some places, and shattered to fragments in others,and that at a point on the woods(where Violet and her sisters were having their adventures) great Glandelinian forces were pouring through to crush him if possible. It was also reported that his whole battle line had greatly changed. As Hanson rode up to view the scene of battle on his rear much closer one of the generals rode up to him all excited and said

"Your Excellency The battle on our rear is awfulwful.I happened to be present to at this evening at the rerguard of the great column of troops under general Benjiman in the Via Garibaldi woods, and the storm of battle there had a most startling climax..The christian front of our rear was the strongest and had been especially strengthened with artillery to resist assaults in that locality. Against the protests of the engineers the generals before the battle came the a there had insisted upon with drawing some of the artillery to sent to the front.The whole line had been badly torn up by the Glandelinian storm wave Your Excellency but it still is intact. A force of Glandelinian cavarly tried to ride through the christian line and several of the columns men and horses were all men and horses were were all shot down before they were repulsed.so far sir the Glandelinians have' not reached the position in their assault, but during the lull a certain portion of the troops more dangerously exposed were safely removed under artillery fire and brought to a stronger position. The enemy then came at us again, and they got possession of the front line trenches.A large force of Cravians, aided by a double line of cavarly slowly pressed the christians to the rear.Then I saw the main thing happen.Just after sight in the evening or night the Glandelinians succeeded in capturing another position.As I watched the scene there came suddenly the noise of a most terrific explosion, as if all the guns in the whole world fired shots at one time.The earth swayed and vibrated, a mine had exploded under the charging enemy, but nevertheless the survivors only maddened by their loss pressed on, and the christian line which had withstood the shock of the assault twice fell back amid a great crash of rifles and the ring of steel against steel and then the soldiers dropped their weapons and fled in terror..The position remained deserted for a few moments untill the savage efforts of two or three generals and many of the officers rallied the shamefaced troops.

Had a shock of the assault come a few minutes earlier the whole rear would have been swept out of shape and driven into panic."

Hanson and all his generals watched the dreadful scene. Over the positions in or on the christian rear [illegible] Glandelinian forces seemingly not meeting any resistance now from the christians.The Glandelinian forces had seemed to burst through all obstacles now, and "swept the christian burden"before it as a sea would hurl a swarm of logs into a torrent. Finlike the Glandelinian force began to spread in the advance and to strew the whole battlefield gray and purple with the awful number of dead and wounded fallen on both sides.General Hanson reached the waste place beside Kommans Hill. A group of disconcerted Angolinian officers on horse remained there impotently watching the ruin of the christian rear.General Tomaz Perry winkle stung almost to frenzy, raved at them for not doing something to stop the disaster but nobody seemed to understand a single word he said or what he was trying to say. General Hilary stonck rushed up to the scene within sight of Hanson but fell mortally wounded. When Hanson arrived upon the scene general Meldonia Greatheart who had been the one to bring brave Penrod to Abbisania spun round as if he was a jumping jack having been dismounted..The tears were streaming down his face. He tried to say a single word, but was unable to, and could only wave his hand toard the scene of the disaster, and toard the christian positions in the rear over which the glandelinians were now pressing on in a long wave, followed by a cavarly force moving in squadrons, and their horses hoofs making as much noise as all the wild rifle fire or rather adding intensely to the confusion of sound.

It was indeed to their idea the demolition and wreck of everything. There apparently could be no hope of recovering the lost positions in the rac face of that irresistible glandelinian advance untill the christian bat teries near Ste Marie could be brought to bear on the assailants to tear their waves to pieces and long before that time the whole of Hansons rear would be rolled up in the frightfullest confusion.Hanson looked on in embittered silence but with a determination never seen in his face.before. Some believed it might as well be for them to give up now and start the whole army on a retreat.The Glandelinian general Adelegarbe and even Nature had united to thwart Hanson and that Clancy was his overmatch in every way.

"I guess"said general Greatheart at last with a wry smile and the faint gleam of cynical humor in his blazing eyes"I guess this means that we'll be all on the retreat pretty soon."

"No it doesn't said Hanson with Irony."I'm not a retreating man.I w ouldn't retreat for eaten and his host let alone that crazy Irishmans. I'll restore that tear and I'D like to see who's going to stop me even now."

"What are you going to do then?" said Greatheart incredulously.

"We'll make a record cuting through the enemy lines this very evening" general Hanson gave answer" nd keep things going by main force untill we have stopped the enemy.I know general Ad Adelegarbe and I know how to play the checkerswith him." Then he wondered why he seemed to be talking non sense.

"With the Help of Our Blessed Lord, and His Holy Mother"uttered general Greatheart and gripped his hand hard" "I'll stand by you to the end' HE ADDED.

"There is going to be no end untill I've whipped that Irish fool" said Hanson."He's a disgrace to His own Nation to fight in the side of such a Devilish foe..."""AAZZ

Some other generals had rode up, and they had hurried down to the scene when the cas catastrophe occured.If they had lost their heads Hanson would have easily been worsted in this titanic struggle.But his generals did lose their heads after all, but which later was a sorry thing for the enemy. They gave orders excitedly to each other or advices rather and dashed off toard the scene in every every direction.Hansoncould not understand a word as they were too far away, but Greatheart started and glanced about him for life many educated christian generals he had the idea of getting a mans speech even at that distance.Evidently he had heard something that cheered even though it puzzled him.

"What is it?"asked Hanson.

"Where is general Jean Jacques" said General Greatheart.

"I do not comprehend where he is.He set off one of the mines to stop the rear guard movement of the enemy.Sylll!.....

"nothing"said General Greatheart, still glancing about him.2.2222222

General Hanson looked at him curiously but said no more. It was in his mind to order all his reserve troops to the attack on upon Adelegarbes own rear, but the distance was quite far, and yet he felt that this was no time to be finicky about descipline. There was no use in waiting and delay would be dangerous beyond mea measure.He began to push his way through the crowd of excited men and officers in the direction of his own signal post.He had not invited general Greatheart to accompany him but Greatheart was at his elbow when he went into the signal station followed him inside the room, and seated himself beside him while Hanson sent the signal to general Gell ordering to bring up his battoctes from Ste Marie and open upon the enemy with grape and canister who were assaulting in the rear. Then Hanson glanced at Greatheart with a whimsical smile.

"I guess I was talking something like rubbish just now general."he said.

"When your Excellency.?"

"When I spoke to you about a record cut through the enemys lines, and drawing things to a finish for Adelegarbe.This affair coming on the top of my big reverses along St Boniface's Roads and Ste Marie had ended me if no not already.I'm positively sure. I'm going to get the worst of it.Yet I hate to retreat.Do you believe I could signal for help from general Vivian my brother.If I could I'd renew the battle on new ground to morrow."

Greatheart scratched his chin but said nothing to this.

"To You see""said general Hanson" according to my own reckoning we shall not be able I'm afraid to cut down the onslaught of this here general De Carbe.I may be able to hold out till to morrow morning, but if I'd continue on then I'd be up against it.We need another general division of reinforcements to carry us through the morning if not the whole day till something comes for our best and we can cut through the

army on both sides of m ine. No other army is near enough to come up and aid me in such a situation or retain me in my record as an unbeaten general. There's seventeen million men coming to us from one of the armies but its too far to come up on time. Well say fifty million would carry me through this frightful scrabble, but where's it coming from. If my brother is really engaged at Ventura or St Etheldreda as I've heard he'll need all the troops he's got also."

"We have sixteen million reserves on our left and could get them up on time to cut General Adelegarbes army to pieces."said Greatheart.

"Perhaps so but how long would it be before we could get them here. It's quite a ways."

"Then we might as well give up the battle, write a note to Clancy we're licked and run away from him."said Greatheart.

"Yes I'll do that in my l sleep"retorted Hanson."

"As far as I can see."Greatheart blurted out;"You're about ten million shy your Excellency assuming things go fairly well. That's why I came here as you've got the reputation of a general never beaten by any foe. If you can retain that reputation now you'll be pretty good as Clancy is your equal. It is always the saying you've got to kill an Irishman or Irishman to him him in a fight. But you i see its this way. I've got my divisions they're still fresh. You can use that division to crush Adelegarbes purposes. It seems mighty unreasonable to me but now I'm glad--I sure am glad, I didn't go into action yet. Here's an opportunity. and as soon as I've got the troops into action I'm sure we can have Adelegarbe where we want him. As soon as we get my troops into action we can do wonders. I at first was not sure whether we'd need that division, and even if it was necessary we could send it in to the assault. Now I'm glad."

"General Greatheart"said Hanson "Are you crazy enough to suppose I'm going to take the division that you and general Pindernis have been saving for an emergency, and put it into this disasterous affair when we have lost the whole battle entirely already?"

"Oh Shucks"said general Greatheart"why that ain't nothing. I guess I know a good thingwhen I see one. I am loaning that division to your service your Excellency--at any rate you want to pay me."

"General Greatheart you're a fool."said Hanson trying to keep his voice steady."I'm tempted to give in. But I'm not going to take it."

"Then I guess I'll go on the next boat bound southward and home"shouted general Greatheart,"I ain't going to put my division in with a busted army what's going to leave me and my troops attended up here before a strong enemy during midwinter now drawing a single hope for victory And leaving my adopted son Penrod and his girlscout leaders and friends in such a danger zone without support. No sir. You take my division or I'll leave and command elsewhere. I guess you'll take it Your Excellency won't you for your countrys sake"he continued going to over to Hanson and laying his hand on his shoulder."It ain't so crazy as you believe. Your reserve army is close far away it will be three hours before it could get here to save your rear, mine is close at hand. It will give me an interest in getting even with general Adelegarbe, and I guess general Clarice will approve. and when the army is again on its legs why then you can still retain your reputation as an unbeaten general."

"General Greatheart your a trump."said general Hanson."I'll take it. Yes I'll take it because I know now that I'm going to succeed. We can't fail general Greatheart when we are in earnest as we are. Good Heavens what a despondent fool I almost became."

"Same here"said general Greatheart "I was just hopeless, till you made me see straight."

"Why it was you who made me see straight"said general Hanson.."Now general we'll push things hard from this very minute. We'll start in cutting the enemy through these woods, and we'll drive the Glandelinians through the woods get upon Adelegarbes rear, and we'll keep dupent and his own artillery busy in such action till everything turns out right Even if we make the battlefield look as if swept by a hurricane or tornado and general Wanke will soon understand when he gets the plan."

He stopped suddenly, and the w two generals hit by the same thought looked at each other.

"I wonder how in the world did general Adelegarbe get around to our rear!"said Hanson.

The two men rises and were l ke each other squarely in the eyes.

"Some spy must have given him the hint or the lay of the land"said Great heart.

"I wasn't reflecting on him getting information that way Greatheart. Though with regard to that you did mention in on the day we were going to move against the enemy that we had been watch out for Adelegarbe the most dangerous of all--"

"I understand what you mean Your Excellency."I said general Adelegarbe was the main one to watch out in any battle game for. So I was. Why shouldn't he be. who's going to frustrate his effort when that Glandelinian general studies in history every manouver of a general he come across and tries the same stunt. General Adelegarbe is the most dangerous foe we've got to contend against if I know Lane Glandelinian generals. I don't say honestly he's the best general the Glandelinian armies has but one of the best.. He's a George Washington on the Glandelinian side sir, he fights the way he's turned, and he's a fierce fighter through and through."

General Hanson felt somewhat ashamed of his suspicions. Yet remembering the day that Gertrude Angelina and Violet and her sisters had had some trouble with a lad called Ned Parker he could not wholly rid himself of them. and only that lad understands how Adelgarbe or Adeledegarbe could move around to assault his rear.

"General Greatheart"he said"what was it you heard when the Vivian Girls rebuked a certain boyscout called Ned Parker day after he was discharged?You smarted."

"Why I guess that wasn't nothing general."You know things are so bad that even the poor Princesses are a pt to get excited over trifles. Buth the lad did act mighty bad when one of them chided him for some sort of a nibbesance."

"What was it general."

"Jan [illegible] sir." [illegible] "Well [illegible] to be this way It was feared we had lost in some conflict with general Adelgarbe and played some [illegible] the vivian girls besides during the battle."

"Then for the first time the name of Jennie Turner came back to general Hanson."Look to your regiment to your rear. Yet struggle as he would her last words haunted him. It seemed impossible to associate that treachery with Ned Parker. He decided to have that boyscout captured at all costs.

As he stood this musing over his great and most grand success of his whole career in battle and had he had the christian left flank on the most disgraceful defeat and rout on all her record in all battles of history and war on the point of winning the most complete battle of the war for Clancy, general Adelegarbe's attention during the fire glared late evening was attracted by the actions of his generals some distance in front of him. He saw them looking toward the woods and following the direction of their eyes with his [illegible] saw an astonishing sight that fairly made his eyes bulge. some one must have notified one of his lieutenant generals at the same time for he came riding forward, and looked long and searchingly at the woods. In his loud voice this general Bellowedcommands and his staff rode fast to their respective commands as fast as horses could could go while one of the others rode forward ready to do his bidding. Immediately a portion of the advancing Glandelinian army was righted about face and thrown into position, while forward were pushed the captured christian artillery, and the example of all the commanders were or was followed. The astonishing sight was a apparent l, at that distance a long ribbon of apparent black moving objects and now it was increasing in size and coming rapidly nearer. No longer was it a ribbon form that had at first attracted their attention, but a great wave assumed formation ominious and black in the over deepening gloom. The wind that had been blowe blowing ceased suddenly as if it was awed itself.

A part of the Glandelinian army fell off from its advance and turned to stand ground. The silence that followed cast a spell of terror over some of the others. Violet and her sisters in a different and safer location also saw this charge, it b ing early morning. If these Glandelinian focls blanched before the thought of the great moving mass of black some [illegible] must be great indeed. Adeledegarbes army were of the Oracles. Violet and her sisters who saw this with Adelefob understood at first little of what this was. The sight however was fr [illegible] commanding.

Some one came up to where they were standing.

"When that lac passed"said a voice"there'll be few Glandelinian soldiers on Dangerous rear.

Adelefob turned and to their surprise he and Violet, and her sisters saw Jennie Turner looked looking down to the forest.

"You do not seem to be afraid of staying so close to this dangerous location."she said to them.

"Nor you"replied Adelefob."Why should we be afraid. Christians are afraid of nothing but sin."

"Look down at those Glandelinian generals. They do not seem to be afraid. They show no fear." Jennie Turner told him.

"Why?"Violet requested.

"They are overconfident that that now wave of christians will be repulse repulsed and swept away."Adelefob replied replied gravely.

"We are all sure of the opposite sense."said Jennie Turner.

"Wait and see to everything."said Adelefob.

"Why are you and Violet, and her sisters not afraid?" Jennie demanded."Are you so much braver than other Christians."There was no sarcasm in her tones.

"I am very much afraid of what will happen there."replied Adelefob. "Those are Greatheart's troops. I can see by the banner. Adelegarbes known little of Greatheart or his ways."

"But you or Violet, and her sisters do not show any fear."insisted Jennie Turner.

"That is the result of heredity and good training."Violet replied. The Glandelinian officers seem to show their fear whether they fight or not"she mused. "She spoke as one who was not afraid herself."Some dirty Glandelinian hounds boast much of their bravery."she continued as though saying this to herself and when reinforcements came against them even when they were victorious they show fear."There seemed to be much contempt in her voice."Lees"she cried."They're coming at the charge. My heavens listen to their derisive yells.."

The big wave of the Glandelinians Abbleanians was tearing toward the army of Adelegarbes now shrieking like a hurricane at its worst, and a noise also came as if a sea was lashed to fury. Shreds of cloud from bursting shrapnel whirled and twisted above, the angry wave in many knife. And then the "Storm"struck the Glandelinian front forcing it to recoil from the suddenness of the impact. That ensued then was appalling to even Violet, and her sisters and the two others who were even used to the sights of many bloody battles, over the chases of was watery mountains tumbling upon a rocky shore couldn't have made as much noise as the rolling drum fire of artillery and rifles, as the christian wave rushed at the Glandelinians like an angry sea lashed a wallowing ship,, the shrieking yells, the driving blinding fury of the onslaught, the terror stricken Glandelinians ar striving in vain to resist, no longer swaggering bullies as they usually were. Reeling, staggering, and then dribbling away into many dead and wounded the Glandelinian force within view recoiled. They could easily see general Adeledegarbe. He passed very close to them but did not see them. The face of the general was ashen. He passed by on horse as fast as the animal could gallop. Beyond them were other Glandelinian generals screaming orders that no one could hear, and four of them fell wounded or dead. Tward them Adeledegarbe made his way. Above the battle storm the Vivian Girl Princesses and the two others heard Adelegar Adeldegarbe screaming at the officers.

"Save our left. Save our left. "He cried."The Hangaboo divisions. Send them to repell the onslaught. Send them. Or the battle is lost. It's that crazy

General Greatheart and his army."

It was apparent to all of the little girls and the boy that no size of a Glandelinian division could save the army from defeat or survive in facing such an onrush even if it could have been rallied forward. General Gaid raced forward with a Division of Zimmermanians, and while he was putting these men into action and barking orders he fell shot through the head, and his troops wavered in confusion. General Gain tried to rally them but also fell. Soon the "Storm" was hurled back but after a fifteen minute lull a "mighty sea" of christian troops rose suddenly on a dangerous turning movement, it seemed in the still gloomy atmosphere of the battlefield to hang there for an instant as if in hesitation, and then with yells more frightful than those by as many demons rolled in upon the position from that quarter--countless numbers of rushing bayoneting slashing and clubbing men against dint clubbing enemies as if it was a pitiless insensate sea--rolling upon the Glandelinian army in the position.

Naught but a long line of Glandelinian machine gun batteries and field artillery and the vicious insane resistance of the Glandelinians showed that this second assault of the angry waves of human beings was too dangerous to withstand too long and just for ten minutes the Glandelinians fought desperately, and the whole line was like a ship straining and shuddering and battling for life.

"It is the end I believe"cried Jennie Turmer.

Some Glandelinian general screamed something as if he was a dumb brute in the agony of death. Violet and her sisters stood watching fascinated by the terrifying might of the christian onslaught. He saw the Glandelinian wave of resistance shrink to insignificance before that wild onslaught, and a slow smile crossed Adeledefob's face. However the resistance was so insanely maddened in its stubbornness that finally the christian wave receded, and the Glandelinian army opened fire anew but were not daring to counter charge. The smile left Adeledefobs face as his eyes saw the recession of the assault. The score of woods from which the christians issued was almost empty now. But where the battle had raged too many men to be counted lay dead or wounded. It was slowly beginning to be daylight now. Jennie Turmer clung tightly to Adeledefobs. "I did not think the Glandelinian army under Adeledegarbe could live through that." she said.

"Now I"said Adeledefob

"But you were not afraid that if worsted the Glandelinians on a retreat would come this way."You seem the only one who was not afraid. The faces of Violet and her sisters were white."

"Of what use was general De Garbos frantic efforts"said Adeledefob."did it save his army from the blows of the general Greatheart. He's a sledge hammer banging on a piece of wood. We haven't seen ah half the drama yet."

"Then you were afraid it'd happen but you did it."

he shrugged.

"Perhaps"he said."I do not understand what you mean by fear. I did not want to be involved in the confusion that might ensue if that is what you mean."

"Here comes another wave attack."cried violet shuddering, and pressing closer to him."I wonder what this will do?"

Adeledefobs arm tightened about the figure of the little girl. It was an unconscious gesture of the protective instinct of the male.

"Do not be afraid violet."he said.

"I am not."she replied."but I do not like it if the enemy would retreat our way. Up in the trees would be our only safty then."

At that instant the mighty christian wave of the third assault engulfed the Glandelinian columns in a titan throe, the assault came suddenly with renewed fury struck at a new angle--and the Glandelinian defensive line at this section although straining even to the minimum of reserves that had been necessary to give the Glandelinian troops good support and help them to resist the wild "human storm" gave way in great confusion. The left of the Glandelinian wave fell back and rolled toard the rear but this section did not head toard where violet and her sisters anf the two others were.

It seemed as if this portion of the Glandelinian army was in the same situation as a ship becoming a hopeless derelict. Above the uproar of the terrible confl conf.i conflict rose general Adelegarbes screamed commands.

"Send the cavarly to stop the route."he repeated like a trained parrot gone mad from terror. As though gated for the moment and worn out by their own exertions by meeting with reinforcements and the cavarly now opposed to them the christian assailants abated the assault, the fury of conflict died, the defeated Glandelinians were rallied, but else where the "great Beast" of christian troops rose and "rose and fell" against the Glandelinian position, and the Glandelinian troops under general Gandoh seemed as if engulfed by the assailants and certain destruction loomed. General Adeledegarbe still screaming(he had to because the din was so wild and terrific) rode closer to the scene dangerous as his movi move appeared to be. He found regiments by some miracle still clinging to the dead dearly bought positions. By dint of curses and blows with his sabre, and the threat of his pistol he gathered together some confused companies of Glandelinian troops, and forced them to defend a battery still hard pressed by the Abbieanian troops. At this spot there were fift fifty five thousand of them and their devils must have been with them and helped them through mi magical powers for they repulsed the christian wave charging upon the artillery, and got the region clear of christian soldiers withoutthe loss of a man. General Bohar Turmer was wounded for he had tried to prevent what seemed a suicidal act by bellowing orders at the soldiers in his front from a mound of earth and as he rode forward to enforce his command a solid shot shattered his leg. The murmerynian division under general Overcoater arived too late.

This general on his horse remained staring unbelievingly at the small number of troops trying to save general Turns battery from the angry seas of christian troops in seeming security, while the disabled disabled Glandelinian division under Turpo pounded by a heavy artillery fire from some unseen spot seemed doomed to destruction as it was a perfect walled up certain of artillery fire. From other sections where they had been brought up came the balance of Turns brigades, and when they saw Turns battery threatened they rent into action so fiercely that a mad panic followed among the christian assailants as the mad Glandelinian brutes fought with a fury that would have routed a number of well brigades of demons.

"Come"cried violet."We must hurry and get closer to see what will happen now. They're recoiling to the bridge."

She started to move toard the bridge road, but as a shell burst there with an earsplitting crash Jennie Turmer restrained her.

"Look at them will you."she said."We are safer at the mercy of a storm at sea, then going out there. It's suicide pure and simple."

Violet came then closer to Adeledefob. She saw countless number of men engaged in a man mad hand to hand fight or shooting each other at close range or stabbing one another. She saw an officer pistol an Angelinian soldier who tried to bayonet him. She saw a long swarm of men in gray rushing from a new point of the line in a mad effort to be in the conflict and drive the christians from the territory. She and her friends saw other brigades of Glandelinians coming forward from seemingly nowhere and of the christian assailants being crushed between them, and the troops in front--she saw the depths to which frenzy of fury can plunge the enraged Glandelinians when up to the highest fighting pitch as the Glandelinians being goodly successful deliberately rushed forward and overwhelmed the christian troops.

Standing behind trees the eight girls and Adeledefob watched the frantic efforts of the christian troops themselves in the open fields as they were rolled from the position. They saw one brigade overwhelmed by two brigades in gray and both torn to fragments in the conflictbthat followed. They heard the hoarse blasphemous oaths of the fierce enemy battling in a only for complete victory. Their cries were heard above the roaring of the battle and the shouts of the christian combatants as the christians reinforced by other troops began to return to the assault as though fearing the Glandelinians might escape their fury.

"We are in danger if we stay here much longer"said Violet."The enemy may be worsted yet and may come this way on their retreat."

"They won't be not so soon"said Jennie Turmer."I never seen men fight so stubbornly before. But let them come. I could not allow them to see us. There are many trees handy."

"But if they retreat this way there can be no hope for us."said Jennie Vivian/

"There is no more for them."replied Jennie Turmer"and at least we can climb up if that army of cutthroats do come."

"You are more afraid of our side than of the enemy."said Adeledefob.

"For one reason yes."

"Why should you fear them?"inquired violet."They are not our enemy."

"No but they might believe we are enemies in hiding and they'd get us more than the enemy could with their fire."

Adeledefob turned his eye quickly upon her and they were filled with surprise.

"That is so"he said"But somehow I had forgotten it. I did not believe they would believe we were enemies. It don't seem to be possible."

Holding to the stump Adeledefobs lips were close to violets ear as he sought to make himself heard above the battles roar. As a sea of troops struck the Glan staggering Glandelinian front a shell exploded close to the little party and its concussion threw Adeledefob forward so that his cheek touched the cheek of the little girl and as she turned her head his lips brushed hers. Each realized that it was an accident but did not regret it though the effect was now the less surprising. Adeledefob also felt the little girls body against his and consciousness of contact must have been reflected in his eyes as if he had been in contact with some little celestial being come down from heaven to watch the battle. Adeledefob saw excitement in her eyes but it gave him no pleasure. He imagined the treatement he and the little girls would recieve if captured by the enemy. But whatever thoughts were troubling his were submerged by the grim tragedy of the succeeding five minutes as another tremendous wave of christian troops the most gigantic that had yet assailed the army under Adeledegarbe hul hurled its countless numbers against the Glandelinian front with the most savage v fury. fury. To all it seemed indeed that this must tell the end since it was beyond conceiving that the torn up Glandelinian divisions could retain position much longer against such a furious assault that surged completely over the position almost to the very rear of them in one grand rush driving the enemy out in some confusion. But as the Abbieanian wave rolled on, they were soon again hurled out of the works by reinforcing enemy troops which struggled desperately against the invisibility of end fate and had the christians going once more on dire repulse and defeat. As the troops of the enemy slowly regained the positions from the receding christian troops who belched in fire, Adeledefob and the littlegirls were horrified by the discovery that the left winf wing of the enemy had been cut up and a column of troops was retreating toard them. That at this point the enemy must have been resisting overwhelming numbers, and that each succeeding wave that "broke over the position had added to the numbers affec affected them less than the understanding of the fact that it was beneath thisection of the battle line that the whole danger threatened. Desite Despite all this menance of thealmost helpless situation there had shown for Adeledegarbe a single bright ray of hope that should his line of troops t troops"weather the storm" he could continue his reguard acg rearguard action, but there was danger of that section of the beaten christian line rallying at the sudden delay, and that cltogether they might place his army between two fires, and fight their way through his army with savage fury, and therefore with the disasterous assaults upon his

own rear and the almost certain conclusion to be drawn from it he realized that it would indeed be a miracle if he could hold out against these christian assaulants much longer. In the meantime Violet and her sisters watched the progress of the havoc wrought by the christian attack, and Violet turned her face toward Adelofob.

"Those troops at first retreating toward us are rallying "she said."I'm sorry."

"Perhaps they believe our side is the loser now for sure."he said.

"And the whole of the enemy line seems to be rallying, something that we didn't expect to see."she continued."Look, look, notice how the Glandelinians do not recoil now but are moving forward."The christians must have been played out with their energy they showed--but I believe another such see of troops against the Glandelinian front will finish Adeledegarbes battle line."

For some time they watched the awful scene in silence each occupied with their own thoughts.The situation was such among the Glandelinian troops that it did not seem possible they might might be rallied sufficiently enough to avert the disaster of the next assault, yet each time the enemys front staggered only to successfully oppose a strong front to the fierce onslaughts.

"I believe the christian assaults are spending themselves"said Adeldefob with regret.

"The firing firing has died down and there has been no assault as the great one that tore up the enemys left wing"said Violet also regretfully."I'm afraid Benson is not going to win out out in this battle."

Indeed it seemed that the storm had passed.The assaults had diminished and some some onslaughts occasionally rolled heavil heavily upon the enemys lines, Adeldegarbe seemed temporarily relieved of the menace of immediate disaster.Adeldefob descended the rise of ground, and approached as near as he could.A single glance beyond showed that only he could have realized,the christian assaults were repulsed for sure.Countless numbers on both sides were dead.With a sigh he turned away, and returned to the eight girl heroines. Neither one questioned him for they could read in his demeanor the story of what his eyes had seen.

"You little girls and I are the only living creatures who have witnessed a battle so close"he said.

Violet waved a hand in a broad gesture that took in the scene about them.

"Doubtless we alone have seen this."she said."I see no other christian columns appearing nor the former coming again though there is still heavy firing somewhere."

"Adeledefob strained his eyes in the direction of the woods.

"Nor I"said he"but perhaps more troops are preparing for a new assault."

"She shook her head.

"I doubt it!""

"Our side has suferdi a heavy loss"said Adeldefob sadly."Besides so many of the Angelinian soldiers we have lost two generals.The enemy loss is heavier though.

Violet glanced up suddenly into his eyes.

"Ha " Hanson could never be defeat.The battle will go on "she said.

"But poor general Greatheart he got a terrible defeat."

"The assaulants were not his army."she said.

"What!"explained Aleldefob. "They were not Greathearts troops.But general Greathearts banner was there."

"It was not greathearts army"replied all the girls in unison.

"And the troops were not his at all."

"I should say not.He'd have thrown Adeldegarbe to the dogs."

"But they attacked with the fury of Greathearts men."

"Yes but they were not."

"I do not understand"said Adeldefob."Yet I am glad then that they were not.I could not understand how Adeldegarbe could have resisted so often had Greatheart commanded that appalling line of troops."

"You thought they were Greathearts troops but they were not."said Jennie Turner

"I still do not understand."said Adeledefob"Yet I am glad the enemy was not driven toard us, for if we were on the christian rear we'd might have been save safer.Yet I cannot understand how it could not be general Greathearts army.I suppose the general must have been delayed.When the Storm broke upon Adeledegarbes army I thought sure it was Greathearts army starting the assault, but now I should have known better for his troops wear red designs on their purple uniforms identical with Greathearts division yet if these Glandelinians would have been driven in a rout and retreated our way and we didn't escape in time they would havekilled us for spying round on their rear and besides defeated Glandelinians are murderous beyond measure and would comitt the worst sort of massacres when defeated in a battle."

"Didn't general Greatp Greatheart propose to assault Adeldegarbe."

"Not that we ever heard of as we were in these woods all night .He would nothave failed I'm sure if he did."

Adeldefob felt a distinct sense of relief that Greatheart had not been engaged in thispart of the battle, but why this should be he did not know nor did he perhaps to give ways to his feelings.

"For our own safty here I'm glad it wasn't he."he said again.

"But why!"Jennie turner demanded.

"We can watch here as long as possible and see what next move the enemy will attempt."

"We did not observe anything before. And its getting lighter now."

He hesitated and then he laughed.

"I was not sure whether we could find out anything or not"he said "but you reminded me that information is the necessary thing to be gotten against the enemy to cause his defeat."

"It has been a habit of all our christian girl spies to find out what the enemy has alt always been doing before or during, and even after a battle"explained Violet"Although that I understand the peril of such adventures especially from such a enemy as this.I felt no fear in any thing I attempted to accomplish."

"Whatever we may have been doing we must of necessity use the greatest caution."he told her.

"That will depend upon what the situation is."she told him.

The blue gray uniforms of the Glandelinian uniforms of those soldiers soldiers of the Christian type were reforming their lines some portions were going ahead now to try and follow up the advantages they had gained on both sides, and general Adeledegarbe was on were horseback giving orders. At that distance to Violet, and her sisters and the two women, through the haze caused by the firing it appeared as if the Glandelinians were retreating more than doing anything else, they changed into two big waves instead of remaining one.Thus it appeared to the silent little girls andthe boy who had hoped to see the enemy demolished by the christians and become like a drifting derelict but Aleledegarbe was still victorious.

Time was not even a word here for them for they gave no thought to that or anything else. They had forgotten to even eat but as there was still an ample supply in their provisions they gave no concern to that but they had been worried by the depletion of the christian armies as it was evident the battle was a losing one. They had not had time to sleep much for two nightles. Jennie turner had let her eyes wander over the whole scene of the activities in all localities and suddenly her gaze was caught, and held by something beside the battlegrounds elsewhere. She voiced a surprise and joyious cry, and she stooped pointing toard their own rear. Some distance off an approaching a ribbon of purple toard their own rear a long purple line that stretched away to their right and left and in other enclosing directions as far as eye could see in the woods but whether it was the Angelinians on the retreat or whether it was another force coming to attack from another direction they could not tell(Worth to ring the bell)

"I'll bet they're the troops retreating"said Adeledefob."How good it would look if they were coming this way."

The pleasant purple of their uniforms can really though wide savage Glandelinians in disguise."Jennie Turner reminded him."The only way we can be sure is that if they're really approaching this way and would be cautious as if preparing for a surprise attack....."

"But those are the dangers that we all know----it is the unknown dangers of these war torn woods I don't like.And I'm not of the woods."

"You have to be in the woods during a war.....!!"

"No"he replied replied "The boy" I do not hate the woods--I do not wish to be lost in the woods with the Glandelinians swarming through it. Butthere is something that I do understand, they're not enemies" and he app. pointed toard the troops.

There was in Adeldefobs tone something that caused the little girls,, to glance suddenly in the direction that he indicated.

"Abbieannian men , not Angelinian"she exclaimed.

"They're Greatheartsarmy I'll bet"said Adeldefob.

"There must be countless numbers of them in that line"she said.

"And there comes another column behind in another direction.Gracious we'd better be getting intosomeshelter.If the enemy sees them we'll be in a dangerous crossfire."

From another direction a immense column of troops were seen approaching .

"Look "cried Angeline."There are many more coming.The battle will renew again.Ashaw they stopped.../"

One after another twenty more or more columns of troops had been moving in a long wave through the woods toard them. Violet and her sisters examined their weapons..

"Do you believe we can repulse a thousand wave of Glandelinians with those!"asked Jennie turner.

"Adeldefob shook his head slowlier."If we cannot get into the high trees trees soon enough we'll have to fight through the ranks"he explained"and if nothing happens we can get among the others till we're free of the woods."

"But suppose they do not go "said Violet.

"Then we can do no more but our best"he said with conscious superiorty of one who felt the danger more than they.

"Perhaps Perhaps we can avoid such an encounter by going toard the advancing christians from tree to tree."suggested Jennie Turner.

"It wouldn't be a wise move either"said Adeldefob."They'll believe we are some of the enemy. Here approaches a scouting party in gray.Shall I fire at that big fellow riding a horse."Adeldefob raised his rifle and aimed but Violet laid a hand upon his arm.

"Don't do it"she begged."I'd'll bring fire upon us from both sides. Do not fire unless you must.Here comes a party of Abbieannians toard us. They have seen us."

"There came a hail from one of the officers of the Abbieannians.

"We are prepared for the doings of the Glandelinians children in purple"said the officer."You are the Vivian Girls I presume and am in dangerous territory. Aldiegarbes army is nearly a total wreck, and our troops are strong but if a battle rages between us here you'll meet your destruction! You are in a helpless situation.It has not always been thus.You'd better go away before we attack the enemy.Or come over to us and get through our lines."

"We cannot go away without being exposed to the enemy"replied replied Adeldefob."We are in a helpless situation It is true.Our food and water are nearly exhausted.Let us through your troops untill we can get free of the forests and return to outr our lines."

The officers turned and conversed with the others beside him.Presently he faced Adeldefob again.

"No "he said"You couldn't do that for I see you could or would expose yourse yourselves with the other to the enemy.The best to do is to let us come through and then you may go."

"No"said Adeldefob "we couldn't think of doing anything that way. We come nearer and be seen by the enemy and then what'll happen. I do not trust the enemy neither do you. If you would [illegible] yourselves and let us approach you on our hands and knees we could get there, and then our fate would not be [illegible]. We are not afraid of the enemy but we do not believe in suicide either."

"But [illegible] for it before the Glandelinians see you."

The officer laughed.

"You speak as if you were getting afraid of the enemy Princesses"he said. "Do you think we don't [illegible] Princesses!"

"But it would be suicide to attempt it."said Adeldefob.."There is fierce fighting in this locality the fiercest ever seen before, and if we did leave our hiding places we'd be [illegible] of the bloody storm."

Again the officers conferred and those in the little distance joined in the discussion.

"What in the world are you going to do then?"demanded the officer in charge.

"It's best to [illegible] crawl on our hands and knees"

"Who are you my boys"

"I am James Adeldefob King of Abbionian boyscouts. My father is general Concentrikin [illegible]"

"We are a [illegible] in Greathearts army under general Hollugidar"replied the officer. "[illegible] never heard of a "Leader of boy spies". And this little girl beside you is that Jennie Turner, I"

"Yes I sure am." Called Jennie.

"How did you come to be here? Are you helping the Princesses. General Hanson is searching all over for you."

"I will be with him directly as soon as we can get out of here. We need assistance here."

Again the officers conversed among themselves, some seeming to [illegible] one idea, some another.

"Do you know the name of the Glandelinian general in charge of the enemy force here?"finally demanded the leading officer addressing Jennie Turner.

"General Francis Adeldegarbe"she replied.

"Do you know [illegible] recently early this morning?"

[illegible] the little girls.

"We were about to see if you could tell us that very question."said Adeldefob.

"And Adeldegarbe is moving upon Hansons central front?"demanded the officer.

"No no upon his left flank"said Jennie Turner decidedly.

"When [illegible] couldn't recognize any of but christian generals"cried the officer. "Are you sure it wasn't under general Tapas [illegible]."

"The girls?"

"[illegible] really winning in this awful conflict"asked Violet.

"They are of course, Adeldegarbe's though holding out victoriously cannot stand it much longer. They're concentrating more and more upon [illegible] from front and rear."

Violet and her sisters voiced a low cry [illegible] of pleased [illegible] while Jennie clapped her hands in glee.

"We are winning after all"she said softly to herself. The [illegible] was a caress but the other soldiers were too far away to hear her.

"Come away before it is too [illegible]."they cried again. "The enemy is out of sight at this quarter."

Seeing that it was true they did so and were with their friends in a few minutes.

"How did you come to be lost in the woods"asked the officer.

Violet and her sisters explained. Then the officers spoke together in low tones for a moment and [illegible] the officer addressed them;

"What is the name of the main general engaging Hansons army. Who is he?"

"He is general James [illegible]"replied the little girl. "I never saw the general but Violet and her sisters say [illegible] said that he was in chief command, because Hanley had [illegible]."

At a word from the chief commander [illegible] the Abbionians more of the officers rode up. There came one who appeared to be a great general of high commission. He was a smooth faced man with [illegible] features with a beard and clear gray eyes that showed he had intelligence and great courage. He was gazing intently at Jennie Turner as though he would search her very soul. [illegible] he said;

"You are [illegible] Jennie Francis Turner. I'm general [illegible]"

"[illegible] are acquainted with the situation?"exclaimed Jennie.

"[illegible] we sure will win. General Hanson has crushed the army under Hanley and is able to send all the reinforcements possible now to go against Adeldegarbe."

"Heaven be Praised"exclaimed all of the little girls with deep emotion but there was no answering emotion in that of the officer. "General Hanson where is he. Is he in the neighborhood?"

"That is the question;"said General Greatheart seriously.

"But how do you know then that he is winning?"

"But he is. Last night it seemed absolutely hopeless. But the situation is changed. Adeldegarbes assault was not even as extensive as he feared last night and as soon as he signaled for reinforcements and they came they cut Adeldegarbes army in two. He is not losing the battle--although I didn't suspect it untill I recieved word. We shall find out the real situation very soon."

"It will not do them any harm"said one of the officers, "If they go through our lines to our rear as there are no foes, that way the woods are as clear as the air."

"Yes but Glandelinians can appear as suddenly as spirits,"said the general savagely. "Have them strongly escorted. I would not trust them alone

---

[illegible] in these dangerous woods."

"We are not afraid. We were alone in these woods all [illegible] nights [illegible]."

[illegible] he can't

[illegible] an escort.

[illegible]

[illegible] to be [illegible] with general Hanson [illegible] of the [illegible] the [illegible]. The cannon fire sometimes during the [illegible] so severe that the [illegible] of the ground in the vicinity [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] of the [illegible] to [illegible] to more disaster.

[illegible] remarkable things about the [illegible] the length of time that it raged with such an [illegible] fury, and [illegible] of time too that [illegible] regiments and divisions withstood the [illegible] assaults of both sides. [illegible] devouring fire of [illegible] force [illegible] for the destruction of all [illegible] carried out earlie[illegible] the day, general Hansons army might have been totally [illegible] destroyed. [illegible] the main Glandelinian [illegible] up here [illegible] of [illegible], the two Glandelinian [illegible] and others [illegible] hopeless, yet general Hanson had refused [illegible] and [illegible] requested again [illegible] division. [illegible] general [illegible] Glandelinian assault, tried to [illegible] drive back the [illegible]. So dreadful was the fury of [illegible] his [illegible] could not describe it, and [illegible] from his commanding [illegible] and a [illegible] of artillery [illegible] violent hurricane couldn't have [illegible] and tearing all before them. He sent regiment after regiment but they were mangled their commanders dead or wounded, and no result. It was an awful late afternoon for him that frightful October fifth. Then his officers with two brigades selected what seemed a favorable spot and began sending in counter assaults. They were repulsed one after another but continued the

the assaults indefatigably, the officers themselves frequently
sending forth fresh grenadiers to blow up the smouldering ruins soon after
[illegible] they kept the wound [illegible] called Dutha
[illegible] called and only renewed the attack with redoubled fury added by
[illegible] tried to retain
[illegible] conciliate
[illegible] did not
[illegible] miracle.
[illegible] officers
[illegible] the
[illegible] for
[illegible] had watched
[illegible] as any
[illegible] the
[illegible] fate
[illegible] contend
[illegible] Genera
[illegible] happen
[illegible] of
[illegible] watched
[illegible] before
[illegible] Pardon."
[illegible] the
[illegible] the army
[illegible] listen
[illegible] their
[illegible] its
[illegible] prior
[illegible] of
[illegible] even

CHAPTER SEVEN.

[illegible] OTHER INCIDENTS HAD TO RELATE.

[illegible] tried
[illegible] the
[illegible] fresh
[illegible] enough to
[illegible] portions
[illegible] the
[illegible] had
[illegible] advance
[illegible] called
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] for
[illegible] appearance
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] victory
[illegible] was
[illegible] their
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] ghastly
[illegible] strong
[illegible] red
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] strangely
[illegible] before.
[illegible] that
[illegible] trace
[illegible] material
[illegible] caused
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] many parts
[illegible] that and
[illegible] the wasses
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] darkness
[illegible] more
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] passed.
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Ransome
[illegible] nowhere but

they probably could find me and I couldn't find them..I is a to accumulate
[illegible] Wherever the enemy gets to [illegible] lines before he either
is defeated in the battle or retreats, or whether he wins and pay at rushed f
forward.."

"We are ready to go anytime you would choose it. Would [illegible] are
just as anxious to get there as you are Jennie."

Johanna near where the battle had been raging, was a city however

[illegible]

"[illegible] Jennie. I hope [illegible] as [illegible] before."

"Maybe it is still really night Jaine and we have lost our bearings and
and believe it is coming on morning and yet it is the early [illegible] and isn't
there danger by which the [illegible] might [illegible] out of the Orbit."

[illegible] there may be some
[illegible] there will

[illegible]

[illegible] coming.

[illegible] on their
[illegible] they had
[illegible] of
[illegible] exactly
[illegible] and it

[illegible] not under
[illegible] there."

[illegible] and
[illegible] in
[illegible] ment
[illegible] ing
[illegible] these
[illegible] ahead
[illegible] les
[illegible] to man
[illegible] the boy
[illegible] trotting
[illegible] would do
[illegible] and
[illegible] doubt
[illegible] to the
[illegible] trend
[illegible] in the
[illegible] south and
[illegible] seven miles
[illegible] if a
[illegible] way

[illegible] for
[illegible] and began
[illegible] tightened in
[illegible] the gloom
[illegible] which

[illegible] bayonet an
[illegible] so for he had
[illegible] in front
[illegible] in innocence
[illegible] blood red

[illegible] immediately
[illegible] them to south
[illegible] road from the
[illegible] it was coming
[illegible] It didn't

seem to actually come their way, though they realized their escape was cut o
off that way. At the same time far to their left to the southeast a crim
[illegible] wall of flame shout in and out of another wall of the smoke as if it
[illegible] with the smoke, the fire was burning [illegible] in great
[illegible] further in that direction, especially when c
[illegible] make the [illegible] like thunder.
[illegible] and heard
[illegible] the horses
[illegible] stronger
[illegible] required
[illegible] away
[illegible] left gave
[illegible] chica
[illegible] off a tree
[illegible] sight of
[illegible] there
[illegible] time
[illegible] the
[illegible] continued
[illegible] of
[illegible] their hair
[illegible] degree
[illegible] straight in a
[illegible] a fight
[illegible] same
[illegible] which I
[illegible] fire
[illegible] in
[illegible] them
[illegible] realized
[illegible] which [illegible]

[illegible] clung to their saddles, that they almost fell on if they
[illegible] Kalfrans, and that [illegible] they were liable to plunge
[illegible] the [illegible] of the main conflagration. [illegible]
[illegible] was on
[illegible] in the
[illegible] con
[illegible] he did the
[illegible] were
[illegible] atmosphere
[illegible] and the companions
[illegible] but
[illegible] the belief
[illegible] conflagration
[illegible] be burn
[illegible] their
[illegible] place
[illegible] now flies far
[illegible] of the horses
[illegible] and the girls
[illegible] ring of
[illegible] be not [illegible] more
[illegible] of grasse
[illegible] the
[illegible] showed that
[illegible] peril
[illegible] rolling
[illegible] to
[illegible] gentle
[illegible] passed at a
[illegible] in
[illegible] their
[illegible] dr
[illegible] sound.
[illegible] about a
[illegible] flashing
[illegible] which sent
[illegible] seen
[illegible] was a [illegible]
[illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible] would
[illegible] were
[illegible] they
[illegible] to burn
[illegible] fire
[illegible] ready
[illegible] sisters,
[illegible] highway
[illegible] straight on
[illegible] to
[illegible] with
[illegible] the heads of the horses [illegible] and dangle their
[illegible] as blast as
[illegible] dangerously
[illegible] which she
[illegible] hung more
[illegible] fire was ahead of
[illegible] roaring roar
[illegible] with
[illegible] drum. The
[illegible] of the [illegible] is a
[illegible] a dead
[illegible] as it seemed to
[illegible] worse was that the main fire
[illegible] miles away, but they [illegible] and almost unbearable
[illegible] with a hissing [illegible] of
[illegible] the [illegible] of the
[illegible] into an
[illegible] did the same
[illegible] and [illegible]
[illegible] The wil
[illegible] path but
[illegible] with a pressure of [illegible] and them
[illegible] they managed to [illegible] the [illegible] at the side
while they were at the height of the mad flight, and there before the force
of the still increasing gale that was clouding the air with flying

branch, leaves and blossoms, a great great tree was uprooted and fell in
the dark of the early calliphrey morning and the house couldn't be
[illegible] in time and all fell crashing in darkness disgusting the girls
[illegible] and that was enough for [illegible] terrible
[illegible] and [illegible] too, but by [illegible] the man gallop
[illegible] the direction of the bridge, and [illegible] were
[illegible] the [illegible] of the house [illegible] drew
[illegible] before
[illegible] of the
[illegible] stand
[illegible] the girls [illegible] the
[illegible] mourning
[illegible] were
[illegible] of their
[illegible] of [illegible] and
[illegible] crying over
[illegible] rubbing
[illegible] don't
[illegible] cry yourself.
[illegible] said I'm not such
[illegible] I'm going
[illegible] I see them
[illegible] beginning to fade up
[illegible] ribbon lines
[illegible] there if I
[illegible] go with me.
[illegible] haven't a
[illegible] hearts on their
[illegible] lurid
[illegible] affections for
[illegible] friendship
[illegible] feeling
[illegible] imagine
[illegible] up in
[illegible] buried inhal
[illegible] eyes with
[illegible] breath was
[illegible] while the
[illegible] half
[illegible] of the
[illegible] of them
[illegible] direct
[illegible] was the
[illegible] the edge of the river
[illegible] could
[illegible] deep
[illegible] not
[illegible] stones
[illegible] on the
[illegible] as Jennie
[illegible] had
[illegible] and
[illegible] her down
[illegible] the blaze
[illegible] conflagration
[illegible] and the stream
[illegible] stand
[illegible] gazed
[illegible] bring
[illegible] would
[illegible] but as
[illegible] and
[illegible] great pain and
[illegible] tried
[illegible] the
[illegible] to
[illegible] to breathe
[illegible] fire."
[illegible] Jennie
[illegible] Farmer

[illegible] violet.
"But [illegible] I'll [illegible] if [illegible] remain here" exclaimed Aeldefob.
For any of them or even those did not care to be any cooler in the matter
[illegible] though one of the impossibilities [illegible] for a boy or girl to stand still
[illegible] while enfrenzied, and the operation of [illegible] had therefore acted,
[illegible] people had released their [illegible] of [illegible] and the way
[illegible] of the river, and the [illegible] sister and the other little
[illegible] the [illegible] for the [illegible]
[illegible] portion
[illegible] Hard and
[illegible] extent
[illegible] great
[illegible] of the
[illegible] Violet and her victim [illegible] over [illegible] while being
[illegible] that more
[illegible] or
[illegible] Aeldefob
[illegible] to be able to breathe
[illegible] Sweet
suffocation much longer.
[illegible] and the bonfire and the night little girls became
[illegible] river
[illegible] through the [illegible] room [illegible] and then [illegible] the
[illegible] of mounting flame [illegible] the clouds
[illegible] of the [illegible] (if they had not been accustomed with that part of the country, it seemed to them
[illegible] of the house [illegible] and
suffocating, was driven across the [illegible] of the wide [illegible] the violence
[illegible] from the
[illegible] of wind that [illegible] above, until
it [illegible] children [illegible] enough [illegible] the
[illegible] at last
[illegible] of the broad
[illegible] of refuge
[illegible] that
[illegible] pretty
[illegible] its
[illegible] the boy
[illegible] nevertheless
[illegible] were
[illegible] surprised
[illegible] gave the
[illegible] hole
[illegible] was the
[illegible] rather,
[illegible]
[illegible] dirty [illegible] and [illegible] then [illegible]
"Your coat is on fire on the sleeve, why don't you put it out. I'll
[illegible] Yes [illegible] Violet, the back of your coat
smokes like a [illegible]
[illegible] into the air and screamed "Oh — [illegible] for the
[illegible] water just
[illegible] elbow,
the element which put out the fire in [illegible] the scorched
girl's arm.
"Jennie," said she in her [illegible] "the [illegible] over, and see
[illegible] Aeldefob
[illegible] in her [illegible] "big con
[illegible] the [illegible] in a second
[illegible] into the [illegible] now. But
[illegible] the fire in [illegible]
She alone had had no fire on her garments, but part of her hair had
been [illegible]
"Now what shall we do? that we have reached the [illegible] asked, as
[illegible] a few more steps they came to a [illegible]
[illegible] tell [illegible] and see how things are going to turn out." answered
[illegible] Aeldefob, [illegible] and no [illegible] to sit down and
[illegible] of
[illegible] vapor
[illegible] open country
[illegible] Aeldefob
[illegible]
"Sure" she answered, "we should have thought of the fact that [illegible]
doesn't form in close to the ground."
"Oh yes it does, in time" said Jennie, "you [illegible] yourself long that

way over in a [illegible] a raging sea doesn't come down
log and in fact I've seen for experience it repeats everything I can."
[illegible] believe it [illegible] Aldldofob.
[illegible] find that out by and by."
[illegible] here we are [illegible] hopes.
[illegible] not clear by any means but [illegible] the change
[illegible] probably that it appeared more than [illegible] for
[illegible] which it
[illegible] said,
[illegible] really [illegible] Their reasoning was the same—though it may be
[illegible] to a building that is burning [illegible] pass in
[illegible] to flash fish air or enough air to support life in close to the floor
[illegible] down even that for so much of the stifling vapor that
[illegible] more than a minute [illegible] volume
[illegible] and anyhow there no sense that it was or if it
[illegible] the black, yes terrible pressure of despair that caused he over felt,
[illegible] the boy, and the girls were [illegible]
[illegible] faces close as the rafter failed out the fire, as well as he cool
[illegible] a choking and strangling [illegible] their hot fevered
[illegible] touched the cold refreshing water, and [illegible] relief re-
[illegible] experience. But the heat was fast in a great [illegible] back,
[illegible] grew more and more in volume and [illegible] clothes started to smoke
[illegible]
[illegible] hurry up, we can stay here a minute."said Aldldofob
[illegible] Jungle Turner [illegible] "The lake is being
[illegible] the terrific fires
[illegible] the lake, there's a better chance to escape there, than along
[illegible] the lake surrounds the water it'll get too warm for a
[illegible] days ago, when I and other of Hawkins chipcount resident went
[illegible] where they can hastily we look for them."
[illegible] very closely along the margin of the lake peering through
[illegible] as they [illegible] but they could not see from the help
[illegible] and reflections reflection of the pinpoint on which they
[illegible] so close here. They [illegible] coming [illegible] either for
[illegible] fire reached here and the trees would be [illegible] and they'd have
[illegible] the water and but quite a [illegible] or [illegible] flames.
[illegible] however did not dare to [illegible] hotter
[illegible] and they could not [illegible] much longer [illegible] the
[illegible] their left a wall of fire behind to be
[illegible] higher than the tallest of [illegible] and
[illegible] from time there the parching heat was [illegible] from heavier
[illegible] heavily on, in spite of the [illegible] heat and [illegible] of
[illegible] the worst [illegible] and [illegible] the water seemed
[illegible] half [illegible] they reached a point where the heavy vapor seemed
[illegible] probably it lasted [illegible] seconds, and they [illegible] to
[illegible] Aldldofob [illegible] "I don't know what [illegible] may
[illegible] I believe [illegible] people [illegible] have fallen
[illegible] and [illegible] no sign
[illegible] doubts it isn't so, but I don't [illegible] there is [illegible] come in."
[illegible] see how any one could use fun in such suffocating [illegible] the
[illegible] do [illegible], but my [illegible] could have to construct a raft."
[illegible] the time to do [illegible]
[illegible] "Well [illegible] a wall of flares
[illegible] eight hundred feet high."
[illegible] there isn't much [illegible] to burn dry logs
[illegible] fire going on, and we [illegible] over the
[illegible] will help us [illegible] we have
[illegible] be [illegible]."
[illegible] you do?"
[illegible] find those [illegible] and——"
[illegible] are the [illegible] "There are the [illegible] for them....."
[illegible] Turner [illegible] and stretch
[illegible] "There through the smoke [illegible] the [illegible] which
[illegible] and several of his scouts had [illegible] seen in the water slightly
[illegible] bobbing up and down in the small waves of the [illegible]. The boy removed
[illegible] his hat and vest shoes, and socks, and then said "Watch dive" his
[illegible] being thrilled with an pleasure, as the cool water [illegible]
[illegible] him.
[illegible] that my clothes are not lost." "He called to them "and I'll
[illegible] the boats together and bring them over to [illegible]."
[illegible] there was to be immediate hurry, the situation of violet and
[illegible] sisters helpt guide too [illegible] to cut even his fancy fancy
[illegible] "Beautiful"
[illegible] the boats [illegible] tumbled about
[illegible] in his efforts to
[illegible] that country
[illegible] "Pleasant"
[illegible] could not barely resist the temptation [illegible] himself
[illegible] the discomfiture of the wind and [illegible]
"Aldldofob" called Jungle Turner "You had better hurry [illegible] get the boats,
for I cannot see it now."
This startled the lad (to be sure) but then he [illegible] found he could not see

[illegible] either be [illegible] independent in not on account of the war-
[illegible] Bloom that fellow [illegible] had fallen still lower at the conversation
[illegible] the disturbance of the fire [illegible] the atmosphere, had
[illegible] the direction of the strong "fire hurricane" and it was now blowing
[illegible] water, and in the [illegible] which had started the
[illegible] Turner,
[illegible] believe this fire is
[illegible] all
[illegible] alcoum
[illegible] consid
[illegible] boats
[illegible] fastening
[illegible] the
[illegible] a sang of fear
[illegible] shoreline
[illegible] but plans
[illegible] that something in
[illegible] through the clouds, [illegible] to catch the [illegible] of the brave little
[illegible] another
[illegible] of danger [illegible] the safety of
[illegible] there but a few brief
[illegible] was
[illegible] to
[illegible] fire is
[illegible] even
[illegible] the slightest
[illegible] they [illegible] of the dense
[illegible] could have [illegible] the water to
[illegible] the trees would have a terrible roaring hissing [illegible] as if a world
[illegible] of flames was burning.
[illegible] located
[illegible] "Are in the water now" [illegible] and the
frightful heat."
[illegible] the manner of the [illegible] was very [illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible] and half [illegible]
[illegible] the height of his voice not having [illegible] they were in
[illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] with a terrible [illegible] burning [illegible] to
[illegible] he
[illegible] to try
[illegible] never to [illegible] inferno
[illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] discovered
[illegible]
[illegible] they have
[illegible] I
[illegible]
This could be possibly so, but it did not [illegible] the [illegible] fast
that all the calls of Aldldofob in [illegible] seemed to
[illegible] the big pond
[illegible] every space
[illegible] they did
not hear to answer the [illegible] half
[illegible]
[illegible] he could did it,
[illegible] and half
[illegible] of the character of the little girls. It was the [illegible] of the
[illegible] that [illegible] and the [illegible] of their voices to [illegible] as if the
[illegible] different [illegible] every [illegible] they [illegible] were [illegible]..

[illegible] The intense [illegible] the [illegible] and the [illegible] billowing [illegible] heavy [illegible] the very [illegible] the wind though [illegible] water into [illegible] in the [illegible] roar of the wind [illegible] the flames [illegible] sparks and [illegible] battle, and [illegible] explosions in the woods [illegible] of these [illegible] dropped [illegible] the [illegible] hands [illegible] been [illegible] little girl [illegible] single [illegible] repeatedly [illegible] the earth [illegible] been [illegible] had often [illegible]

[illegible] he rammed [illegible] the boat. [illegible] moments [illegible]

"[illegible] you remain at the spot where I left [illegible]? Why didn't you [illegible] every direction."

"[illegible] the sounds."

[illegible] don't [illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible] by [illegible] the [illegible] I don't get [illegible] and [illegible] when [illegible] almost [illegible] water and [illegible] water that [illegible] this [illegible] the [illegible] stayed. [illegible] was [illegible] you left [illegible] flames [illegible] to a terrible [illegible] great flames [illegible] we didn [illegible] and [illegible] calling and continued to answer you as we ran, but nevertheless we knew better

than to run into the maze of blazing brush and trash, from which [illegible] and you have had such a narrow escape, and we were forced to head forward around the [illegible] continually [illegible] that the flames [illegible] we heard [illegible] the heat more [illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible] Beingin [illegible] something to [illegible] longer [illegible] afraid of [illegible]

[illegible] out of hearing of [illegible] him from his hiding [illegible] I heard a [illegible] and [illegible] in time, [illegible] they're [illegible] near [illegible] them [illegible] out [illegible] something [illegible] they [illegible] after [illegible] often [illegible] the [illegible] color of [illegible] not [illegible] as [illegible] see [illegible] he's [illegible] especially the [illegible] hopefully, [illegible] gloom [illegible]

[illegible] enemies. [illegible] that we are [illegible] that yet. [illegible] in the woods [illegible] see him [illegible] depend— [illegible] some [illegible] and threw [illegible] the sound [illegible] get out [illegible] easy [illegible] and it seemed [illegible] short [illegible] the boy and the [illegible] coming [illegible] beyond [illegible] burning branches" [illegible] tree was [illegible] on [illegible] almost [illegible] all [illegible] branch [illegible] I got [illegible] he came [illegible] in a [illegible] that terrible [illegible] from the [illegible] itself [illegible] generally [illegible] understands how to row.

[illegible] and though Adalfosh not all that [illegible] expected he could [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] minded, [illegible] collided with the planed [illegible] accidentally [illegible] they could do to [illegible] in their clothes, and one of the girls [illegible] swimming [illegible] swimming [illegible] "Come on, [illegible] swim. [illegible] "Come on, [illegible] from the shore." [illegible] frightened [illegible] and the [illegible] from [illegible] the boat [illegible] will go for [illegible] too."

[illegible] the creature [illegible] the [illegible] the very [illegible] of the [illegible] will [illegible] the head by a falling branch. If he [illegible] him ride with [illegible] each of the [illegible]

[illegible] the purpose of the creature beyond [illegible] creation, and [illegible] ing [illegible] for he was not able to see out of the large path [illegible] despite his desperate [illegible] the creature [illegible] his [illegible] toward [illegible] the boat, [illegible] position [illegible] their [illegible] surprise and [illegible] started swimming [illegible] that moment [illegible] them with a [illegible] and almost [illegible] the girls [illegible] and the [illegible] however but [illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible] to let go [illegible] the [illegible] head of the [illegible] and [illegible] he was [illegible] the [illegible] that would [illegible] almost [illegible] despite their [illegible] expected [illegible] and [illegible] the creature swam [illegible] for [illegible] they have all [illegible]

[illegible] flames [illegible] heavy [illegible] of [illegible] the water literally steamed [illegible] phrase.

[illegible] thought the [illegible] tree would have [illegible] the [illegible] when it [illegible] and small [illegible] the [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] the boat [illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible] "[illegible] out." [illegible] though as his eyes [illegible] the tree [illegible] soldier--

"[illegible] the wind [illegible] drum [illegible] on [illegible] terrific [illegible] to [illegible] he'll have [illegible] to get along as fast as we can, but [illegible] believe [illegible] can [illegible] the fire [illegible] lined [illegible] it [illegible] the creature had a [illegible] while. If [illegible]

[illegible] the creature had [illegible] for the creature wanted nothing else but to get clear of the [illegible] and [illegible] possibility that he would soon [illegible] away through that [illegible] having any [illegible] of [illegible] to the creature [illegible] minutes, it was [illegible] the [illegible] their efforts [illegible] the [illegible] wall of [illegible] that if [illegible] from there [illegible] performance [illegible] the creature [illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible] wings [illegible] the flames [illegible] the [illegible] the girls [illegible] the [illegible] creature with [illegible] of intense [illegible] at the large handsomely formed head, large [illegible] shaped eyes, and the huge mouth and jaws the shoulders and the few long [illegible] and could well

[illegible] understand the [illegible] terror [illegible] on [illegible] feeling on [illegible] one [illegible] expected [illegible] he [illegible] can cope with [illegible] and [illegible] cannot [illegible] can't [illegible] it, or escape [illegible] it [illegible] fiendish [illegible] But they understand [illegible] as long as the creature remained there, as long as man [illegible] to Glandelinian near the [illegible] and a perfect safety for them, and [illegible] trying hard to [illegible] of some plan by which to get it to [illegible] them to the [illegible] lines, he had thought of [illegible] it [illegible] but [illegible] covered [illegible] and [illegible] it doesn't [illegible] that. They [illegible] the very appearance of Glandelinians [illegible] the [illegible] to a most [illegible] degree of savagery [illegible] and [illegible] in [illegible] it and then, with the purpo [illegible] of destroying the [illegible] weapon that could be [illegible] if, and [illegible] could be accomplished even with a high explosiv [illegible]

[illegible] wanted to [illegible] because it were possible to swim up ward [illegible] the [illegible] to get it to [illegible] and he and his friends wants [illegible] the [illegible] understood it [illegible] the [illegible] if they [illegible] or any had [illegible] to [illegible] and [illegible] more [illegible] in the [illegible] of [illegible] of all of [illegible] and [illegible] anything [illegible] to [illegible] them [illegible] had to go through any [illegible] of the [illegible] there was only [illegible] and [illegible] and [illegible] to follow the [illegible] of their [illegible] and [illegible]

[illegible] you can [illegible] it [illegible] and then leave the rest [illegible] would do it but we [illegible] to [illegible]

[illegible] when he is rescued we will swim [illegible] again."

[illegible] he [illegible] but it seemed to [illegible] he had an [illegible] in his [illegible] that will be [illegible] to enjoy a flight [illegible] the air and [illegible] he does do that you can [illegible] by your mind [illegible] be [illegible] alone [illegible]

[illegible] but let [illegible] boats drift close to the land, so as to make [illegible] in danger [illegible] and [illegible] seems to [illegible] closer [illegible] to it, no it will be [illegible], we'll expose [illegible] to the dangers of the [illegible] we'll wait a [illegible] next."

[illegible] they could feel a little if anything like [illegible] from [illegible] the boat of the [illegible] the boy and the little girls leg [illegible] at the [illegible] which was [illegible] to strike boy one with [illegible] The heavy [illegible] still pouring [illegible] the water, a [illegible] of blazing [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] and [illegible] twigs, and large branches of [illegible] to be carried by the [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] forest [illegible] as if it was the ocean lashed by the West Indian [illegible] the [illegible] cloud overshadowed the earth over the very [illegible] the [illegible] beyond, or [illegible] further. [illegible] by [illegible] isolat [illegible] and [illegible] know, but they felt [illegible] and feel [illegible] they were [illegible] in an [illegible] night out of [illegible] illumined only by the burning [illegible] the heat of the [illegible] and all the smoke fai [illegible] of earth [illegible] they might as well [illegible] the question, when [illegible] be able to leave the water, to which they had been forced to [illegible] for very long, but after stepping foot or [illegible] they would [illegible] forestalling [illegible] the [illegible] be seen [illegible] on [illegible] the boy and the eight little girls [illegible] as [illegible] to [illegible] they were in [illegible] and [illegible] as it [illegible] well be. Adalfosh was more than once on the point of following the [illegible] of the [illegible] allow the boats to be carried by the wind [illegible] the [illegible] the boy [illegible] the [illegible] would come toward them [illegible] but [illegible] he [illegible] to [illegible] for [illegible] before [illegible] when he [illegible] he and his friends would [illegible] be enveloped in a sheet of flames [illegible] danger [illegible] heat [illegible] more than [illegible] feet off [illegible] off from [illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible] of the strong [illegible] the water plunged upon [illegible] and [illegible] were [illegible] and [illegible] were [illegible] into the water. Fortunately [illegible] hit the second boat which was towed by the first, but the [illegible] upon them all.

[illegible] Adalfosh [illegible] to [illegible] the water, [illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible] with [illegible] at [illegible] to right [illegible]

[illegible] it was a [illegible] for the little girls, but they [illegible] with a [illegible] and [illegible] of the [illegible] fortunately they were [illegible] under heaven [illegible] and were [illegible] the [illegible] of [illegible] of [illegible] the [illegible] with nine [illegible] they would [illegible] be [illegible] and [illegible] But [illegible] up of famous [illegible] could beat them and therefore they keep safe as long as the water wouldn't get too dangerously hot, and believe me it had warm enough [illegible] to be badly [illegible] they [illegible] out with their overall [illegible] which

theycould maintain for over three or four [illegible] if need be. However the difficulty of the situation [illegible], the anxiety to fear that the heat of the flames [illegible] and so they [illegible] would have [illegible] and they been Ogandalinbas [illegible] all of them, and it would have been a fitting matter for him to [illegible] of them in an instant—one blow from one of his [illegible] paws were sufficient to [illegible] every one at once. But the creature [illegible] now the difference [illegible] of the enemy, and those of the other nine his friends and [illegible] at all. It was the aim of them all, however, to get away [illegible] as possible from the [illegible] side of the [illegible] and they [illegible] themselves to the utmost, glancing continually over their shoulders, as did the sorely apprehensive little girls, [illegible] could not [illegible] a half gasping scream at the sight of the flames, and they let the water close about them to their chin.

The creature for the time being seemed absorbed in the fire itself which was in fact more than it cared for. It was all well enough, so long [illegible] the middle of the body of water, but when he started [illegible] to shore in [illegible] his huge body out of the water he [illegible] again in retreat. The creature [illegible] did not seem to under[illegible] or so before, [illegible] in a good [illegible], and now which ever way he glanced [illegible] the woods were [illegible] flame and vapors, and he was compelled to [illegible] into the [illegible] to get away from the flame and smoke. He therefore [illegible] the water again [illegible] and had scarcely done so [illegible] the boat [illegible] more. [illegible] the creature [illegible] them into the water, but finding they could remain afloat he did not pay any more attention [illegible] further attention he went again under the water. Finally they [illegible] the boat again and they [illegible] the middle of the waterhole [illegible] time for them to reach a more safer part of the shore for the water was beginning now to [illegible] so much at [illegible] there was danger of them being succo suffo[illegible] and finally they were all on that [illegible] part of the shore.

"Where did the poor creature go?" asked [illegible], the moment [illegible] rested on dry land.

"He's in the water somewhere [illegible]" replied Joice "and I don't believe he [illegible] but I would [illegible] him to keep the [illegible] at a distance."

It could be set down as [illegible] that the boy and [illegible], and her sisters were never in such [illegible] surrounded by the [illegible] the Lake [illegible] they be [illegible] in this forest. [illegible] the creature [illegible] in the [illegible] Thakharian [illegible]. [illegible] the animal had been [illegible] of the [illegible] approach [illegible], and it no doubt [illegible] he could to reach [illegible] in time to escape without injury [illegible] flying in the [illegible] impossible. This [illegible] for his [illegible] excessive fatigue, which made him loathe to enter the water where he [illegible] and [illegible] him after entering it to [illegible] very [illegible] slowly and then [illegible] the way of [illegible] he had no purpose to [illegible] it was not [illegible] that the boy and the little girls could feel any [illegible] and they had hoped for the best [illegible] the protection of God and His [illegible] had escaped [illegible] from the fate of many thousands [illegible] of the [illegible] to the innumerable and [illegible].

[illegible] when they finally emerged from the water they [illegible] of [illegible] considerable dis[illegible]. They believed [illegible] for the other side of the [illegible] and [illegible] of smoke which inter[illegible]

"[illegible] He'll be [illegible]" said Angeline "[illegible] had come [illegible]

"[illegible] believe there [illegible] in this [illegible] the company [illegible] I believe he had all he can do to look after himself [illegible] coming [illegible]."

The nine little fire fugitives were [illegible] sight indeed. The garments of Violet, and [illegible] were dripping wet by the water [illegible] the heavy heat of the air [illegible] dry [illegible] caused them to feel [illegible] at ease, and like their good and tidy mother, they longed to be [illegible] again, so that they [illegible] for clean dry dresses. When they all found they had to leave the boat, Adeldefob caught up his shoes, with the stockings stuffed in them, and so did [illegible] and her sisters who also were barefooted, and hastily tying the [illegible]strings together slung them around their necks. They did not forget in all this excitement that they were [illegible].

But there was no [illegible] of [illegible] either (all [illegible] any mor[illegible] let them go, [illegible] more [illegible] on the ground, when [illegible] the woods, [illegible] the ground [illegible] their feet is burned and [illegible], and they [illegible] against the earth was almost [illegible] hot to the [illegible], and some of them had even stepped upon live embers which the ashes concealed from from sight.

It [illegible] Violet [illegible] worst of it, for she [illegible] a real deep hot hole in the burning thrash, and she [illegible] her blistering toes,

and [illegible] all of [illegible] as possible put on their wet stockings and shoes.

"We're [illegible]" said Violet. "Of all [illegible]. Of all [illegible] indeed."

"We should have [illegible] the ground [illegible] for [illegible]," said Joice.

"Maybe [illegible] now [illegible]" [illegible] Jennie.

"Yes, we'll have to walk through Purgatory yet," said Angeline in answer.

"A purgatory of burning trees, surrounding Lake Hot Water," suggested [illegible].

"Any souls here?" demanded Adeldefob.

"[illegible] we're the souls, almost lost," said [illegible].

"[illegible] where's the angels [illegible] to bring us [illegible]" demanded [illegible] Daisy.

"[illegible] angels," said [illegible] "[illegible] we won't commit [illegible] Papa [illegible] take us out."

"[illegible]" she answered.

"Without feeling," added Adeldefob as another girl was about to say a [illegible] "We all would be in a pretty fix if we had [illegible] in these woods [illegible]."

"We wouldn't have been able to walk [illegible] through these woods for [illegible]" said Violet.

"[illegible] what was once a woods," [illegible].

It was plain to see that the fury of the [illegible] had spent itself [illegible]ward, so far as it affected this portion of the forest. [illegible] expansive [illegible] burning [illegible], which swept every [illegible] before it, had [illegible] of water [illegible] spreading [illegible] the northwest [illegible] the still [illegible] stretches [illegible] forest, the [illegible] of flame leaving in [illegible] still bigger [illegible] heavy blinding [illegible] of smoke clouds. Indeed for all the [illegible] burning in [illegible] all the biggest and most extensive clouds [illegible] or hurricane [illegible] with all this [illegible] finally [illegible] altogether there [illegible] the blackness of [illegible] trees still standing, [illegible] were still burning, but it was in [illegible] with blazing branches here and there, dropping [illegible] to the ground, but the main [illegible] was on the forest floor [illegible] where all sorts of dry forest debris had lain to any depth or grown [illegible] could not see [illegible] inch before his face. To go through [illegible] would be suicide. [illegible] of flames which charged forward, as they do through the dry [illegible] when trees are so close together and [illegible] are so [illegible] and heavy [illegible] by, and the girls and the boy now had [illegible] opportunity to attempt to reach the [illegible] lines only through [illegible] portion of the forests where not much of the fire had gone through, [illegible] the extreme western [illegible] but even there the fire had been [illegible] by means of their [illegible] could they ever [illegible] made it.

[illegible] would be hard to overestimate the distress caused by the atmosphere which even the [illegible] of the forest fire left behind it. There [illegible] gases and [illegible] which no one can breathe, but the trouble [illegible] smoke [illegible] get [illegible] with it when it is [illegible], it is even then extremely irritating to the lungs and throat, [illegible] than [illegible] fumes on the eyes.

They remained close to the edge of the pond for nearly four hours hoping the awful heat in the forest would die down, and finally, they [illegible] on the [illegible] journey. Several [illegible] during which [illegible] experienced, and then they were once in a while in turns were forced to cough and gasp, and [illegible] until they almost sank [illegible] to the ground from exhaustion. Occasionally the heavy vapor would [illegible] floating away leave the air below comparatively pure, but as there was no wind the black and blue atmosphere heavy with impurities would [illegible] and [illegible] them about [illegible].

"I believe [illegible]" said Adeldefob, then he found himself [illegible] to [illegible] with some slight degree of comfort.

"What is it?" [illegible] Violet.

"[illegible] believe [illegible] this will gradually get better and better."

"I don't see how it can get any worse than it is now," was the truthful answer of Jennie [illegible] the [illegible] felt as though they had stood all they could bear. Since the danger of being caught in [illegible] was gone the nine children were at liberty to venture in [illegible] direction, the only way through which a person could go [illegible] through the ordeal.

"[illegible]" said Adeldefob [illegible] resolution [illegible] Ogandalinbans in [illegible] surrender [illegible] without [illegible] something [illegible] of [illegible].

"Our pistols [illegible]" said Violet. "We [illegible] surrendered yet [illegible] worry. [illegible] do not [illegible] afraid of [illegible] either."

"Neither are we," said Adeldefob [illegible]. "But we got to watch out for [illegible]."

"[illegible]" said Adeldefob, stopping [illegible] having gone only a [illegible] "I can't [illegible] the idea of going through this portion of the woods, and having a [illegible] with the Ogandalinbans in this [illegible] condition. [illegible] or not probably [illegible] fight it [illegible]."

"[illegible] when the fierce forest fire [illegible] rumor. "If you do try to go through [illegible] I [illegible] believe you haven't got any sense at all—now there [illegible] in about that you'd be committing suicide."

This was a severe denunciation, and it did deter the lad from turning directly about to go another way. The strong breeze which had been

blowing had not died down, and the [illegible] from the blazing woods hardly did not lift [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] had [illegible] the, [illegible] [illegible] it was clear he did not wish to [illegible] [illegible] that Glandelinians would [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] forests. But Glandelinians [illegible] in the woods, [illegible] never [illegible] fooled on that [illegible] a move than a forest fire that could drive them out, and now the lad caught sight of them but a short distance off, steadily approaching their way.

"The Glandelinians who were in the battle must have gone through unburned [illegible] of the woods," he said, watching the approaching soldiers, "and I [illegible] believe if they were to come [illegible] I'd be lost, but there is always some way to get out of their reach. It would be odd if [illegible] and not molest [illegible]."

[illegible] attention of [illegible] and the [illegible] was about [illegible] in this matter, and then [illegible] that the Glandelinians had [illegible] and some others were going toward another point, he feared he and his friends may have been seen, and that a party of Glandelinians had moved off in another direction so as to anticipate them if they tried [illegible] decided to scout a little ahead to see that the [illegible] up to, and as he did so he for the moment forgot himself [illegible] but for [illegible] the movement [illegible] Glandelinians in the distance, and realized they did not seem to [illegible] an advancing horde, but that from their actions they [illegible] be a part on [illegible] army on a retreat, that General [illegible] was victorious. But some Glandelinians were closer than he had expected, and one of them had seen him approach and from a hiding [illegible] threw out his left foot, and all at [illegible] struck this foot, and before the boy could stop himself he tripped and pitched headlong to the ground. The boy was a nimble lad, and seeing who had tripped him was on his feet instantly with pistol [illegible], and he brought the enemy down with a well aimed shot. Quick as he was, he was not a moment too soon.

[illegible] the [illegible] of other Glandelinian soldiers, and he believed some Glandelinians [illegible] to surprise him [illegible] the Glandelinians had [illegible] in doing so after [illegible]. It did seem [illegible] indeed that the boy and the Glandelinians should meet so often and [illegible] that they were a party of [illegible] Glandelinians who were either on retreat or an advance, but whatever was the case they no doubt believed the boy may have been the cause of the fires with the [illegible] to cut off their retreat and they therefore made for the lad. It was [illegible] situation for the latter, who fortunately did not lose his presence of mind.

He understood much of the nature and the character of the fierce Glandelinians, though he had never before been brought face to face with Glandelinians at such close quarters and indeed desperate as was the haste with which the boy fled, he did not forget to run in a direction that would spur him away from Violet, and her sisters and Jennie, so as to prevent them from being involved in the danger. [illegible] did not [illegible] any outcry [illegible] which could have only resulted in arousing their fears as to his danger, therefore he simply made his effort with all his [illegible], whose whole savage nature seemed to have been [illegible] against him by the suspicion of his having set the fires to cut off the retreat of the Glandelinian army through the woods in case [illegible] won the battle. Besides [illegible] may not have recognized [illegible] army so often, and [illegible] on the christian side of the [illegible] he made the fire, but [illegible] wondered that the Glandelinians pursued the lad with such persistency.

[illegible] however was considered [illegible] his comrades [illegible] most rapid runner but it only took a few minutes for him to discover that he was no match for his pursuers, the starting only a short distance to the rear, was overhauling him hand over hand. The boy [illegible] if he [illegible] into the [illegible] flaming trees and the scorch [illegible] following him [illegible] too much [illegible] there was no [illegible] fire which [illegible] the Glandelinians [illegible] he climbed out of sight with the [illegible] of a cat [illegible] within a second of [illegible] Glandelinian soldier [illegible] close that he grasped the lad [illegible] feet, and his hair [illegible] rose on end as he thought of [illegible] going to be captured and carried away to the Glandelinian [illegible]. But fortunately the shoe pulled off, [illegible] the Glandelinian could [illegible] it [illegible] perched above his reach and sight and looking [illegible] had arrived.

"Well," [illegible] more than I [illegible] on fire [illegible] country [illegible] to our pleasure that Glandelinian [illegible] I climbed the tree." Lord that they [illegible]

The Glandelinian soldier [illegible] carefully, and then dropped it to the ground with a curse. The [illegible] searched about the tree and a little beyond but couldn't find any sight of the boy. One glanced upward into the tree, and though the enemy could not see him the boy could see the soldier, and when he glanced up his face was comical indeed and

the boy could not [illegible] himself.

"[illegible] just you old fellow, I'll [illegible] here, two or three days before I [illegible]."

Then some few minutes had [illegible], the vapors from the fires began to half stifle him up there, he had to use a cloth to stifle the sound of his cough, and he began therefore to feel that the situation had nothing funny in it at all, what more likely than the Glandelinians having made up their mind to capture or destroy the boy would besiege the tree, or decide to set the tree afire to find out whether any one was hiding there or not. The question was a serious one indeed, and while the lad was trying hard to determine best what to do to outwit his enemies, [illegible] of the Violet girls [illegible] and her sisters too were becoming anxious and apprehensive over the long [illegible], and was coming to find out what it meant. [illegible] the [illegible] of a night [illegible] which [illegible] they [illegible] was enough to cause any one to stay at a [illegible] but when Violet and her sisters and Jennie heard the alarming announcement, she [illegible] and Jennie was determined upon one thing, she and they would from tree to tree attack the Glandelinians and try and make them retreat [illegible] the sound of shooting would bring help from either the [illegible] or from Christian soldiers. [illegible] having warned them by his signals against coming any closer, it followed that the temptation to do so to rescue him [illegible]. It was not their method to leave any one in danger and not go to his help.

The lifting of the smoke had let in some daylight, and it did not take them long to reach a position from which she could look on with her sisters the [illegible] scene, and get in a shot at the Glandelinians.

[illegible], one of them called in a guarded English voice not intended for the ears of the searching Glandelinians.

The boy grew alarmed for their safety, and turned toward the direction from whence came the voice, and saw several white faces and six hats [illegible] from behind some trees no more than a hundred feet distance [illegible]. He instantly signalled for them to remain out of sight for [illegible] to shoot it out with so many Glandelinians, and [illegible] he believed they had done a silly thing, for the Glandelinians may be sure to see them and then it would be the last of them. But they did not mean to let the Glandelinians see them, for they were brave and very prudent, shrewd as foxes, and yet so good at the pistols that those Glandelinians could have done them up without moving round their rear.

[illegible] Violet to Jennie.

"[illegible]" said Violet. "If those Glandelinians [illegible] around [illegible] I'll [illegible] my head [illegible] one of them is looking this way now."

Violet threw her head so far from the [illegible] around which she was [illegible] that if the Glandelinian soldier had looked sharp, he could have [illegible] half buried and [illegible] on the other side of the [illegible] trunk and fired a fatal shot. Jennie called to her to be more careful, for she feared the Glandelinian would plainly see her hat and the [illegible] therefore vanished.

[illegible] the boy's fear was now on account of Violet and her sisters, for he realized that as long as he himself could remain hidden and [illegible] his position in the tree, so long was he safe, unless several of the Glandelinians were good tree climbers and would come up. [illegible] one of them however seemed able to climb a tree, and though some tried to go, so they gave it up [illegible] not believing that a boy ran up in a tree in the midst of a forest fire, and therefore seemed about to prepare to go away, to give up the search.

"Keep yourself out of sight, I tell you Jennie" called Violet to Jennie Turner, "or otherwise we can't do anything to help him."

The girl [illegible] this, and they all began to believe they had [illegible] exceedingly foolish [illegible] into the sight of these Glandelinians in this fashion, and [illegible] to be the end of this [illegible] and very [illegible] condition of affairs.

For half an hour the [illegible] for them all remained unchanged. [illegible] remained perched in the branches of the huge pine tree......3 and [illegible] the time [illegible] he found his seat becoming so uncomfortable that he [illegible] he could not stand it to remain there much longer. The worst of it was he was [illegible] upon a narrow branch or limb as [illegible], while he held himself in place by grasping two other branches themselves, and the one upon which he stayed seemed to become narrow [illegible] and [illegible] his own weight [illegible] he believed it would be bent [illegible] through the lower branches.

[illegible] Violet and her sisters, who had been finally aroused to such [illegible] that they did not even dare to [illegible] out from where they stood at [illegible] intervals, but remaining out of sight [illegible] the least notion of themselves being seen lest the [illegible] Glandelinians see them and force a fierce fight at a disadvantage.

The Glandelinians [illegible] showed a patience which was astonishing, they seemed to realize [illegible] that their fugitive was up in the tree, and besieged it with the patience of an Esquimau, who never moves an inch from his position or stirs a finger for hour after hour while sitting beside the [illegible] hole... in the [illegible], waiting for a fish or seal to show his nose above the surface..... The Glandelinians [illegible] did not even [illegible] slightly now and [illegible], but one of them [illegible] more than a dozen yards from the tree, [illegible] seeming to never remove his eyes from it, and seemed as if he was about to search for a long

fire [illegible] with the purpose to rout out any one who may be hidden [illegible] and trying minutes, the [illegible] before shut the door and the eyes of [illegible] shed tears, and [illegible] become save from certain coughing [illegible] to Violet and her [illegible] were obliged to suppress the noise by cramming their handkerchiefs into their mouths. But during the same minutes the same period, the [illegible] of the boy scout was not idle...... He had thought of sending one of the girls to the christian lines to bring some company of christian soldiers to their assistance, but he [illegible] the fear that some other Glandelinians might detect her, and even if she did get away he doubt whether she should be able to find her way through all the burning woods to the open country beyond in such gloom and fog of smoke. Here and there everywhere the brush were burning and the dry limbs lay on the ground, giving out the dull glow of smouldering embers and also tree stumps or sending out clouds of vapors to join the enormous clouds of it which hung as a pall over so many hundreds of miles of country in this locality alone.

Violet, for the twenty-sixth time, leaned [illegible] forward and gave a terrifying glance from behind the tree that sheltered her. She saw one of the Glandelinians some thirty feet away from the tree glancing steadily upward, with a flaming torch in his hand, as though he intended to [illegible] the tree afire to [illegible] out the fugitive or burn him to death. Adoldeph seeing this rested uneasily on the narrow limb, when with the Glandelinian starting to approach he made a movement which the quiet witted girl understand at once that the boy was resolved to try to do something for himself. Carefully freeing his legs from the branch he lowered himself so that he hung by his hands within ten feet from the ground, hanging only a second or two he let go and dropped lightly on his feet. The whole thing did not take even half a minute but the Glandelinian had observed it just as [illegible] of Violet and her sisters and the minute the lad touched the ground, half a dozen Glandelinians were rushing [illegible] him. Violet and her sisters screamed and opened fire [illegible] bringing a Glandelinian down [illegible] and [illegible] came [illegible] one [illegible] to another still firing, but being certain it was [illegible] with the brave boy, but the latter did not despair by any means. With astonishing celerity he seemed to have the advent of the Princesses [illegible] his pursuers. He brought down two of the Glandelinians who were nearest and [illegible] over him. At the [illegible] the Glandelinians stopped to [illegible] bench [illegible] in two, and catching up one of the pieces, which [illegible] so hot that it scorched his fingers, he whirled it about with [illegible] speed and suddenness that the glowing end [illegible] once steady even [illegible] about his head. While he did this the boy [illegible] some distance away from the Glandelinians, but the Glandelinian [illegible] continued to circle the torch still he had gained upon the boy within ten feet by which time the [illegible] was covered with [illegible] powders. Then with a [illegible] shout, the [illegible] extended his arm at full length, dashing the [illegible] of the boy as though he held a great fiery [illegible] to drive through the [illegible] and burn him. As he almost got [illegible] fired a shot which struck the man between the eyes and he fell without a cry.

Every Glandelinian [illegible] by such [illegible] fatal [illegible], and this [illegible] from children who appeared [illegible] of the highest [illegible] was more than the [illegible] Glandelinians could stand. Without the least attention to dignity, the [illegible] clearing doubtless [illegible] safety from the whirling fire [illegible].

The boy and girls [illegible] fire, and [illegible] on, run as if in [illegible] default, and the Glandelinians ran all the faster. Out at the edge of the clearing the boy and girls stopped, and then retraced their steps, and Adoldeph [illegible] his shoe [illegible] it on his feet. Then being well shod and in no further danger from the Glandelinians [illegible] he and the girls had turned the tables so suddenly and [illegible], they continued on their way. Every one [illegible] in the event of the Glandelinians [illegible] to an assault them once more. But there [illegible] of the sort, and the Glandelinians [illegible] behind them even to [illegible] either the [illegible] continued [illegible].

[illegible] the survivors of the Glandelinians will remember that for some time [illegible] Adoldeph [illegible] of Violet and Jennie and starting with the [illegible] and heading toward the bridge that had been [illegible] before. They carefully watched where they were going and reached the bridge without mishap, being on the southern side [illegible] necessary for them to ford it in order to [illegible] the christian lines. The structure was [illegible] one, consisting of a single covered span of double clearing, so that [illegible] it was still burning in a very serious one, and of the great inconvenience its loss would cause. The boy and girls remained there several minutes examining the smouldering ruins, but their chief interest centered around to other points. The children were naturally attached to all the beautiful Calverinian woods, and therefore there were tears in their eyes when with a deep sigh, they turned away and continued up the steep shore to the level of the road and started for the christian lines.

They indeed had great reason to have a great doubt in their ability to force their way through the main forests [illegible] between them and the open country [illegible] they were resolved to do their utmost [illegible] in each section where they [illegible] and suffered so much and had [illegible] of the conflagration [illegible] itself, and there was nothing now to be feared from [illegible] the [illegible] flames which [illegible] them and imperilled them [illegible] after they had entered the woods. The road was heavily strewn with burning debris, and many a time they had been forced to halt in doubt whether they could get by the burning obstruction, but they always found some way open to them, they sometimes could find a point where they could [illegible] be able to flank it by a small or distanced circuit through the woods themselves. They [illegible] on in this manner until the distance [illegible] for a mile and one half, then they were brought to a standstill by a horrible discovery which took away their breath for a long time. They [illegible] the ruins of something which they could not recognize until they drew very close, when they discovered about seven wagons of some army with its three horses apiece had all been burned. Little more than the iron sections of the wagons had been left, and [illegible] side by side there they lay burned and [illegible] by the flames, [illegible] less merciful to them than to the boy and the girls. [illegible] made such a gallant fight for life... [illegible] and terrifying [illegible] it was rendered [illegible] the drivers, and many soldiers of the enemy [illegible] rode [illegible]. There [illegible] to give [illegible] no doubt when their teams gave out had probably leaped to the ground and started to run from the fire [illegible] were overtaken and [illegible].

"O how thankful to God and His Blessed Mother we all ought to be and are," said Adoldeph in a subdued voice as they moved forward again.

"So we are and [illegible] Blessed be God" was [illegible] fervent response of the girls, [illegible] for ever [illegible] feeling [illegible] Glandelinians, and [illegible] thankfulness [illegible] had been [illegible] by Heaven, [illegible] such a [illegible] were in constant dread of coming upon similar [illegible] but they were spared the sight, and at the end of about three hours and one half from the time [illegible] they [illegible] into the open country, where they were [illegible] near Lebanon. They didn't hear no more sound of distant battle, everything [illegible] as still as if a war never raged, and they found that with the very afternoon of this day was well advanced, and the [illegible] that impressive appearance [illegible] threatening [illegible] changing color. From [illegible] the direction of Lebanon there was [illegible] of smoke [illegible] as if there [illegible] in that direction, but [illegible] forest it caused them less alarm, and [illegible] inconvenience and annoyance [illegible] The children gave another expression of their [illegible] and fell on their knees and offered a fervent prayer of [illegible] for their [illegible]. Then they started toward the [illegible] of the christian lines which was on [illegible] no one heard how the [illegible] christian line was still in position. [illegible] full of anxiety. Though they hoped that the brave children [illegible] out of the forests altogether [illegible] search for them on [illegible] in the hope of catching sight of the beloved [illegible] they saw and [illegible] recognized the [illegible], they [illegible] forward to meet them with [illegible] officers [illegible] them to their breasts and [illegible] of all [illegible] with [illegible], for it was feared they had been caught in the blaze and [illegible]. [illegible] they all [illegible] the wonderful story, [illegible] General Maurice Costellio [illegible]

"I realize now [illegible] you that God helps [illegible] that have faith in Him and love [illegible] Blessed Mother. I am glad that [illegible] often and often [illegible] you brave little [illegible] have been tried by [illegible] and have come out as pure gold. Praise Our Blessed Lord for His Mercies. With so many children in the [illegible] forces [illegible] you are [illegible] win the war in the end..."

"Yes sir, Your Gracious Excellency it was a boy scout called Ned [illegible] by the name of [illegible] Francis Turner who pulled off [illegible] affair at [illegible] Crossroads and near St. Boniface." [illegible] General [illegible] to Manley a few days later. "Our army is not retreating, nor do we intend to yet without [illegible], but that Crazy [illegible] of a Christian, [illegible] Vivian through those little Christian devils have the upper hand, and if we don't retreat soon well it'll be just too bad for us."

"Yes" said Manley. "You know of [illegible] Manley who having recovered a great deal from his fit of [illegible] was sitting on his horse. "You told me the Vivian [illegible] was also within my lines and absolutely made you afraid to expose them because of your Nationality. That's why they went to the christian lines through that forest fire"

to see the main chi [illegible] on the battle was concluding. That Ned always thereover he [illegible] of the christians to carry on [illegible] the report [illegible] general Clancy [illegible] dog of a Hanson. [illegible] I'm one of the [illegible] any christian [illegible] I didn't see how you could."

"Yes and like [illegible] being the [illegible] to [illegible] Hanson wish that I would do so."said Clancy.

"I guess that's the [illegible] of [illegible] course you done well nevertheless and probably [illegible] not worst [illegible]. But its a miracle to worst those two Vivian. You should understand by now how those two christian generals [illegible] way of [illegible] anybody especially if he be a stranger, than to put odds odds and ends against him which he direct [illegible] out. It's human nature anyhow and I guess you [illegible] when you turned down my proposition to give for help from some other Glandelinian [illegible] could be had, only somehow I didn't believe christian [illegible] could fight as good as we could. It's their [illegible] that does it, they have supernatural help on their side [illegible] that multitudinality can cope against. By the way [illegible] Tamerlinee getting hard hit by that other [illegible]."

Clancy [illegible]

"And that Gene- [illegible] his armies everywhere upon him"

"Yes."

"Well I guess all the glory [illegible] doesn't hurt that christian dog much either and he's [illegible] Clancy for fighting his brother at Lebanon. I'd [illegible] that quarter. If we're here yet, and Vivian [illegible] Tamerline away. [illegible] planning on [illegible] to fight no sight."

"But will he whip the general Tamerlin ?"

"He certainly will." [illegible] ly."I hate him but have to give that christian devil [illegible] It is [illegible]. If Tamerline can whip him than I can, and I [illegible] as good as I can. Do you believe that?"

Clancy agreed. He did not [illegible] forever that general Manley had [illegible] from [illegible] of Tamerline. [illegible] an additional [illegible] since the bloody battle of [illegible] Hanson [illegible] to be planning it already. Therefore Manley [illegible] not to begin a retreat [illegible] Oh yes. He'll retreat [illegible] direction to Manley's idea. and disembarkation. [illegible] generals had been [illegible] to gather up the [illegible] and bury and burn the dead [illegible] for the Glandelinians to [illegible] clear that [illegible] Hanson's army might at any time move [illegible] though any suspected proposed new [illegible] seemed to have been been called off until the [illegible] battle. However the christian army [illegible] and Clancy on the first day [illegible] the battle had [illegible] improve his chances by [illegible] advance didn't one as believed, [illegible] really care about, [illegible] Shoemannia incomprehensible [illegible] though he [illegible] to enlighten him. It concerned [illegible] of the Seventh of October, General Clancy had [illegible] General [illegible] army [illegible] to the left of Baptiste. [illegible] Ninete nth Corps [illegible] paying no attention to [illegible] many men [illegible] wedge of soldiers in [illegible] as if they were in a panic and in a [illegible] had suddenly burst in their rear. [illegible] and frightful attack. It came upon [illegible] wave down in its awful dash upon a [illegible] irresistible. The Glandelinians had fought as [illegible] as man could have the power to fight but it was impossible to stand before that wave. Ten minutes later the general Jacques hurled his troops into position to meet the wave coming upon him, his troops pouring out a flood of rifle bullets and munitions from the artillery. The assault along his line was literally destroyed, and he wasn't even perturbed by another that came upon him, but Jean Baptiste's line wavered, and he had to retreat and the christians were in the same [illegible] advancing the whole of the Glandelinian army [illegible]

Now as he on this third day was in conversation with Manley general Baptiste rode up.

"Well - how are we going to retreat"he demanded.

"What?"

"The whole army that's what"

"And why?"

The general swept his arm around the horizon.

"We are not fools and are hard."he said."Hanson has [illegible] in his power."

"I have heard nothing about a retreat yet general Baptiste"said Clancy. "That's up to gene [illegible]."

"You bet [illegible] believe I can see my troops [illegible] Allright [illegible] our destro [illegible] fully."

"[illegible] Baptiste."

"You don't [illegible] believe you can whip Hanson. Perhaps you will [illegible] help you, [illegible] that you got your army through this"

"I don't [illegible] whether you did or not."said Clancy becoming angry."If I had reason to believe you see me go through I'd tell you so."

"You think Our Army can stand before Hanson now"said Baptiste. "All right. Duty is duty no matter what happen and I'll stand but if you renew a general battle in this situation you're the goose."

"I have no intention to renew the battle. The retreat starts to night."

After Baptiste went away the two Glandelinian generals felt the situation sharply. He or they valued their army, and understand the awful situation, and they had been more than surprised at the strange manner at which Cromwell and Alphonse received an account of the situation. Baptiste had [illegible] position with Brooms [illegible] that following morning [illegible] no [illegible] off Hansons blows should they come against [illegible] if he was the prize fighters against whom the ten rounds had been [illegible] and he still in a daze. Once or twice he [illegible] strength [illegible] and [illegible] ground but dared not [illegible] the "Stove."

Leaving general Clancy [illegible] his secret [illegible] general Manley [illegible] to the [illegible] should [illegible] the Ventura River. At this [illegible] see one of the immense divisions of his troops [illegible] slowly but surely [illegible] along the Ventura road. Many of them had received orders of retreat to fall back to better positions but [illegible] and Manley [illegible] to one of his [illegible] generals, who [illegible] to him.

"[illegible] the meaning of [illegible] retreat."

"[illegible] divisions an how" toward our lines." [illegible] if he moves at us."

"[illegible]"

"I don't know why but [illegible] about to give up a resemblance of a darning [illegible] but, [illegible] and [illegible] general Hub [illegible] is wounded since yesterday's fight [illegible]."

"He's going to [illegible] again, and has chosen this time to strike [illegible] general Manley [illegible]."All right. We're too [illegible] anywhere [illegible] we'll have to get out of this territory. I'll bring [illegible] have general Shoemannia cover the retreat [illegible] very [illegible] tomorrow."

General Manley [illegible] headquarters and once entering [illegible] that Hanson is the one who never [illegible] a [illegible] forces one, and that if he was forced to engage [illegible] side his [illegible] would be crippled beyond hope of recovery. [illegible] Lebanon, [illegible] staff officer was out of commission [illegible] wounds could not be [illegible] general Greatheart of the [illegible] side [illegible] of the [illegible] army as Hanson was wounded. [illegible] still [illegible] around from his headquarters. Manley was through [illegible] disheartened over the [illegible] development.2.2.2.2.22

However if Hanson [illegible] side, and if the blow did not extend to the [illegible] battle will be [illegible] of the army out of the territory before it was totally [illegible] he had the sound of horses, and going out side, [illegible] rapidly up toward the entrance. He [illegible] the horse, dismounted, and came up with a [illegible] expression on his face.

"I met most of the troops already on the retreat, so I guess you were aware of it by now"he said."They're going before Hanson strikes us a fatal blow"

"Is the blow to extend as far as the Ste Marie Mills too."?

Lafty nodded.

"[illegible] how is it [illegible]

"[illegible] the Christian General called Heldonia Greatheart. He's massing one divisions per hour all this morning. The Personia tried to hold the line at Mill Ro. One by heldouldn't. You'll have to order the whole army to retreat or pay the consequences."

"I will not retreat generally untill to night."said Manley firmly. "I'll fight to the last first, and hang on till night. If he assaults my line. I suppose he believes he's the Man Greatheart, in the Pilgrims Progress. but I'll show him I'm the Greatheart of the Glandelinian side."

Lafty's face grew more lugubrious.

"Say Your Excellency"he protested."It's this way. You're taking this impending disaster as a personal matter. Now surely it ain't that by no means. Hanson and all his generals know they have the whip hand over us and they ain't far sighted enough to see that if they bust us, Hansons brother will bust Tamerline at Ntheldreda, and that Greatheart is not making believe he's going to attack, and not do so. I know that fellow well. That's the way his methods are handled. If you want us to go like Napoleons at Waterloo well all right. But I don't wish it."

"Suppose I had half of the army go on the retreat and have the other half cover it, will we be able to frustrate him"demanded Manley.

Lafty shook his head.

[illegible] offered that proposition to General Clancy [illegible] "I took the responsibility to do that, [illegible] I [illegible] go. They say the whole army is in [illegible] must be going."

"I'll not be [illegible] furiously.

General Lafty [illegible]

"It appears [illegible] is just the way he wants us to [illegible] red. We can [illegible] we get the whole army on the retreat."

Manley only answered:

"Not [illegible] to retreat [illegible] not going to retreat in general till then.

"If Lanson [illegible] he'll creep down upon my [illegible] if he were a [illegible] take advantage of my fatigue."

"That is all right I suppose sir, as far as you're [illegible] concerned."said Lafty indignantly."But what about our armies? I guess we all have a right to have some word in this matter with the brunt of the battle we have borne under Clancy while you was laid up with the Fever. Seems to me you're putting up a front against the impossibilities as well as a trying against Nearsh itself."he blurted out.

"I'll write you a newspaper from Hell when I get there."said Manley [illegible] irritably.

"Oh shucks"said Lafty, [illegible] he went back to his horse [illegible] and rode slowly away. Then [illegible] reflection.

"Your Excellency [illegible] said saluting."General [illegible] in his [illegible] and he's going to open [illegible] half an hour [illegible] already [illegible] it. We're starving [illegible] and you already [illegible] suggested."

Manley whipped [illegible] was still [illegible] alone. Manley [illegible] in his [illegible] because of the [illegible] bitter reflections [illegible] bugle [illegible] of everything to which [illegible] Lebanon [illegible] and yet as he [illegible] could have done better. It had been [illegible] up from the [illegible] successful [illegible] action the [illegible] flowed [illegible] like a river from [illegible] of his left wing, and the [illegible] beyond his control, and the disaster [illegible] the same [illegible] little difference, [illegible] down into insignificence beside the [illegible] going to [illegible] and he must [illegible] save the army or be forced [illegible] officers and to [illegible] his nation. To fly to fight [illegible] he met retreat [illegible] abandon his plans and reach [illegible] a big navy awaited him and which couldn't [illegible] he was in command. according to government [illegible]

[illegible] "I'll have to retreat [illegible] Lanson [illegible] on his hat [illegible] for the retreat.

[illegible]

In the meantime the soldiers [illegible] and [illegible] the two others led them on [illegible] still dazed. And [illegible] and the officer in charge of the [illegible] squadron hoped to reach the christian lines [illegible] Violet and her sisters were much elated to have escaped from [illegible] the battle, and were happy [illegible] their adventure. For they had not gone about five hundred [illegible] when [illegible] and the [illegible] of a trotting horse and believing it might be an [illegible] and [illegible] right [illegible] recognized the man an officer upon a horse. [illegible] Gingiere. They [illegible] velocity and he halted his horse with an exclamation. Then he put [illegible] the horse [illegible] the ground and reined up [illegible] that he almost threw the horse back upon his haunches. Violet and [illegible] that the horse had a powerful bit, which gave the general perfect control.

"A letter for the Princesses from St Etheldreda."he said.

They received it with their customary politeness and discovered it was the letter of warning from General [illegible] and Gerlinde Angeline telling them not to come to St Etheldreda till the battle was over. "You are not going there Princesses?"The general asked anxiously.

"On this condition [illegible] not until I receive further word."said Violet.

"But we'll go to view Abbieann again."said Hettie.

"May I demand why?"

"It is my wish to try and discover clues as to the disaster".

[illegible]

CHAPTER EIGHT.

MORE ADVENTURES OF THE BOY AND GIRL-SCOUTS.
ON TO ABBIEANN ONCE AGAIN."

During the time of these battles many little girls from the town of St Jean, and a few days later many other children from six other villiages in the same district not too far off from the scenes of the two raging battles were found dead terribly mangled and mutilated murdered evidently by Glandelinians who had drained their blood, and torn out their entrails.

However no clues had been found to these crimes for two days untill a scouting soldier, now extraordinarily dressed Glandelinian soldiers gnashing by on horses, who terrified a number of dogs into flight, altho although they were accustomed to go at soldiers. The description which the officer gave was so strange indeed that it was believed he was under [illegible] due to fear, and the soldiers and people began to laugh at him. But a little while later at St Andrews, and four other places new massacres similar to the first occured. Then a brave peasant with great courage, while out riding one evening from his farm saw a [illegible] hundred of horsemen go by in the road. His description absolutely corresponded with that of the new [illegible] the strange column of troops about a hundred in number this time [illegible] he did. All agreed exactly as he did in describing the [illegible] they had always called it since then at [illegible] who had a [illegible] of disciples or [illegible] on his head [illegible] part of human, here said it answered as that of a [illegible] and between said it was [illegible] not so. However the head was that of the strange kind of a horse, but it was covered with [illegible] hair intermixed with [illegible] green and blue, and [illegible] of [illegible] and [illegible] the design. This fantastically [illegible] leader of those [illegible] Glandelinian troopers [illegible] them.

The night [illegible] on a [illegible] scale.

A great many villiages had been ravaged by these Glandelinians, no [illegible] to [illegible] them, the Glandelinians [illegible] the children were murdered, the adults [illegible] to the sword [illegible] villiagers [illegible] their victims during these [illegible] of them were numerous, and this horror had [illegible] Therefore it could not be doubted [illegible] that these Glandelinian soldiers were not the dupes of the [illegible] of great [illegible] from them. [illegible] they were defeated.

[illegible] home for the Crippled children [illegible] squadron. [illegible] officer [illegible] who were [illegible] the Glandelinians though being [illegible] five hundred [illegible] the place after a two days seige, and the [illegible] bigger boys mounted to carry away sixteen little [illegible] fight for their lives. The fighting children [illegible] of those poor little babes followed by the [illegible] armed with guns, bayonets and [illegible] long pieces of wood, with which they tried [illegible] on. Finally a hard [illegible] babes, but the [illegible] had their bodies torn apart. [illegible] trying to save her [illegible] head by a sabre. The other children had tried to go to her help [illegible] and though finally the Glandelinians were [illegible] the children were too terrifi [illegible] the correcting devils to have others [illegible] of the extraordinary extraordinary [illegible] of Pierson. General Concentinian [illegible] then [illegible] ordered troops to go out [illegible] secure the country and [illegible] give no quarter [illegible] give no quarter [illegible] the results of the efforts of these [illegible] their crimes.

[illegible] happened during [illegible] at the Glandelinians [illegible] in the same manner as in other cases many more children, and murdered a little girl in the town of St Jean. The next day while the unfortunate father was mourning for the loss of his own child and in his own house, the Glandelinians appeared and surrounded the house, the captian with that body of the mysterious beast glanced in the window, and then ordered his men to go to the house. When the man cried out to alarm the inhabitants [illegible] and armed with all sorts of weapons and being in overwhelming numbers easily drove the Glandelinians out though they did succeed in throwing some grenades and killing and injuring about two hundred men, women and children by the explosions. The late hour with night time coming on, and the general terror and excitement enabled the Glandelinians to set the town going into flames before they retreated and the people had only time enough to save their belongings before the whole town went.

It would indeed require a hundred volumes such as this to relate in detail the sequel to these astonishing occurrences; and the Writer can only figure them out very hastily. The Dragoons of General Crystial Creation in

in the winter that [illegible] found the traces of the enemy horsemen in the snow. They followed and came upon a large party of these marauding raiders but were [illegible] were driven out of the woods then [illegible] with great loss on February 7 1913. On the retreat the christian soldiers opened a [illegible] fire, but could not drive them off. The next day a few feet away [illegible] of little boys and girls with their bodies [illegible] and their intestines all strewn over the ground and [illegible] of these fierce savage Gandelinians until the [illegible] ing of March. As believed their numbers were seriously depleted and could not come out to renew their bloody raids. But on March the [illegible] raids began on a greater and more terrible scale. [illegible] Gandelinians were [illegible] and in the battles they [illegible] of them, but the Gandelinians only shared their [illegible] one great [illegible] or by sudden [illegible] appeared to defy [illegible] the victim had their throats [illegible] of blood.

But they [illegible]

For the whole [illegible] had been in the grip of the [illegible] Gandelinian. [illegible] was not even a [illegible] could not afterwards be [illegible] following characters:

"[illegible] of the [illegible] by the [illegible]

A national [illegible] history [illegible] in India or [illegible] this and [illegible] against [illegible] even abroad, [illegible] Gandelinian [illegible] to give [illegible] to the [illegible] and to give [illegible] Gandelinians [illegible] the [illegible] Gandelinians [illegible] one occasion [illegible] college of the Gandelinians [illegible] the end, and with a [illegible] fog. But [illegible] in the town of St [illegible] every day. [illegible] seen passing through the village [illegible] of grey phantoms, [illegible] burning towns, [illegible] Indians were [illegible] were. It was in May 1913 that it seemed [illegible] come to an end.

[illegible] the middle ages.

[illegible] his movements and [illegible] of the Great Conservatism and fierce [illegible] by him, it being a most formidable [illegible]

While the soldiers [illegible] in several squadrons [illegible] over the Gandelinians [illegible] the Face himself with his large body of [illegible] and piety, had gone down the [illegible] squadron of the [illegible] was a matter of a desperate fight [illegible] of these "Ghosts" [illegible] the woods he had [illegible] precautions at which people laughed [illegible] strongly on the conviction of [illegible] and his regiment to defeat [illegible] fold conflict [illegible] fightful losses in dead and wounded. [illegible] the round of conflict [illegible] Gandelinians who did not succeed in getting [illegible] throw up their arms begging for mercy, [illegible] dead bodies of the Gandelinians were guided [illegible] through a section of the country. [illegible] the hands of these enemy murderers [illegible] no one could tell who the leader of [illegible] They even sometimes wondered what [illegible] of those even scientific days, [illegible] Gandelinians and left the authorities helpless if consulted [illegible] by themselves. But by comparing them with other faces [illegible] no doubt may come at a fairly shrewd guess. To begin with, all the sturdy peasants and townspeople had firearms and dogs, and a whole country side would not have remained in terror very long on account of any amount of Gandelinians even if their columns would have been abnormally big and fierce had not the enemy had good swift horses and fierce hunting dogs of their own. It is not the habit of any woman or child in Abbisanian Provinces because of their godliness to become or be cowards and feel long in the face of anything not even supernatural creatures of hell. With club and flints peasants had conquered and [illegible] Gandelinian troopers. But the question was, where these Gandelinian butchers and raiders those fierce unconquerable Hobbenites which are so dreaded? Such was one of the dreaded theories at the time but u d undoubtedly wrong.

It is seen and has been seen from other sources or cases that these Gandelinians are aided by cruel and devilish sorcerers, and it is not surprising also to learn that these magicians were leaders of gandelinian troops or cavalry, and here there is evident proof odor the sadistic form of cruelty and wickedness which delights in mutilating children....

It would seem that these sorcerer let Gandelinian troopers had themselves in [illegible] and [illegible] directed their troopers to dash into a [illegible] and [illegible] children, and of [illegible] terrified. This could [illegible] not in addition the leader of the whole outfit [illegible] of [illegible] he dressed up on occasions of the raids. No doubt the shrewd leaders of these Gandelinians had thought it best to fix up as if he was a sort of cynthoid beast, and made the troopers [illegible] that sort of disguise.

Indeed the [illegible] of this [illegible] had been [illegible] continually shown by [illegible] itself. [illegible] much as if [illegible] of the sea, [illegible] like the overflow of lava from exploding volcanoes or the tidal waves of overflowing seas, or from disturbances [illegible] and [illegible] the Gandelinians had rush ed [illegible] could give the [illegible] Calverinian Provinces and overwhelm [illegible] the [illegible] forces. They had seemed to spring up from [illegible] as if they [illegible] engine dug [illegible] many of them come as if [illegible] of [illegible] in [illegible] of [illegible] rising up as furious [illegible] from the [illegible] state. [illegible] had continued on com ing inch on a [illegible] they had be e and [illegible] all opposition in their rush [illegible] it seems impossible for any person acquainted with the [illegible] of [illegible] from dread of such a [illegible] of Gandelinians [illegible] the terror and tyrannicy of the [illegible] Gandelinian, [illegible] two months after [illegible] and collapsed [illegible] of the [illegible] and [illegible] was dominated by fierce forest fires and other terrific disasters.

Under the [illegible] Albion and [illegible] civilization the world there had been a [illegible] and orderly place. There had [illegible] the great [illegible] and United States life [illegible] billions of railroad lines, the [illegible] and beautiful towns and [illegible] of the knowledge of the [illegible] Banks [illegible] Chicago and other big American cities [illegible] villages. Everything [illegible] wiped off the in Overall State. And in Calverinian [illegible] all in [illegible] in spite of it the Gandelinian [illegible] the use of [illegible] the end of the world was nigh. Both in to come [illegible] the [illegible] of the enemy had become every [illegible] dominating thought. It could and did stampede the population of a [illegible] cattle now [illegible] shouts "fire" at the [illegible]

It must be remembered that [illegible] if the [illegible] of Gandelinians were [illegible] to have been prevented [illegible] external causes in the same way as a [illegible] called the "Terror" of the Calverinian [illegible] occurrence. A similar [illegible] believed the enemy secretly were [illegible] the city [illegible] going to disappear from [illegible] people could disappear with [illegible] the [illegible] end of the world believing [illegible] that time. The great fear of the reputation of the "Gandelinian" [illegible] over Calverinia just before the [illegible] of this fear could be [illegible] like [illegible] of a [illegible]

The fear arose in the [illegible] of the beginning of late September when the forest fires [illegible] west of the country which [illegible] through the provinces of [illegible] and [illegible] implications were the same [illegible] time had never known anything like this [illegible] have really threaten threatened, a [illegible] coming from no one could find where, [illegible] an army of the enemy was advancing to [illegible] of the Big Sandige Run River while already [illegible] Immediately the alarm was spread in all directions. All [illegible] themselves, the [illegible] too, while [illegible] themselves carrying their children and [illegible] farms and villages in the river lowlands and fled [illegible] household belongings, and many days were passed [illegible] Then it was per ceived a christian army [illegible] and the enemy could not advance, and that there [illegible] for this fright. Very [illegible] then became calm again [illegible] the same scenes began to happen in the next province. During the night of September the 24th 25th the same warning came in St Martinville city northern Calverinia. And the alarm bell rang in all the Parishes. Women and children fled the city, the militia was called to arms, the christian army near by [illegible] and advanced out of the city, the christian army came up, was too strong to be met with, and the enemy retreated, and fled the region more terrified than those they had terrified. In many parts of the country this strange disease [illegible] produced death from stoppage of the heart, and the effects of terror. The most trifling cause brought up an epidemic of the terror. The epidemic spread in one direction to Angelinia State and Angeline vine, and in a different direction to all other provinces, then through Angelinia State and Renewing in Calverinia added by the continual "Greatest Fire Scares."

These strange attacks of collective madness were proved to be caused by the dreadful horrors of the way Gandelinia carried on her rebellion

[illegible] Even all the dom
[illegible] animals, [illegible] every sort became
suddenly as if [illegible] they would no longer
recognize their [illegible] of the
litter. [illegible] or injury. Even
the [illegible] the scarcity of their
numbers in [illegible] even write or tell
of the extraordinary [illegible] assumed. Most
of the vipers in [illegible] themselves to their
fate, [illegible] and [illegible] awaited the "end of
the world" [illegible] enemies.

[illegible] In the meantime this [illegible] read in a paper
which she had found in [illegible] the enemy was on the
retreat. It [illegible]

"Not since [illegible] by the Christian dog Government of
our own [illegible] dramatic
[illegible] near the
city of Lebanon on the [illegible] October. General Hater
[illegible] of the Clandelli [illegible] -Gendlin [illegible],
has been publicly degraded of the [illegible] and other orders
following his trial and conviction [illegible] of espionage in the
[illegible] Lindelinian [illegible] of his [illegible] is believed to
have caused the loss [illegible] of the many
[illegible] and [illegible] of the [illegible] Vivian Girl Princesses
and of another called Jennie Francis [illegible], referred to by our side
as the "Dangerous Miss [illegible] of all Abbigania.

[illegible] have
operated [illegible] for a long time, and it is [illegible] them to hold
them [illegible] all covered with
still more [illegible] them would
[illegible] little
conspiracy [illegible] and some of
high [illegible] even been beguiled
into treachery by their [illegible] against the Christian
dog [illegible] have ever since
been [illegible] of being a friend of being in the pay
of these spies. Recently [illegible] and arrested, only
fifty six [illegible] the others had no
evidence against [illegible] from five to twenty
years. [illegible] prisoners under
investigation, and these vivian girls, Jennie [illegible] and others, they
cannot be found or [illegible] under the [illegible] of surveillance,
and if something is not done [illegible] Lindelinian's
[illegible] detriment, [illegible] Abbigania.

The Organizations [illegible] especially menacing
since it was [illegible] with funds,
weapons of all [illegible] and backed by some
of the [illegible] chieftains [illegible] by those so called
persons the Gemini.

[illegible] secret departments, [illegible] and chronicle
are maintained. [illegible] Jennie Turner,
Angeline Jane [illegible], [illegible] herself
Gertrude Ameline, [illegible] titles.

Another dangerous [illegible] Lindelinian. The
[illegible] girl [illegible] there
were [illegible] girls. The
investigators have [illegible] different
persons, the Vivian Girls [illegible] Lindelinian City
Mayor of Glandelli, [illegible] famous engineer
[illegible] Lindelinian [illegible] Chief of Espionage in Northern Abbigania.
[illegible] Vivian Girl Princesses, with the result
that she was made chief of espionage in Abbigania. She was a frequent
visitor to Glandelinian City and [illegible] Vivian Wicley and other concerts doing her spying so
cleverly that she was never detected. She [illegible] the role of a great [illegible]
child with no difficulty. If any one double dressed her or the Prince
Princesses they were in for it good and hard. If they cannot never be
apprehended, we are in for bad ourselves.

A [illegible] of Lindelinian
Government."

"Think right rich indeed" thought Gertrude Ameline. "Well that's the
best ever. And other [illegible] children could [illegible] nothing to
frustrate the enemy. And so Jennie Turner is a Jewess is she. Wait till
I call her a Jew. Won't she be [illegible] surprised. A Jew or a Jewess eh.
Well if she's a Jew, then I'm a hindoo. Well if I ever. That the stringent
remark I ever heard. And my sister is disguised in a Rattlesnake! If she
is one year older than me, she ought to have eleven rattlers, I suppose I'm
the Cockroach, and Angelinia Mchee is the Cobra. Well maybe Violet and her
sisters are-----" He stopped short, and leaning back in her chair nearly
[illegible] it over finished for fully three minutes. This situation on the
[illegible] was the best she had ever read, of how her followers
and friends get the best on the enemy in every detail.

"In the meantime on this warm and sultry day of October, while
general Viviano's army was moving eastward after Tarcelines retreat
[illegible] three horsemen were speeding over the Vantum roads toward
St Ethelbrida. One of the small group [illegible] the pace
for his fellows. [illegible] rides ahead.

The riders were [illegible] the country already [illegible] by battle
as if [illegible] their horses, with never a sound to
indicate their presence. [illegible] appeared to be about nine years
old and were dressed [illegible] of the Advanced Boyscouts
of the Bunde called [illegible] pigeons, which [illegible] the most
dreaded of them all. [illegible] have received [illegible] of ill, the bages
badges [illegible] the [illegible] recognized that one of the boys
were also members of the [illegible] Advanced Scout Patrol of Abbigania
armies of general Sengentian [illegible] command. The third member
of the group [illegible] than his comrades
and [illegible] hair [illegible] bob fashion and a
member of the Gandelli [illegible] even Forrest or
Radcliffe, [illegible]

As [illegible] time that seemed
[illegible] for [illegible] banning
[illegible] frightfully alarmed, and
the [illegible] the [illegible] the
seemed [illegible] child he hastened to be
in the road [illegible] the city. Instantly the others
slackened the [illegible] Boy had veered his
horse to avoid [illegible] old girls.

"[illegible]"

"[illegible] to [illegible] quite."

"[illegible] to [illegible] something
else and [illegible] is Battle of general
Aventurge [illegible]."

"[illegible] maybe the child did get
in the way."

Dismounting [illegible] close to the boy
[illegible] the supposed [illegible] child [illegible] reached their friend, and
and [illegible]

"What's the trouble [illegible] a fellow headed boy? Then without
waiting waiting for an [illegible] I believe I know. You haven't tell me.
Your horse is ill. [illegible] is lame, [illegible] and [illegible]."

"[illegible] could [illegible] I gave it the proper oats
before we started out."

But his comrades [illegible] Henry's words. The latter however
turned again to an examination of his favorite animal with a worried
look on his face, while the little girl [illegible] closer with a look of pity
in her face. He went carefully over the poor animal.

"Now Henry" [illegible] up the third boy. "Those oats of yours are some loud
smellers. Where did you get them and what were you doing with them. It
smells in this bag as if someone tried to have Deacons in cooking
Limburger Cheese in water full of Iodine and Cockroach Powder, fixed
with Castor and Mineral Oil and boiled the weather to death before it
cooling boiled."

"I believe I [illegible]" said Fred. "Those oats has gone through a Hot smeller
with Limberger cheese in a hot box."

"This [illegible] thing [illegible] though it sounded as that."

"Are you sure?" inquired Henry his face appearing more worried.

"[illegible] in the face if I lie," declared Fred.

"[illegible] Fa Flantage [illegible] Evangeline St Claire
[illegible] Army [illegible] the [illegible] of [illegible] Stinger." Hans
[illegible] "[illegible] the oats get that way?" Pondered Fred. "Anyway we are all right.
[illegible]"

"[illegible] outside truth, I believe some one was mean
enough to wish to put this onto me" soberly declared Henry.

"[illegible] Hans with a startled look.

"[illegible] Fred [illegible] oats [illegible] in our supply."?

"[illegible] Much of all of us boys work on his own oat supply
and I've [illegible] a very good job on my supply. The horse why
my [illegible]"

"[illegible]" the other boys were more startled.

"This is strange" said Fred examining the animal. "All of us boys did
good jobs and did not do in error. But see poor Henrys horse. It's really
dead."

"Ho. Ho." Jeered Hans. "My I'll bet some secret Gandelinian fools
were at the bottom of this. Just see into our own oats here. It's good we
didn't feed our barn horses yet."

"That is the correct term for a lot of [illegible] strangely contaminated."Maybe you didn't see the point."

"Well Leaping Lizards."cried Fred.

"It's a good thing Ned Palmer isn't here to see this."declared Hans. "As leader of the Flamingoes he'd believe we made a mistake, and would hold us responsible for the horse."

"Well if we are responsible for the death of the horse"stoutly decided Fred"I'd call the horses service for sure.""Besides"he continued i"its a good thing he isn't here or he'd look at us for a lot of amateurs who don't know how to ride horses without riding one of them to death on [illegible] Chasing Chaos Or s.I guess you [illegible]

"[illegible]"cried Henry in an excited voice. Each instantly glancing about [illegible] afraid of being overheard by Ned [illegible] [illegible] of companions having planned that [illegible] would have seen fit to [illegible] a spectacular [illegible] in the [illegible] in it."

"[illegible] the bag of oats the boy had took [illegible] and with his own eyes [illegible] he had some of the stuff mixed with the oats [illegible] stuff was greasy and thick and of a strange smelling color.

"That's the poison."[illegible] kill any animal. that ain't able to vomit."

"[illegible] poison."[illegible] with the oats to have had [illegible] disagreed on us. Well you [illegible] Chandelaine [illegible] due to go through to [illegible] before we reach a stage of [illegible] our friends [illegible]."

"[illegible] is too good [illegible] to draw the drawbridge [illegible] the road, and then [illegible] we can on the two good horses to the [illegible] Angelina Arenburg. It's only [illegible] one of your horses on [illegible]."

"[illegible] in 15 sec."You ride on behind me, [illegible] a number of men to turn the poor horse."

I a few moments the three boys [illegible] the way, but this time i time their [illegible] decided [illegible] laid toward the direction [illegible] the child scout camps were to be found. While the three [illegible] their errand [illegible] he will be use to make a [illegible] ation of themselves those of the readers who have [illegible] the adventures of all the child heroines and [illegible] in previous volumes [illegible] always chose from one boy [illegible] without introduction [illegible] they are the real [illegible] in the story as Violet, and her sister, [illegible] For the benefit of those who have to become [illegible] and play of our boy and girlscouts of Allegania [illegible] not be out of place at this critical [illegible] States, in southern Delaware, in the Phillipines of Calvecinia, in Angelinia State, in all other provinces, during battles, floods, fires and other war disasters were thrilling in the extreme and [illegible] to many and have many situations of peril from which the most energetic efforts on the part of the boy and girls ou's through the intercession of Heaven brought safty.

Hans Turner the lad with the [illegible] had been an orphan boy and had been always living in the [illegible] grounds of Angelinia Agathia until he had fallen victim to the depravation of lolat Vivian who with her sisters was the real originator of the girl and boyscout Regiments for every standard [illegible]. He was a slight built and though [illegible] the same age as the other lads, was somewhat taller. His active manner, quick wit, and dark bellinger in times of danger, [illegible] righteous and piety beyond measure coupled with a sharp perception and an ability to correctly weigh measures and values move than made up for his [illegible] Hans and he soon stick [illegible] and legs. Wise beyond his years, he always proved a welcome [illegible] member of any party despite being so [illegible] had arms and legs as sturdy as steel, and could easily carried carry seventy pounds under his arm still as he is. What would he be able to do twenty years from now. Ba a Jack [illegible] Henry Hastings who had just suffered the loss of his house, was the son of a well known christian officer. Just as Hans, he was exceedingly active and a strict observance of all boyscout "setting up exercises" diet and health regulations [illegible] had been instilled into by Violet, and her sisters had drilled in Henry was as the other lads, a wonder of endurance too possessed a skill in athletics that other him well in [illegible] when occasion required feats of endurance or agility that might well have taxed the ability of many men of greater physical proportions. His bare brownish complexion contrasted strongly with Hans ruddy face and wealth of yellow hair yet the two lad were as brothers despite their difference in size strength and appearance.

Fred Jackson, the son of a prominent municipal manufacturer was the third of this trio of travelers. He was good at all sorts of Engineering. Just now the threese lads were hastening toward the portion of general Vivians army that still remained to guard the planed city, to meet with Gertrude Angeline and all her officers by [illegible] battle. She had gum oned them by wireless telegraph from their [illegible] place at general Arenburg's army. For purpose of greater seclusion during their experiments great positions had been constructed on a portion of the ocean battle ground of St Etheldreda. In addition to being out of the regular line of travel the position afforded the further advantage of being within easy reach of one of the still running railroads railroads as well as being near

the shore of Vantum River. Here since the battle the soldiers had toiled [illegible] industriously constructing the position to safe guard the remains of the city, and the boy and girlscout camps [illegible] this particular day the toilers had been starting the final success and now they were getting through. Half of General Vivians army had followed after Tumerline, one quarter had gone in another direction to try and intercept him and the rest with cavalry and artillery had remained behind to guard St Ethel dreda. The boyscouts had started for this location, and at first their start had been without incident, and it was not untill they approached within easy sight of the positions that they experienced any difficulty. Apparently the ride would be a good fact one. The reason for their trip was that while in Concentinian Arenburg army a message had come over over a "pony wire from the near by telegraphic system station. Filled with wonder, but without hesitation the boys had at once dropped everything they were doing, and at a suggestion from Henry had chosen to use their fast horses rather than [illegible] for [illegible] at the night [illegible] the camps however Hans's mount had indeed died of strange poisoning. In spite of deciding to go fast they were using [illegible] and allowing their horses to trot slowly along the road. The boys had [illegible] proceeded far, when Henry called out:

"Let's cut across the [illegible] road. Go through the Vantum plain. It will save nearly two more miles of travel."

Hans only nodded his head. He then turned the horses toward a footpath [illegible] and diagonally across a large level meadow. A thick screen of [illegible] higher than above their heads even while on horse covering near the road and along it did the meadows from the view of any one on the roadway. Not untill they had passed through the opening did the boys observe that a group of young ranger boyscouts "off duty" and of about their own age were engaged in a game of ball with a party of girlscouts on the meadow. These lads and girls seemed of those under Gertrude Angeline, but the designs of their sleeves were entirely different and the hats of the girls were entirely different [illegible].

It was too late to turn back sooner, so Hans gave a discordant shout of warning and held to the path, nearly riding upon a base runner who was sliding for second. Shouts of surprise were from the the throats of the crowd of players and spectators. In an instant all were at attention for the three boys [illegible] of [illegible].

"Did you friends get the enemy out of home."[illegible] asked of one of the boys.

"Yes general Vivian routed the crowd."cried one of the boys, brandishing the bat he held.

"And I heard general [illegible] general Hanleys army good too didn't he?"[illegible] the soldiers routed the enemy good and [illegible] some say our side is losing the war."Sah. Hanson fought an Irish man called Clancy and he licked him out he's."

And shouts of [illegible] and defiance were from others and fists were ha sha en in the di c ion there [illegible] and been, and coarse threats, were mixed freely with (sinless) applications of scorn and hatred for the enemy.

"[illegible] the boyscouts of the Rangers!"cried Fred.

"[illegible] the fatigue."

"[illegible] covered [illegible]."

"General Vivians. We came out yesterday. We're going to be in addition to the Rangers. We're fifteen hundred strong, and more are coming."

"Which way can we reach the camp of the Rangers."

The boyscout pointed, and then not wishing to stop the game any longer they started their horses forward again. In another minute they would be clear of the field.

"I hope general Vivian won't let Clancy or Tumerline get away."Yelled one of the boys."I hope they wes't let them and their armies get away. They must stop and capture the knobs."

Fifteen minutes later they were in Gertrudes headquarters awaiting her Arrival as George Zimmermon the aide-de-camp said she had gone out scouting and had told him he she'd return within another half hour.

"Great Leaping Lizards, what a battle that fight at Lebanon must have been."exclaimed Hans.

"Yes! and what a long stubborn battle they had here too."declared Henry.

"I mean to say the war is going to blazes."cried Fred.

"Yes"cried Henry impatiently Lold Group a warning hand."Just imagine what a state Calvecinia is in."

"Join in the argument."the others answered resignedly."I wish Miss Angelinia Arenburg would hurry."

The three three Flamingo boyscouts were seated in the Reception room of Gertrude Angelines headquarters, and just then were the only members present. Nearly the entire building had been for the time being given over to the use of the boy and girlscout officers only. During the time their stay had been there before and during the great battle of St Etheldreda all the members of the bands had lent their best efforts to fitting the rooms up in a manner manner becoming the use to which they were being put. Part of the walls hung trophies of their prowess as boy and girlscouts. Rugs of [illegible] were on the floor, chairs and settees furnished by the boy and girlscouts themselves offered comfort, while military pennants and [illegible] indicating prizes awarded in boyscout heroism were plentifully in evidence. By great fortune all the boy and girlscouts who had been in the bloody engagement on the Vantum road for the safty of the refugees had succeeded in escaping the great losses which Gertrude Angeline had feared. Each those given up as dead had returned, and nearly all the wounded were recovering rapidly or slowly, and some had already returned from the hospitals. The three boys who were rather impatiently awaiting the coming of Gertrude Angeline wondered where all the boy and girlscouts were as the whole camp had not a single soul but some soldier guards or sentries. Not even the youngest

child scout was seen.

"Maybe Angelinia Armburg didn't believe we could get here so early."

Henry suggested, moving a camp stool nearer the window and seating himself. "Something must be doing as there is not a girl or boy in the whole camp."

"Maybe she didn't expect we nearly failed to get here at all."

"If it hadn't been for the good fact that you didn't give your oats to your horses we would be still on our way and maybe get here to morrow morning." declared Fredwith some force.

"Right you are indeed Fred." "Good thing you forgot the oats in your haste. Hurry! I'll hand that that prevented us from being stopped. But they who ever did that got Henry's name."

"They're a tough lot of Clandelinians" admitted Henry. "The reason we're secrets is because this war seems to be mainly against all of the children. It is getting to be a question whether they know us too. There ought to be some way of getting time off. We should see the Princesses about it."

"Good idea Henry, but just now the matter is far too hot for even a little time of the [illegible] about it. What do you say to having a pitcher of lemonade?"

"The eyes have it," declared Fred. [illegible] interrupted further words.

A [illegible] on the stairs and [illegible] by Jim Saunders, and Fair little Angeline Jiches, [illegible] Redwood Finself, and also Priscilla [illegible] on the boys recognized at once as the girl [illegible] Jennings came into the recept ion room, dancing gaily, [illegible] bright and [illegible] eyes.

"I be good if I expected a whole cavalcade" merely remarked Henry in [illegible] and lifted his right hand. "Well well but is Gertrude Angeline."

A general laugh went round [illegible] characteristic greeting was given. All noticed however that [illegible] hand formed the well known boy scout signal [illegible] Angeline Jennings [illegible] Instantly [illegible] followed. "And now" [illegible] "Here's Gertrude."

"Why the worried appearance, plain [illegible] Vivian in the battle aft after all?" [illegible]

"I'm the one who [illegible]" said Angeline Jennings. "The situation seems to be mighty serious."

"It sure does" Angeline Jiches [illegible] replied in addition.

"Tearing [illegible]." [illegible] "What's that?" [illegible] Angeline Jennings, instantly half rising.

"I've got a new word." [illegible] to explain, understanding that Angeline Jennings doesn't care for slang words. "I'm using it only on special occasions something [illegible] being under fire. or some little thing like that [illegible] having horses die of "oats" poisoning in the road."

"That's fine" ironically declared Angeline Jennings. "Now we will cast aside the special occasions and it will be a fine. Where did you get that [illegible] slang. We don't allow it here."

"Where Henry lost his horse by eating oats." declared Fred.

"Died of eating oats. Absurd. Could not be possible. Oats are the best thing we eat for a horse and us too."

"But my horses did die of oats."

In answer to Miss Jennings puzzled looks the three boys detailed in graphic manner the events of the early morning. Their previous experience though out the war had taught them never to let anything out escape no matter how trifling it might at first appear. Angeline Jennings was a [illegible] and said.

"Well [illegible] but you boys are shadowed and don't see the point. Didn't no one follow you?"

"No."

"Great Dodging Lizards. Shadowed are we. Well I'll fix the shadowers."

A big pitcher of lemonade which had arrived by [illegible] prepared had been passed about, to which every one did full justice for they were hot and thirsty.

"Now" [illegible] began Henry himself, as the pitcher was emptied, and he set it with a [illegible] of lemon in his hand "Can't we do something to prevent those dirty Clandelinian fools from always shadowing us. That seems to bother us a lot more than anything else does. Only the other day we ourselves were fired at from ambush."

"Possibly I might send a detail of guards to cover you but that won't stop the Clandelinians stop and instead they might shadow the guards also" laughingly declared Angeline Jiches "and if the guards are shadowed then the situation would be madruptted. If you try and stop them yourself Henry, they will stop shadowing you while they learn to see them. See the point?"

"I believe I do." [illegible] "Look [illegible] the big hair and [illegible] lively chewing on a lemon rind, and [illegible] face because I [illegible] so sour.

"But Miss Jennings," protested Fred and Hans impatiently "We are more than over anxious to hear why you gave us this hurry call. What was the reason for such haste. We came fifty miles to answer your call?"

The faces of Angeline Jennings and Jiches which had cleared somewhat again became somewhat grave.

"I hated to have to do a special favor for Ed and Gertrude" said Angeline Jennings. "She had intended to interview you on this subject but she is too far away on her scouting trip to come, and therefore she signalled me by telegraph to do it for her. I for the first need your advice."

"We are the best little advisers" stoutly maintained Henry. "What we don't know we can find out from the Crazy Irishman Clancy, the Hanleys, and other Clandelinian fools."

"You are wonderfully good and kind" answered Angeline Jennings. "But this case needs more than spy efforts I'm afraid. It seems to be those International complications, with some sort of other work more dangerous than treason, and many other things on the side."

"My goodness what big words you use" gasped Fred. "Why don't you give the case right over to the Vivian girls or to Emperor Vivian, and be done with it. Why should we be mixed up with those Mutt and Jeff spies?"

"Well.."

"Because it is not considered polite to refuse their pleading request." "Well"

"Do you mean to say" [illegible] began Henry in astonishment.

"Just that" [illegible] added Angeline Jennings. "Violet, and her sisters by wireless telegraph, have asked Gertrude Angeline to take this case in hand and make the attempt to forestall six dangerous accomplices of these more dangerous spies, for the two are having these six men go spying about somewhere with the suspected attempt of these the two Inter a International spies to steal sell out the Abbieannian country to Clandelinia and her governments..e.e.e."

"Sell out what" gasped the three boys together.

"Sell out Abbieannia."

"Impossible, some one must be dreaming. Why--"

Nothing is impossible with them [illegible] devils. The one who resembles Jeff " if the [illegible] of every one of the dangerous Clandelinian spies, is a very bad man, who has been engaged in hundreds of intrigues of a very serious nature thereby he and his bigger comrade the "Mutt" have always made big money, and even made suckers out of many Clandelinian officials. He has also a very reputation for being a great assassin of children as well as many other things that are decided dangerous to the cause. We had expect to find the two themselves but these six accomplices of theirs have got to be frustrated. The latest act which thank God has not been successful is the alleged theft of some plans of the defensive edge positions around or near the besieged cities of Cloviley and Vivian Farmer, and now it is thought he is going to try and get across the Darnall States and endeavor to secure some other plans. All his accomplices are to secure plans of the California government and sell these plans to the Clandelinian Government at some [illegible] make it worse these six men have been naturalized citizens of the Abbieannian States, are trained military men as well as officers. In charge of them, and understands that they are armed to the extent of a very handsome reward. They are desperate men indeed."

"Then all we've got to do is to run out and capture these men, return them to some Abbieannian marshall and get a receipt and collect for the cause." [illegible]

"No, you do not need to capture those men. While Gertrude and her bands try to secure these six men you're to go within the enemy camp disguised as Clandelinian boyscouts and see if the two Professional spies are there. If they are, you're to get them with a good shooting pistol. That's all."

"Fine [illegible] Hans. "Might as well next be to go to Indies to get Satan and Hide Out Jesse. Do we go visit the burning forests of Calverinia again or go to the North Pole, or into the Deadly Depths of Orange or the Death Valley in California."

"Why exactly." said Angeline Jennings, unless the spies are there. But we do have the time of the lot. It seems as if she will have to go across Abbieann territory and get mixed up in some scrap be, and that section extending along and fifty mile front that's been raging for five months already, she longer battle going yet. It's in that region they're to try and get there. They are reported to have left the region of Abbieann some days ago and if Indications are correct is now on the Moore Rivier bound for some big Clandelinian general where he hopes or they hope to sell the plans, and you were to go into the enemy camps or Hanleys and if not successful in getting the spies, to at least prevent them from finding out and frustrating Gertrudes plans to capture the six accomplices."

"And the Princesses hand us a job like that. Kind of them I must say." "Hum," [illegible] "No soldiers handy for such a job."

"They were to write to Gertrude begging her to go to that job" retorted Angeline Jennings. "If you boys want to help her all right. It's a dangerous mission, and you are not required or forced to go. There is no disgrace if we failed on either side, and there may be no little credit if we succeed. But these six are dangerous characters to the cause and must be destroyed if they cannot be captured."

"Well [illegible] boys [illegible] the camp to settle our bills." [illegible] "Hans. "I'm all in a quiet."

[illegible] accepting the proposition the entire party made for where the [illegible] and brought their horses. A ride through the pleasant scenes of the camp did much to relieve the three boyscouts of the strain under

which they had been laboring during the earlier part of the day. They were accompanied by Angeline Jennings, Richee and others who enjoyed their company.

"We'll have the big craft load again in position on the waters by to-morrow noon," Angeline Richee [illegible] joyfully, "and then maybe we can get [illegible] by going on the [illegible]."

"It remains to be settled then, that we shall [illegible] our mettle in undertaking the mission?" inquired Angeline Jennings much relieved to note the attitude of her three boyscout chums in the matter. This is volunteer service remember."

"Do you believe that for a minute that we'd see Gertrude Angeline undertake a trip of this sort, and remain quietly in camp, when we can watch the two Professionals?" asked Henry dividing his attention between the scenery and Angeline Jennings. "Why Angeline old scout, we could not even imagine such a thing, let alone pretend it. It's enough for us if you decide to go anywhere. We'll trail along in shadowing the two Professionals, spies and do what little we can to help."

"Take the way to odd things, Angeline Jennings," [illegible] heartily.

"I'm with you anywhere you see fit to undertake," said Fred.

"Me too," said [illegible]

"If the big craft could [illegible] here [illegible] at the time expected," Angeline Jennings said meditatively. "I'd not be afraid to over [illegible] the ocean on her." Then turning to Jean she continued "No need to give final instruct[illegible] to the crew, Jean. Your girl crew is not new in the service but is our command."

"Yes Lids Angeline Richee," [illegible] put in Jean, "we can trust them."

"The big craft has greater power than any big boat ever built," said [illegible] "It handles better [illegible] battleship [illegible] and [illegible] have had many [illegible] months of trial on her of [illegible] the [illegible] tender the whole equipment of [illegible]."

"She's simply marvelous" put in Jean "the way [illegible] cabin [illegible] three or four cabins in room for every one of [illegible] comfortably and on occasion we can crowd on the [illegible] planes [illegible] rooms for [illegible] and [illegible] long. [illegible] space in wanted, and yet there is no crowding."

"To what do you attribute this wonderful power of the big craft and the other unusual qualities?" inquired Fred [illegible]

"Principally the way the series of [illegible] are placed and balanced before the floors and cabins are put on," replied Angeline Richee. "That was the idea of the construction engineers. Really it is 'unsinkable.'"

"Come come boys," pressed Angeline Jennings. "Let us get back to Gertrude's headquarters. Gertrude ought to have returned by this time."

Accordingly they [illegible] retraced their steps, and in a short time the party again ascended the stairway to the headquarters reconnoitering. [illegible] astonishment astonishment to find that Gertrude Angeline [illegible] single boy or girlscout was not even in the camp. For a long time they set about the room discussing the conditions of the troops. Details of the case were going over and over again and discussed from all angles. Intense interest was manifested on the part of them all as they talked. A stumbling on the steps interrupted their conversation. Covered with blood, his clothing in tatters, a soldier and a [illegible] officer half fell into the room reeling, [illegible] a chair [illegible] exhaustion. All in the room jumped to their feet preparing to go to the [illegible] assistance. They were interrupted by a whirling [illegible] telephone bell.

Angeline Richee was the first to reach it.

"Hello this is Angeline Richee. What's that. We will be right out."

Turning a startled face to her companions she cried

"General Vivian's left is assaulted by a new force of Glandelinians come to Tamerlinck assistance at Hangar Gum. We must go."

THE BATTLE AT HANGAR GUM, WITH ITS STARTLING RESULTS.

General Vivian in the meantime before this part of the story opened had apparently forgot that these Glandelinian armies could be "mouse" around. In her advance with half the force against Tamerline he had cast aside all precautions as it seemed, and was [illegible] his horse [illegible] the influence of his troops. As [illegible] that [illegible] advance [illegible] yard, he dashed swiftly along side the advancing troops with his [illegible] rumpled and coat but half buttoned, not many minutes passed [illegible] had been call on the advance. He felt sure [illegible] station in his retreat appealed to the January station [illegible] Hangar where unexpectedly to general Vivian another Glandelinian army was stationed. His impatience at the frequent stops of the army and the strange consultations of his generals increased as the distance [illegible] He could scarcely sit still on his horse. He was getting [illegible] with his lower lip, eye lids puckered [illegible] a small line [illegible] line drawing down feet about the corners of his usually [illegible] frank but daring blue eyes with little lines of [illegible] from the corner of his lips, and a bright flush showing [illegible] underneath the big chin, general Vivian did not appear as the usually merry and good natured general his generals were so well accustomed to greet. He was plainly very angry. Scarcely had the army halted near the station before general Vivian wondered what could have happened

[illegible] rode forward a few rods, then forced his horse at to a stop. Again he urged the horse forward.

"What in the world in the matter with those generals of mine." Murmured the general as he rode rapidly along. "If general Hanson my brother could see me now he'd call me a fraud. There's something up I see, but the army goes ahead to day or I'll fire every one who disobeys me. I'm advancing not halting every five minutes."

Turning a bend in the road general Vivian slowed his horse a trifle until he came near a meadow. The officers were there in excited conversation. Apparently controlling himself with an effort, the general rode along the fringe of bushes that lid this lot and the fields beyond free from pursuers. A glance through an opening showed him that the meadow was not deserted. His generals were occupying the place in a group.

"Well, gentlemen" the general quietly said as he neared the group. They all wheeled in amazement at expecting their superior to be so near and had all been too absorbed to note the advent of their superior.

"Well what is up now" general Vivian then demanded, addressing general James Brondie.

"We are confronted by a strong Glandelinian force. I don't understand whether Tamerline has rallied a portion of his army or whether a new div. has come to his aid."

"Well I'm wishing to see your captian general, C. Charles Brown" announced general Vivian in over tones that belied the feelings raging within his breast. Not a hint did he give of the storm within at the news.

"He is at the head of the line of march" said general Brondie.

"But why ain't you advancing then. This ain't no time to be halting the army. Tamerline will escape. You've done enough of that already."

"But what are we going to do when confronted by such another foe."

"That's just what I want to see you about if you please," replied general Vivian in the most sarcastic tones. "I feel that there has been too much interference on the part of the enemy already, and we got to do something to square things. We must continue the advance."

"But the enemy may get in on the rear as we march."

"You believe they would do so?" said general Vivian."

"Yes sir." declared another general of burly proportions, urging his horse through the group of officers now gathered in an almost close wedge. "Why not try and get around that army rear sir. I don't see why an enemy would form an advance to frustrate our advance. They're a new force come to cover Tamerlines retreat."

A hot retort was on general Vivians lips, but he held it. From the rear of the crowd of generals, came the voice of another, who following the instincts of his sort, and swift to follow it with actions of his own if bettered to do so.

"We ought to smash that Glandelinian army confronting us general Logan. They're too fresh with us Christians anyhow. The whole of Glandelinia is ours. They believe they can whip us because they got many armies."

"Sure enough that one" cried another officer edging forward. "Well then we will have two Glandelinian armies worsted in succession."

"If you desire to start a new battle I'll converse with the chief of you" announced general vivian not a particle particle disturbed by the news of another foe army confronting him and the menacing attitude of his or what might happen.

"I'll represent general Charles Brown sir" announced the burly general respectfully. "If you desire to get at that army we advise you [illegible] to be careful though for none of us can be sure who that enemy is or what general is under or over it. One of the scouts believes it's either Cinn ch'a, Beppo Evans, or Izmer Myletze and if it is either one we got a bad deal on."

General vivian however ignored this suggestion, and faced the general squarely glancing fearlessly into his eyes.

"There has been a lot of stuff stuff pulled off by those Glandelinian generals you mentioned lately" general vivian said in a low tone. "some how all other generals have been unable to hold these Glandelinian generals at bay, and now it seems we ourselves have not been able to travel forward through Abbiennie territory without running foul of them or their armies. Therefore purely by accident we have had the misfortune or fortune to come across one of them and--"

"We can pull rough stuff" interrupted general Ben Logan "The Glandelinians have pulled off too much of their self styled crazy designs and they have to quit. If other could not whip them why not we try it."

"That's just what I'm going to do and what we will remain here for at that" snapped general vivian, dropping the suave manner. "We can all put a stop to their advance in this direction."

"Well let's start as soon as possible. We can notify general Brown."

"[illegible] the other."

"Surest thing I'll say" gritted general Vivian. "We'll stop them for we all have a the chance if we use the opportunity. I don't suppose without more men than we have we could haddled the whole three of them put together, but if there's only one of them present we'll try to sweep right one aside whether he be Beppo Evans Myletze or Cahnonia. If we do that we'll give Glandelinia a good scare as Glandelinia believes there is no general of the Christians who can stand up to Myletze or his generals in a good fight. If he stops me then Tamerline must escape [illegible] can go around and continue the pursuit. One of you pick out a man to represent you, while you go to Atheldreda and bring on the rest as they might be needed. If we worse one of those Glandelinian armies, they'll have to pull up stakes and stay away from this section. Is that fair.?"

A general exclamation of surprise went up around the group of generals at this offer, for they believed that general Vivian was only blufing and the proposition to engage Mylette or the others appeared so ridiculous that they could not at all at first believe general Vivian would could really mean to move his army against Mylette and his generals, especially if the three were confronting him at Hangar run and were overwhelming in numbers. But then they realized too general Vivian was game enough to do anything.

"Good thing" said one of the generals at last "he will pay Mylette or his cronies on, and bred either one of them in two. We'll see fair play though."

"Is it a go" asked general Vivian.

"My general" warned another of the officers "we ain't in a proper state to move against a clandelinian army, than we might believe is commanded by Mylette, or his cronies, and he might only tell us to run home and tell our mothers to wipe our noses, and that this ain't no place for our armies to engage him. We could tell us that we are liable to be stepped on."

"He is not able to do that" flashed back general Vivian, pale with rage. "His feet and army is not big enough." General Vivian sat sitting erect on his horse, sustaining a wrathful eye on the group of general officers gathering more closely.

"Come now" he offered. "I'm giving you all a fair chance, a fair show. If you fellows want to gain better commissions and more honor go out some one to scout and find out who is commanding that Clandelinian army, and if the three are there, Mylette, Canpolis, and Beppo Evans, you can pick out the one you dare choose and if we lick him and his army we win. If not Mylette is welcome to the victory. This trouble with Mylette in this locality has got to stop sometime, and it might as well be now."

"When shall we start it anyhow" demanded general Logan. "We couldn't do it today could we."

"Maybe not, but we'll get prepared to do this, some one go and find out where army is is."

"But suppose it is one of the Hanleys" "Yes, don't believe one of the other Hanleys could be so soon in this locality. You don't call worrying Schuylanley at Lebanon anything to do with this, then. Maybe you don't call it anything to get Hanleyline run from us to have another Hanley step in our way. Incredible ain't it?" queried General Vivian.

"We go on general Logan" said general Clide quietly. "Firstly. "You too little in your ideas. General Vivian is right. Hanley couldn't send his brothers here too soon. They're too far away, near p ty girlhood."

"Well lets get down to business" said general Vivian. "Find out who it is and we'll engage him. Send for the other half to come and join us. We might need them."

Said noon when most preparations had been made one of the couriers rode up to general Vivians tent and being admitted was asked what he desired.

"You might Your Excellency" declared the Courier. "But the army is not under Mylette." "It's under Joman Federal, and another Tamesline whose name I cannot say, and joined by Beppo Evans. They're a big bluff. They see we're here, and I believe they're afraid to go at us."

"Well" said general Vivian "I'll try my luck to morrow morrow. We must push or undallow no one to stand in our way, with the help of God."

On the morrow general Vivian decided to act immediately. He had heard that there was some "Stormy Weather" along the direction of his left wing, and therefore he straightened out his line, and then hurled forward a crushing charge that caught the right wing of the Clandelinian forces on the rear, with such fierce force and so that no amount of Clandelinians could check this sudden attack. It was simultaneously followed by another column of assault of equal force upon the front of the Clandelinian right. The fighting was fiercer than general Vivian expected, but nevertheless under the merciless onslaught the Clandelinians could not maintain an position and finally gave way in good confusion. A sneer went around the group of generals who witnessed this scene, for Beppo Evans was bearing the brunt of the christian assault.

"Now" announced General Vivian hoarsely "I'm going to lie that whole clandelinian army this very day, by the aid of God if it takes in the whole of Mylette's coming to help the enemy. General Evans you got a scrapper division in your command, trot them out and lets get this thing settled so we can advance again."

"I'll push my whole force for forward" announced General Evans.

"But I'm wanting to you fellows to go forward to at once. Are you ready?"

"You bet" fairly replied the others. "Let's come on, get out of this and go for and. We'll gain some honors by beating an army now. Beaten before."

And so generals did lead them on. Like a whirlwind they moved their overwhelming numbers of troops against the Clandelinian front with a fury and vim that kept them all of the defensive and a prompt battle value again on the rage. Scarcely one of the Clandelinian positions of or the most desperate fighting was carried but not without heavy losses, while along the Clandelinian left wing disasterous repulses indicated more general Charles B. owns victious onslaught crushed the Clandelinian counter charges, and where one of the attacking columns had left crushed up flank. From the very first it was plain to that the Clandelinian forces had none the better of the argument. The very weight of numbers thrown forward to defend the position of Mylette against them in that they were not able to move their troops into position as quickly as the christian assailants were able to assail them.

Fighting as fiercely but cautiously these the christian generals applied heavy attacks beyond measure, always coming back with a return assault that carried all before it. These christian generals were playing a game that they had learned from Clandelinians, years before, when it had been necessary for them to lie to officers in the army and in the encounters of other battles. They had learned the truth of the old saying "continually dropping will wear away a stone" it simple, would not have put it that way. Their theory were that if telling blows were hurled forth early, if a fierce encounter another great sledge hammer drive about in the same place would accomplish much more than if planted in another spot that was not alive, dest oyed or bled, sliced and shattered. Therefore they endeavored to rush troops to the assault at one main spot, while the Clandelinian generals scattered their attention to any portion of the christian armies that they though could be reached, but were attended with heavy loss on our score. Oftentimes not either one of the christian generals had new troops moving forward by the time the opponent threw fresh forces to make a fierce counter charge. In this manner the christian generals continued a an continual successive fierce onslaughts while waiting for an opening to drive a charge upon the enemy rear. In or their theory was soon proven correct. Becoming enraged at their unsuccessful attempts to drive the christian troops to cover, the Clandelinian generals pushed forward a long wave of Clandelinian troops to fling our charges than ever. The attack brought on a most fearful struggle all along the line and finally caused some portions of the christian line to waver, but this movement on the part of the enemy was just what general Vivian himself wanted. A sudden forward movement of overwhelming force of a big force of troops under the Two three detachments, accompanied by a curtain of artillery fire that tore everything before it, and this Clandelinian wave of almost desperately attacking troops went down to demoralization and total defeat to stay and with the loss of ten generals dead and fourteen wounded one mortally. The survivors of this Clandelinian wave recoiled in wild panic and the greatest confusion, many surrendering to escape the awful christian fire.

General Vivians great blow had connected squarely with the enemy vital vitals. General Beppo Evans had led this assault, and he was borne from the field of battle badly if not dangerously wounded. Jackson Vivian further tried to rally the troops and was also wounded.

Engaged in watching the defeated Clandelinian divisions on its already defeat, general Vivian became of all the same of battle had failed to observe that general Jammie Pete, and Germania Vivian the traitor son of Emperor Vivian were advancing with a great force upon his own rear, and those who had been defeated by the other christian generals were by the fiercest endeavors regaining their positions and that federal Fed Logan and Billy Sunderf too late to avert the disaster, he realized it too late. A terrific smash of great numbers of troops fell upon the very right rear of General Vivians army drove the defenders into a wild panic and confusion, as the wave of defeated Clandelinians were in.

Although staggered by the unexpected, and sudden attack made with terrible violence, general Vivians officers in that location lost no time in their desperate efforts to rally their panic stricken troops while general Vivian sent troops and artillery to their assistance, and with great time to recover their formation the troops of the christian right rear were equal to the fierce foe. General Vivian however employed all the tricks and manoeuvres of which he was master, he managed to check the wild onrush of the Clandelinians but it cost a wild bloody struggle to do so, and finally though he withdrawing successfully was compelled to take severe punishment as he was giving to the enemy. General Jimmie Pete was killed in the wild drive and General Wolf was wounded. Finally an opening offered somewhere, the artillery send came up and poured a murderous fire that wiped out Germania's right wing, and the latter's left center. General Paul Vivian also came up with troops from the victorious division of the field in the early afternoon, and one straight fierce charge delivered with all the strength of his troops fell squarely upon the Clandelinian forces still advancing against General Vivians rear. It was a very violent and sudden struggle bloody in losses, but the Clandelinians got too assault on four by general Robert Bonn. Bonn wavered and fell back, and as more troops came rushing up recoiled in confusion. Just as he tried to rally the troops

Germania Vivian was carried off the field wounded in the arm and had
had six horses shot under him. [illegible]
divisions advanced to meet Germania's victorious divisions, while
others moved forward to guard and violent assaults [illegible] on
and were repulsed with the most fearful losses.

[illegible] time General Clide Quimbie [illegible] of the
whole six miles, so filled with consternation was a great number of
his officers, that as the Glandelinians again advanced to the attack
Quimbie felt almost helpless as he faced his own troops about to face the
violent onslaught coming upon him, and which had filled the veteran
in the army who saw the Glandelinians coming with fear or, but even had he
time to conjure in his imagination the picture worthy of their fright
he could not have imagined a more fearsome and impulsive column of
Glandelinian troops than that which was advancing upon him. They were the
fierce and dreaded Hiscullepthians the greatest and most determined
fighters of all Glandelinians. Thousands strong their uniforms
this time had the sickly pallor of a corpse. Its advance was covered
by artillery that was opening fire from a [illegible] angle. In contrast to
the column is vaguely in the shape of a wave of soldiery, but
the formation was ending into a long wedge line. The foremost portion of
the line of advance was short, and extended in the neighborhood of seven
miles. But these attributes lent to the Glandelinian column but a [illegible]
of its repulsiveness--it was the fury with which they were coming on that
was appalling. The line of battle had no skirmishers, and the whole
column was large, ill, loose jagged masses of men that were drawing
a little rearward, and to add further to the hideousness of the situation
it was overwhelming in numbers. To the rear of this column appeared [illegible]
that attested the giant strength of this Glandelinian advance, and the
very nature of them the Glandelinians were was sufficient to awaken
their diabolical ferocity in battle.

"Ride your horse to general Vivian and get help" cried general Quimbie
to Colonel Hallam. "I have him if he can find all the hounds. It
reserve. It's going to be some terrific "storm" here."

While the colonel dashed off to obey general Quimbie put his troops
into position and quietly awaited the dreadful encounter, and then
suddenly as to add to the uncanniness of the horror the Glandelinians
gave vent to their "Rebel Devil Yells" To the general it sounded
like thousands as though an army of ghosts had moved forward
and gave vent to such terrible yells. The Glandelinian forces like a
roaring wave launched itself bodily upon the christian position. As it
closed in to the mighty conflict, it gave vent to the fury of the charge
with [illegible] in an attempt to "silence the christian fire"
Quimbie's division repulsed the first wave of the Glandelinians when
general Tanar Gingerbolt and then bringing up the artillery and
some of his other divisions turned the [illegible] troops around the other corners
as soon as possible and hurled the division upon the Glandelinians, and
so pure full was the counter assault; that the enemy [illegible] was tended
to an oblique formation and then broken backwards and forced to recoil.

It was a herculean contest and the Glandelinians were determined not
to give up so easily. Instantly it was surging forward again, and hurled
at the christian line shouting, yelling and screaming with rage. The
[illegible] were repulsed while at the defenders and a terrific hand to hand fight
[illegible] general
[illegible] the christian generals of the [illegible] never did
ever hear of, for Hagar had taught him, and he had taught his other
christian generals, the art of self [illegible] do the [illegible]
lines of battle, including counter charging, wrestling around, [illegible]
every line of battle, and how well they came into good stead as they
did [illegible] upon all other good occasions since he and his generals had
mastered them and wide more he gave than a to God and His Blessed Mother
for the fortunate circumstances that had brought general Hagar to him
so often to direct the destinies of the christian armies. [illegible]
[illegible] tired [illegible] knowledge training and the armed agility of
[illegible] all his middle-aged general Clide Quimbie's great strength
without which these other accomplishments would have been of far lesser
value, and so as the Glandelinian forces struck, the troops by their
veteran years repulsed the blows driving the Glandelinians back the
positions as fast as they had got captured them and with a strength and
[illegible] that surprised the Glandelinian antagonist since it was a counter
attack fully as great as its own.

But what was still more surprising to the monster Glandelinian
column or their generals in [illegible] particularly was the resource
with which the christian columns were able to deliver [illegible]
[illegible] the other in quick succession to all sections of the enemy
of the enemy assailants that in the awkwardness of the commanders
they were unable to properly protect.

To one side watching the big battle of which Hangar Ridge the
goal stood the last of Quimbie's reserves. This Glandelinian column
so [illegible] to the [illegible] could have proved [illegible] to
Quimbie, but it could have been impossible [illegible] it to go to [illegible]
assault so soon as it would have been should Quimbie do so [illegible]
and so it stood there awaiting the outcome. To and fro across the [illegible]
the battling lines moved back and forth, stumbling down the [illegible]
vegetation that grew so heavily as to make hinder the movements of the
troops and [illegible] it became apparent because of the labored breathing

of the Glandelinians that they were being steadily worn down, and that
they did not have the endurance of the Appleglians.

However probably sensing something of this in themselves they now
redoubled their most desperate efforts and the appearance of the attack
[illegible] meanwhile, general Quimbie discovered a vulnerable spot at which
to aim his blows.

Striking for the weakest spot of the Glandelinian army
the christian general moved a bridge around the enemy rear
rear by accident., and at the impact of the blow light as it was the
Glandelinians gave way in some confusion, and fell back instinctively
retreating for such a surprise attack, and therefore general Quimbie
directed all his efforts toward hurling heavier bodies of troops
upon the rear of the Glandelinian forces. He even struck again and
hurled a heavier body of troops upon the left flank of the assailant
also aided by a large squadron of cavarly. With yells of terror the
Glandelinians broke into a terrific panic.

A section of the battle raged close to Hangar Station, and here too
the Glandelinians gave vent to a horrid yell and charged the christi
line stationed there with all the hedious ferocity that they could
gather/. Indeed it seemed as though the Glandelinians here had mustered
mustered all their remaining vitality and thrown it into this
mad charge.

The Christian generals their minds coordinating perfectly and
quick to see openings and take advantage of them and equally
quick to realize the advantage of retreat began to recoil back
to their strongest position to avoid closing with the mad charging
charring column of troops and the bristling wall of bayonets
but as the line began to recoil and as they did so, on a new
column of Glandelinian troops came upon their right flank. For a
moment this battle line was hel less, and in that brief moment the
awful line of battle in front could be upon them with those horrid
bayonets. General Tanar Hanson knew it and saw it ensueing and so
quickly did he act that the christian line had scarcely started to
recoil in another direction fighting desperately as it did so
he launched forward his own troops from a secure hidden spot
upon the two sections of the charging columns and struck both of
them on the flank//.

These Glandelinian assailants were almost encircled by the
new force of christians with their other enemies between them, and
they struggled most desperately to free themselves from their three
lines of christian assailants. There the three lines clung to the
fury of the wildest attack they had ever made, and the enemy
lunced forward to struggle and fight their way to safety and
to rend the line of christian attack/. But that brief instant of
delay had been sufficient to enable the christian line that had been
first attacked to regain their formation and ere the Glandelinian
troops could make a gap in the encircling lines, these troops
was upon the enemy from front and rear, and at last the Glandelinians
were helpless. It was useless to struggle any longer. Escape was
cut off, and finally after the losses had become unbearable the
the chief Glandelinian general surrendered the remainder of
the whole Glandelinian column in this locality/

In the meantime one of the couriers had been sent by general
Vivian even while this terrific battle was in progress to
give warning at the child scout camp that a battle was in progress.
Therefore he hastened back to that portion of the camp at St
Etheldreda and without attempting to make himself presentable
took the fastest horse to the town. On the way he was fiercely
assailed by some Glandelinian cavarly men who overtook him in
the chace but though in jured he managed to kill them all/.

But well nigh exhausted from his severe struggle
the officer reaching the camp, and then Gertruda's headquarters
staggered up the stairs, burst into the room and announced
that the battle was raging furiously and that general Vivian
was winning the victory.

"Get our horses out as quickly as you can Harry" suggested Angeline
Jennings to her orderly. "George help me wash up this injured soldier and
we'll put him to bed and then hurry out there. Things are moving pretty
fast to day. It was only a few days he was in battle here. Now it's over
at Hanger Run only ten miles from here. What next I wonder! He sure must
like to fight."

Despite a strange weakness in his knees, the soldier was already on
his feet. With a protesting hand he tried to decline ~~tttttttt~~ assistance
he had unsteadily for the washroom.... He would not admit defeat/wounds.

"No you don't" my little girl friend "he announced."You don't put me to bed while you and your boyscout frinds go out and have a lot of fun watching a great big battle.... I'm going with you."

"But you are in a horribly messed up state.what happened?"

"I was sent by general Vivian to tell you of this and a bunch of sixteen Glandelinians persued me and gained on me and I had to fight my way through them."he answered.

"Get out that new mans uniform from from my locker"Angeline Jennings urged"And I'll be on hand in a jiffy.Give it to the soldier.I believe he is all right."

After a questioning glance at Jean,which was answered with a nod, Dolores dashed for the locker and produced a clean uniform. Willingly the two boyscouts themselves assisted the soldier to remove as much as possible the marks of his recent encounter with the Glandelinians//. Quickly divesting himself of his soiled and blood stained garments, the soldier put on his new uniform, and dashed down the stairs fastening buttons as he went.Behind him clattered the others, Penrod saying he was going elsewhere.

"I'm going too if you have room for me "said Gladys Wenthworth and Joy St Clair/.,.,/

"Hop upon your horse then"Invited Fred,"But you'll have to hang onto your teeth, for we are apt to be persued by Glandelinianseuselves and will have to ridesour horseslike a runaway.Glandelinianslike s to do more harm to children than any one else you know."

Not a second was lost by the party in mounting their fastest horses and they started at once in the direction of the battlefield// where even now they could hear the sound of the conflict. Then just as they s started down the Ventura Road a large squadron of Glandelinian horsemen which shapened to be the swift fleeted "Wheelers" appre appeared in sight.A fierce persuit and race began.Across the Reconstruction bridg bridge they began to demonstrate the value of the girls advice.The Glandelinians opened fire, but the bullets went wide of their mark. The fugitives returned the fire with the same result. In the speed of the persuit the Glandelinians in the foremost caught up with them, and two of them lances at the ready were so close that they dashed right in front of the fugitives in a way that threatened collision but they were outwitted and the fut fugitives without aloss on either side got through, and by their daring and skill avoided even an accident.

"They're the most pesky sort of girl and boyscouts I ever seen"growl growl done of the Glandelinians.

"Awe let them go"said another."We can't get them.They'll upset the whole of us yet."

Nothing doing.They're headed for general Vivianslines andmust he turned off from that direction if not captured or stopped."

During the time that the persuit and race required a moderate pace, nothing unusual occured, though each of the little riders showed their ability and skill as good horseriders even in dangerous places.

Jean glancing back saw the Glandelinians coming coming closer again. They knew the way the Glandelinians were riding now, that if they caught them theywould surely be goners, and so they urged their own horses again at real breakneck speed.They went so fast that they couldn't see any thing at all of the landscape.In theur mad dash they ran down a good number of chickens. They were easily keeping the Glandelinians at some distance behind, and asone of them fired, Angeline Jennings having a stone in her pocket threw it with straight aim and knocked the fellows teeth right down his throat.In spite of the nervious tens o tension under which they all were laboring, they joined in the laugh which Jean started at the sight of the man spitting out some of his teeth.

"You're rook done a good deed alll right Angeline" laughingly laughed remarked Angeline Riches."And for speed both sides of us have certainly made a record."

"Hang on your horses good and keep your heads down."warned Henry over his shoulder."We're going to getout of this mess if we can."

For a few mins miles conversation was impossible. Their expert manipultations of their horses - produced a burst of speed that would would have been positively dangerous in less skilful skillful child scouts and they began to leave the persuing Glandelinians quite some distance behind.The boy and girlscouts always took great pride in keeping everyone of their horses in perfect order all the time in preparation for an emergency suhc such as the present, and therefore felt no less confidence in the horses than they did of their mecthod of riding. To the Glandelinians to try and catch up with them was anything but pleasant and they were glad when their fugitives abruptly slackened pace

At once the reason for this sudden change of speed was top rent. A Column ofpurple coated troopers was in front and the leader had his hand uprised.Looking back, the persued saw not a single Glandelinian in sight.

"What's the trouble officer?"demanded Angeline Jennings.

"You are speeding the wrong direction if you wish to find the christian army und r v under general Vivian"Was the response al most grimly delivered.

"Where is the christian lines ?"

"About ten miles ahead."Was the reply.

"Will you wish to accompany us as a guarding patrol?"asked Angeline Riches.

"Yes.I'd rather.I like your company."

"Maybe because so many of us are good looking?"laughed Angeline A Jennings.

"Yes forone thing.Another thing because what you and we are ."

"Oh I see. Well come on" heartily invited Dolores Mic-Hollester Jennings."You'd better surround us though as if we were your prisoners forthere is no telling when the Glandelinians may come back in greater numbers"she added."Hurry up.We are delayed already.""WS

Scarcely had the officer and his fifty men and other officers surrounded the calvacade of boy and girlscouts and the escorting soldier, when around the bend of the road came another big party of Glandelinian horsemen almost suddenly and just narrowlymissing the chance of riding down upon the others.The girls and the soldiers urged their horses to a high speed in spite of the yells of derision from the Glandelinians, who had come upon their very heels as it were.

"They're going to open fire"groaned Henry."If all of us keep ourselvesslow on our our horses they won't be able to hit any of us."

Regardless of the firing of the persuers, they were not hit and maintai maintained a vigorious pace, and soon outdistanced the persuers without loss// and after twentyminutes or so of hard riding were easily within sight of the battle field, and within easy hearing of the severe firing. Scarcely had they halted their horses to take in the view, then an explosion occured close by.The girlscouts themselves leaped to the ground. Angeline Jennings already had her pistol in her hand so that they would not be surprised in case Glandelinians would appear from an unexpected direction. Dashing tward the little Creek near by the girl and boyscouts were surprised to observe a body of troops on what appeared to be a retreat, and also saw on a small rise of ground a group of officers, and an usher of strange boy and girlscouts about their own age who were inspecting a partly shattered section of the christian line in front of them.At once these girl and boyscouts were recognized as members of the bands of Rangers and Flamingoes which had been encountered in the plain by the three boyscouts earlier in the morning.

Angeline Riches paused a moment, swung her hand to herhip pocket where she carried an automatic pistol, and then remounting her horse, and followed by the rest, advanced tward the crowd of officers, and child scouts.

"What in the world does this mean?Who's the Glandelinian commander attacking general Vivian now?Has The Tamerline rallied?" she inquired brusquely of one of the officers, who seated on his horse,, was wiping the sweat from his forehead.

"Why Miss Jennings,"replied theofficier whose name was Colonel Pedro Nestoris"General Vivian in his advance yesterday found that a new Glandelinian army confronted us,and he was determined to push on and so thismorning early he attacked, and though we had beenheard hit four times the enemy is getting decidedly the worst of it.But a portion of the line now is in danger.I was sitting i on my horse alittle wave back there by the farm gate yonder(pointing) not thinking of danger when I happened to look in that direction, and saw a column of Glandelinians coming up from behind that little hillyonder.I telegraphed to general Vivian Right away,and then cameout here with our own commands, and so did the otherss.Just as we did so and met the enemy we almost surrounding surrounded the would be flankcatts kers flank attackers, who by desperate fighting managed as if by miracle to squeeze through our encirclinglines.I guess we would have got the best of the fools even then if it hadn't been for reinforcements coming to their help.But too the enemy if they had come closer would have got the best of us if it hadn't been for these young boy and girlscouts who signalled warnings to general Kindernine, who helped by throwing forward his artillery.They saved thisportion of our army from disaster

and caused the flankers to get almost captured too.They have done bravely indeed.I'm sure we'll be master of the field before the day is over."

Releasing hi her grasp on the automatic(tick) Angeline Jennings dismount dismountedthe horse, and stepped forward with hand outstretched th to the foremost leader of the group of child scouts. A leader a girl at that with badly bruised lips and a blackened eye confusedly extended her hand to grasp Angelines proffered palm.Angeline's shake wasindeed a hearty one.

"I want to thank you on behalf of the Rangers boy and girlscouts" he began"You have given us valuable service, and we we willnot be apt to forget it."My names Angeline Jean Jennings. I want you to meet my friends and comrades."she added turning tward her followers and chums, who had followed her closely.

"We met them earlier in the day."smiled the girl."But hnour efforts to warn the general of what was going to tak takeplace we met with the Glendelinians twice.I remember the second meeting well.One of the Glendelinians almost had me and because I fought him off he handed me this, and this"indicating her injured eye and lips."Those Glendelinians are sure some "fine scrappers all right"is especially when it comes to fighting us kids, and therefore we're glad to frustrate them We are also glad to get acquainted with you and your foolowers."

"Mildred Hansen thinks so too."qm announced another member of the group.

"With a sheepish grin the girlscout called Mildred Hansen now stepped forward, extending her hand first to the highest girlscout officers and then to the rest.

"I'm ohlif obliged to you all"she stated, addressing Angeline Jennings herself."I guess it was just that tribaing that the Glendelinians needs that's coming to them.We have been talking things over since we came here and we have decide decided that we would wish to be an addition to your force if you'll have us.You look pretty good indeed to all of us."

"Hurrah"Shouted Fred."Miss Jennings here's a chance to form an additi addition tocour own to replacecour loss at Ven Ventura Road.What do you say.!MNN"

"We'll talk it over."Angeline Jennings answered."It means a great deal to us all right."

"Well general Vivian is out to do and dare again, ad if he can get the other force of troops left behind at St Etheldreda institue he'll easily fix the Glendelinian army"said one of the scouts."Otherwise I don't believe he could worst the enemy throughout the whole day.But nevertheless you mustn't forget to let us know about our addition to your force of boy and girlscouts."

Having followedmore slowly, general Fredrick Mance now approached the child scouts.

"Well "he said"If you wish I willsend a messenger to the general in charge of that division.But I warn you for your sakes ne going too near the firing line.The battles too severe."Then examining the group more closely he cried;

"Hello Angeline Richee.What brought you here.I thought you was with your fathers army who is supposed to be opposing Mylotza in his advance on Angelinia Agathia.?"

"Hello Your Excellency"Replied the girl."I've been in general Vivians for quite a length of time now."

"How did you get here anyhow?"Inquired the general, who proved to be non none other than the friend of violet, and her sisters.

Ex Explanations of their long and many days adventures down the flood waters on the huge raft so far as was remembered was given, wherein they all received full credit from Angeline Jennings and others. They dwelth at length on the courage of all of them(not mentioning the two deserters) and ability as well as their spirit of fairness.

"Well all I've got to say."Added the general at the conclusion of the tale"Is that I'm sorry I never had the chance to ride with you and your scouts on that huge raft.If you'll give me a ride on that big raft some day I'll be much obliged.Anybody or girl that can go through adventures like that without flinching can't be defeated or defeated by any Glendelinian general or his troops."

"Thank you"replied Angeline Richee."We don't ex cend anything during our adventures unless we know it is necessary.Just now we are puzzled, greatly puzzled about the identity of the one who might have warned this Glendelinianscout and caused it to throw its lf in general Vivians way.""

"Maybe it's something like those two Butt and Jeff Spies, who's sore because they can't frustrate the attempts of Violet and her sisters to find clues as to the cause of the Alkiamm flood"ventured Fred."Some Glendelinians spies lay play snakes in the grass, especially if they are down on their luck a little...."

"My consciouscence"interrupted Henry"says to look out for a tall man who resembles "r "Butt" who is dark complexioned, and who is smooth shaven and wears small mustaches, and black hair.I'll bet i he is in some way connected with the whole conditions of the war and hates christ christ anslike a child hates castor oil.Perhaps he's trying to stop general Vivian or something."

"A most accurate description of "Mr Butt" laughed Hans."I think I saw him in my dreams last night....."

Angeline Jennings glanced quickly twardHenry.Often in the past she had discovered that Henrys insight andpowers of jumping at cuncls conculusions had been the means of leading them allout of puzzling situations, and now assumed that the boys jocular manner was simply a cloak for more a serious thoughts.Using the strange signal of girlscout means she signalled;;

"Come to one side.I wany want to talk to you...!!!..:"

Therefore the lad walked slightly apart from the group now proceeding tward the christian lines, and she then asked him in a low tone;

"What do you know Jimmie?Did you see anything.?"

"I certainly did."declared the boy."I just happened to have seen a man of his description early thismorning near your campsI paid no attention at first but then I remember now.That's all."

"That's funny.I was sure you had discovered a clue."Was there any companion with him.?"

"No.He was alone.It also seemed to me to be the only natural conclusion to be reached, and so I followed him.I have recognized him by the descriptions given to me of him by Penrod."Here we are getting ready to shadow the two spies andprevent them from frustrating Gertrudesintentions.Also you just come in with a story about these six accomplices of theirs who has stolen the Government plans.Then strangly this battle breaksout so shortly after the long engagement at St Etheldreda.At Lebanon Manley is taken down with a cold, and "Irishman" Clancy leads the crew at the battle there and gets licked by Hansen Vivian.Then a forest fire rages near Lebanon and the Princesse have a narrow escape.Who should all this be the work of---well some interested party if it wasn't him.?"

"That's a good solution as good a one as any other we now have."decide Angeline Jennings, dropping the subject on approaching nearer the battle lines."Let's not go any further or we'll be in the range of fire.

I have some important matters to discuss with the girlscout leaders . I must return to camp and meet Gertrude Angeline."

After instructing the boys and others to regard to what thepurpose is how to go on the spying trip and so forth, Angeline Jennings talked a few moments with the other group of child scouts who had expressed a desire to be an addition to them.Then giving final direction to the three boys and telling them to start at once she returned campward.The return journey of Angeline Jennings and her girl followers was completed without incident.Entering the room of Gertrudes head quarters, Angeline Jennings found this message;

"Call George Radcliffe on the secret phone line at once.He has important news/".!::MP

"Ill try and stop those two Professional Glendelinian spies if I can" uttered Penrod to himself, and going to his tent he took an extra revolver from his supply of arms, loaded the twenty chambers, and thrust it into his holster.Then he clapped on his hat, changed his coat to a blacker one wentoutmounted his horse and rode away.Itwas just tward no and he calculated to reach Lebanon soon after evening approached. But he had not gone a dozen paces when there came to him the sound of a trotting horse, and presently from among the trees he perceived a girlscout in gray uniform with something like the features of Gertrude Angeline upon a fast horse.For a time he had met with a girlscout racing past him that looked like she was Gertrude Angeline.Penrod halted his horse curious with great surprise. The four others had refused to speak to him and he was suspicious. He had not forgotten the boy a spy in the makeup of Gertrude Angeline had almost unmasked him, and the thought that some duplicates were riding tward the camp, and they now knew he was doing so at so late an hour in themorning which [illegible] close by

aroused the echoes of his old time suspicions, but with them was present as Glandelinians could show such acts of treachery. He gave shout the horse to the gallop as she neared him, and then halted her horse so suddenly that she threw the beast back upon his haucher haunches. Whether she was another duplicate or not he couldn't tell, but nevertheless he had his hand on his holster with his left hand, while he raised his hat with the other and waited. She leaned over the horses shoulder and he saw that her face was expressive and of great concern, and recognized that she was the original Gertrude Angelina for he could tell her voice this time easily, and her manner of speech...!"

"Where are you going Penrod.""she asked.

"I'm heading for Lebanon to frustrate those two spies."

"Don't go to Lebanon to day."she warned.

"May I ask why?"

"It is my wish, and my warning also Penrod. It's dangerous. Those spies know my intentions easily and are accused. They're dangerous. Keep away."

The memory of his past meetings once or twice probably three times with these two Professional International spies rushed through Penrods mind already unbalanced by the events of the past, and he became conscious of a great rush of range and anger that seemed to sweep through him like some impersonal force, and hold him against his will.

"Don't you know, "Miss Aronburg that without that you are entitled ti to express your wishes and warning as to me in the light of our acquaintance, when four Gertrude Angelines's have passed me to day and either have entered the camp or tried to?" demanded Penrod.

"You are pleased to try to surprise me again"she answered in a low voice."

"No I am not. Four duplicates of you have entered the camp or tried to. I sent warnings ahead to the camp to intercept them if they tried to enter."

"That doesn't matter so much."she answered."If you go to Lebanon now you are at your peril."

"And my safty is your care and interest?"

"Yes, you are not to go."

"Miss Aronburg---"

"I ask you not to go. I beglore you then. The spies are onto us."

"How come they know what we are up to then?"cried Penrod angrily."Have we strange scouts within our lines that have worked against you and me Gertrude since we came here in the army. Are you positively sure that you are not mistaken in showing your good reason why I should heed your advice, and not go?How come they know our intentions."

"They know everything"she answered quietly."But you must not go Miss. please. Shofield Penrod I have come here to beg it of you."

"You have come to me from the return of your scouting tour and now beg me not to go forth into the enemys lines to frustrate the two Professional spies."said Penrod losing all his self control."But then I have a better plan which we both can do. I met on my way this morning two and from the camp, some personages that resembly a you a great deal, and who refused to salute me or even recognize me. I don't know who they are or what they were up to but I'm suspicious, that they may be even again midst men or Glandelinian boy or girlscouts actively allied with our worst enemies, who seek for a paltry sum of money to ruin our countrys cause, and driven general Vivian and Vansons army out of the Pengall State. How they could dare come here I hinder me and you in taking any action we choose is a mystery?And how are we to know that this too may not be some unusual scheme of those "Mutt and Jeff "spies?I nearly lost a regiment of boy and girlscouts, when the troops was treacherously ambushed last month. You know Gertrude so late go back ourselves and if they're still in camp, or had managed to slip through we'll trap them. They're your worst enemies Gertrude and if they're not apprehended in time they'll cause another disaster to our Child scout force and probably caused them all to be wiped out this ...."

She started as if he had lashed her across the face. She tried to answer him, but could only stammer incoherently, and her eyes which had blazed with wrath as he spoke of the threatening disaster, were filled with tears which she checked valiantly/

"You think four of my duplicates come in our camp to day."she began

and paused her voice shaking."You believe they're here to engage in some plot of the "Mutt and Jeff"spies?It is insufferable. Sure we couldn't be in such an awful situation as that. Ah surely Penrod you are trying to play a joke on me"she pleaded/.

Penrod looked at her stubbornly. He would not let himself be moved for he knew he was not joking. He could however see the quiver on her lips, her agitation.

"No I'm not joking"he said.

"So then it's true they have come here and tried again to humiliate me by getting me believed as if I was traitor again."she whispered."Come then."she cried suddenly jerking the reins."Come Penrod. Let's get back to camp. We must frustrate them before its too late, that is if they not in."

She spurred her horse and galloped wildly away, but Penrod follow followed as soon as he wheeled his horse. It was a mad thing to gallop like that along the stony road besides the river but they were in an awfu awful hurry. He felt ashamed of the situation, and yet now both he and the little girl were sustained by greater determination than any they had ever known. They would would not let themselves be hoodwinked by any foes. Their wrath which made them doubt in anyone who were strangers now, which had suffered them to shadow every stranger many times before kindled them to fighting heat/.

The reputation under which they had chafed since the day Gertrude had been mistaken for being becoming traitor, should stand them in good stand that day. They had encountered nothing but hostility wherever whenever they were within sight of strangers, and they had lost reason and judgement now under the last of the many treacherious blows. They wanted to meet these four "Gertrude Angelines"face to face, perhaps that choice would come, but nevertheless inlie lieu, they would exercise their rights against all Glandelinians whether men or boy and girlscouts together as all were equally as bad. They meant to capture them if possible, and they grew hotter as they rode swiftly along the river road, reeling off the miles behind them, two lonely figures, their hearts rancorous against the injustice meted out to them so often, bitter against Glandelinian generals, bitter against all its cause but fiercious in their resolution to show all Glandelinians its whether big or little what manner of girlscouts they were...!! ....

At last the tents of the girlscout encampments began to show through the trees. They therefore rode swiftly faster, fingering the revolvers in their holsters. But when they reached the outskirts of the camp they halted their horses for a short while and considered. Their instinct was at first for physicial violence, such violence as alone could appease their rage. They listened to the distant hubbub within the distant camp. They then rode past a bend and approached the outlying tents of the encampments. As they neared the first line of guards who knowing them permitted them to pass unmolested, they received ridicule from them in a hurry the wrinkled face and gray whiskers of what seemed to be an old priest of foreign birth surrounded by the downward reflection. It gave the effect of the painting of some hallowed picture of some old worthy that belonged to the "Beautiful "Infernal Regions. They did not know who the old GNome was, but the allusion escaped Penrod and Gertrude, but there was something horrible about the senile laughing/ The two child scouts shuddered, and then they shook the recollection from them, and continued feeling a stronger resolve harden them as they reached the camp. They turned into the little company street and saw the camp astir as all scouts had returned. The shades of their own head quarters were drawn too, and the lamplight from within as it weakind of dark even in the day because of the fire smoke, threw the shadows of those within in grotesque attitudes.

She and Penrod decided to enter the Mess Hall. A group of boys chattering upon the porch, ceased their conversation and stood at attention as Gertrude and Penrod ascended the three steps. Then a smaller boy scout, led the way into the Mess Hall. The two followed upon his heels, and then stood surprised at what the journey.

The first party whom they saw was one of those who had the appearance of Gertrude Angelina, but instead of dressed as a girl she or he whoever it was was dressed as a boyscout impurple. Their eyes met across the heads of all the other diners before the presence of Penrod and Gertrude were known. Both Gertrude and Penrod stood still for a moment taking in the scene. Gertrude was faintly conscious that Penrod had closed the door, but this perception was in no [illegible] appearance. She felt that alone as she was with only Penrod, than she had been behind

were absolute masters of the situation.At [illegible] still in entrance the course of the second incentivity [illegible], and many [illegible] they are all startled to sit up at attention when she made [illegible] to retain their seats.Very slowly they saw the l ka on the face of "Ge trude Angeline"number I change from [illegible] to surprise and from surprise to hatred, and yet the hand that held the cut [illegible] gen to shake with fear.Gertrude and Penrod strode up to the stranger, and pushing those who were in his way aside the stranger seized a l late in his hands and threw it at Gertrude but it missed her and dashed to the floor into pieces.His movement, and the ensuing action where so swift that it was only after their completion that all the company who had been too busy to notice the stranger at first or who had believed it was Gertrude were awakened to something strange of his presence/ presence/. Before five or six could intercept the strange Gertrude, he turned toward the plank table which had been nailed across a recess for a serving counter.On this were all sorts of plates and other dishes. On the floor were two garbage cans. A [illegible] Quantity of milk bottles still full of milk stood on a packing case near by.

To make sure good his escape ifpossible the boy swept his arm along the plank, knocking off all the dishes with a great crash, all of them strewing to the floor into f broken fragments.A score of streams from the broken milk bottles began to filter between the cdres of the boards uniting in the depressions. The smell of m l milkrose into the air. In his frenzy he threw the garbage cans over, bespattering some of the scouts with the slop, and the contents were added on the floor. With another sweep he struck down the kitchen utensils utensils.Then more than a score of boy and girlscouts rush d at him, infuriated.The foremost hesitated as they came within reach of his arm however, for the "Gertrud"No I struck out with all his force, felling them or sending them staggering backwards against those behind , and clearing a passage ina twinkling tward an rear exit.Whoever this new Gertrude Angeline was seemed to be partly a coward, perhaps because of so many against him, andknowing the fury of christian girl and boy scouts.As Gertrude grasped him by the shoulders, the duplicate who made up in adroitness for what he lacked in weapons, twisted like an eel eel dived under the grasping arms of those about him, and rushed tward the rear entrance scu shouting a blasphemy as he ran.What it was Gertrude and Penrod did not know.They perciived that the boys and girls tried to intercep him and some who surved about him like a pack of wolves, snarling and [illegible] to thrust as at the spy with the knives which they had drawn from their leather belt sheats. "Gertrudes duplicate, fighting like a little mad child, sent them smashing to the floor, cleared his way again, and had reached the door and was about to open it, when Gertrude and Penrod grasped at him. But the spy was just a second too quick."e darted through and the door thrown violently back, struck both Penrod and Gertrudeso violentlyupontha head at the same time as to lay them flat on their backs with a resounding crash.But they were upon their f t in an instant and not minding the pain caused by the collision,though almost crying from it passed through the doorway in pursuit.!"RB

The Kitchen hall of the Mess house was close by.At the rear and contig continguous with it, had been or were stillsome of the officers horse stables.Here were usually kept two or three dozen horses and this stable was as solidly constructed as the other buildings recently owned by the farmer."ear by new stables also were standing and the adjoining shanty being no longer needed for its original purpose, was turned into a sort of house by the addition of windows a chimney and an upper floor.The door connecting the two places had been nailedu had been nailed up but Penrod had opened it that morning in the course of using the lower part for horses.

As the spy dashed up into the stable, Angeline Riche also appeared and as the threeee entered the stable, they closed the door behind them, and bolted it shut.It was only then that Gertrudes duplicate realized he had run into a trap.The stable indeed was dimply lighted by two oil lamps, placed in the wooden window embrasures or cases.On either side of the stables lengths, ran the horse boxes with the horses in them, with harness and bridales and saddles hanging above them on hunners hooks.There was a passag of two feet or so down the center. The stabl contained "Gertrude Angeline", who had ordered himself within the stall immediately opposite the the entrance, but Penrod grinned at his defiently.He s ood between Gertrude Angeline and Angeline Riche. Penrod had bolted the door."The four executing a flank movement simultaneously, advanced and took up their position before the other Gertrude Angeline and the door, and Jean Saunders [illegible] 4.0.

" Lad as yet spoke, but Angeline Riche removed her spectacles quite methodically, folded them in their case, and placed it back into herpocket pocket.Standing with her back close enough to the wallof one of the horse stalls to be able to prevent an attack from behind the stranger watched the four contemptuously.They had got him there to fight for hislib liberty, and there was nothing he wanted more even against thelot of h them.He was Gerald Starring in disguise the boy scout who was the archenemy of the Vivian Girls.He half regretted having forgotten hispistols, but he was conscious of no fear whatever though dangerous Abbissinians confronted him.He kept his right hand lightly against the pocket in which his revolver lay however, itsight it might be useful for an emergency or even for self defense.

"Well who ever you are, girl or boy we got you"Sneered Angeline Riche."Now I'm a good disguise reader sonny and I know you well.You are Gerald Starring, the archenemy of the Vivian Girls.Now you listen here.We have done our duty on our side, and even despite it all have never yet molested any of you Glandelinian boy and girlscout s that we can remember.There should at least have esisted peace between you and us, and we didn't see why war should go on between children of our side and children of yours.This is a mans war.We hate trouble.We don't want to hur t you if you go away from out camp blindfolded."Make up your mind to that or we'll have you face a firing squad as a spy.You tried to duplicate Gertrude aAngeline and that's a graver offense than spying.It's treachery.I suppose the other three duplicates who may or may not now be in the camp were your Confederates.Go back to where you came from and never dare come back here again to interfere with us. What do you say.You are alone here, no Glandelinians to help you, trapped in this barn, and everyone your enemies.If our force gets hold of you we cannot save you and they'll linch you.If we have to execute you as a spy its your own fault of rashness.What do you say?"

"I haven't come here to say but to give your boy companion there called Penrod a thrashing."answered the spy scornfully."The thrash ing that I promished him many weeks ago."

"You spy on me in Marie Kormen town Ast year and bring Glandelinian officers.It almost cost me a heavy loss, you rotten Glandelinian kid spy.We are scouts, not spies.You make up your mind to go from the Glandelinian army autogether and go home now eh. What do you say."

"But we haven't much time protested Fred."I'm even very hungry.Haven' have not had a bite to eat since yesterday afternoon.I'm n a nearly starved. "

"Come to think of it just now I guess you and even every one of us have a right to feelt feel quite hungry and underfed."admitted Henry his self.We ought to of course got down to Radcliffes tent right away if not as quickly as we can, though.He needs us.Duty is before your stomach you know."

"But a soldier cannot fight on an empty stomach"protested Hans.

"Yes, and if we wouldjust waste a few minutes for dinner." Fred replied "We will go with Radcliffe as far as he likes, but right now I feel so hungry that I can't tell whether I have a stomach left me or an empty feeling.I'm hungry I tell you andour travel so far has made me worst."

"What do you want in particular Fredrick." queried Angeline Jennings. Say the word and I'll get it for you if you don't want to go to the "ess Hall."

"Not so very much"the boy stated,"But Spinach will be the most. I like it better than anything else."

"Well boys"said Angeline Jennings "the work we go through have always made us hungry.If it were not for you and your strong appetite Fred I suppose we'd forget to eat."

""Guess so the"the boy admitted,"But if that's the case, and weddid do a lot of work and were not hungry that would be a sign there's something wrong with us."Then we had better see a doctor."

"What doctor do you suggest we should visit. "

"Go see our famous Doctor Castor Oil"shouted Fred."Now there goes the bugle for the Mess Call.Now I'm off for the Mess tent.Who wishes to follow me.!"

They all decided to go , and in a short time the boy and girlscout officials were seated in one of the boy and girlscout' Mess Halls the girls andsome particular long tables, and the boys [illegible], and were applying their badly needed appetites without what they had

desired for dinner Spinach.It was just now eleven thirty.

"What did Gertrudes'm ere T'm um what did Radcliffe say he wanted Miss Jennings"asked Fred across the table to Her own,while all the other were waiting for their orders to be filled."Is it something more referring to the plot of those two International Spies ?"

"Hush"warned Henry."Not so loud in hereplease."

"'ust even be a secret among our own comrades?"

"Yes.Because who knows what some of them might be.There are two boys in here we know nothing of.There's Gertrude back but she doesn't say nothing.Cheesecoms figidity about something and always looks at us.I wonder what's the matter."!

"Excuse me Henry, I forgot that we have strangers among us."

Angeline Jennings came over to the boys.

"Yes "she said nodding her acknowledgement to the three! "He said that some new developments have been discovered, and he wants us to make haste.He asked how soon we can be ready to get there."

"Did you tell him right away or after dinner."

"I told him I'd do the best thingpossible"replied Angelinetitha"I Jennings"I ere, Ahem that strange boy nearest us seems particular interested in us doesn't he"she added looking at him sharply.and Gertrude doesn't act like herself.I wonder she didn't announce her return as she generally does.And where's Jean and Angeline Nichee? Well nevermind, much depends on the efforts on our part, for I'm finally convinced, fromwhat I've read of that big long conflict going on somewhere far from here, and from what I have been told of the recent Galverinian Government regulations throughout the nation of the country, that we will probably have to make some quick jumps in order to catchthose six fellows andinterrupt them in their purpose and also it does not seem probable that we can apprehend the man and his followers before he gets acrossthe big Aronburgs Run river, and-- and--ahem--ahem)----- say you lad over there why do you listen in to what I'm saying.Keep your eyes peeled the other way.Watch him boys he's suspicious, and that one looking like Gertrude I certainly don't like her actions.If it's a spy assuming her appearance I'll"

At these words the two turned their faces the other way and proceeded eating as if nothing happened."Angeline continued in a whisper"The horses we need for the trip will be delivered to us to morrow. When our Spa Superintendent promises anything you may assure that it will come to usat the appointed time, ---are what do you mean boy?"

"Nothing."

"Well then keep your head the other way"Finished Angeline Jennings with a sneer.

"I believe they're either curious or eavesdropping"said Henry."I'm suspicious of them. "

"I believe so too"whispered Fred."There's going to be lots of work ahead of us if myunderstanding of this sort of matter is correct, and we ought to feel extremely thankful to God and His Blessed "Father that a good start is assured and we get the better of unknown persons trying to shadow us."

"What's that about a bad beginning making a good ending!"queried Hans rousing himself from his 1 plate as he finished the Spinach/.

"I suppose you meanto say"declared Angeline Jenings looking toward the two she had scolded"There's many a slip twixt the cup and the saucer.

"There's many an egg has quit playing the shell game too."retorted another of thegirlscouts who had overheard the remark.

"Be quiet everyone now"here comes the waiter."cried another of the girlscouts unfolding her napkin."I am glad to see we have at least some thing to eat."

"Speaking ofslips"remarked Dolores"Just just take a look at that strange face of that man looking in thewind w.He's evidently missed connections with a good square training since he entered the army. I shouldn't wonder if he isn't an eavesdropper too."

"I've been looking at him for the last sixty minutes."declared Angeline Jennings."

"And "said Henry"you believed I was keeping my eye on this menu to order something else on hey, but I've been keeping my eye on him ever since he first appeared.At first I thought he was looking in I guess he was a stranger and had not had anything to eat.But he is not an all hungry looking.He's been there ever since we sat down, and he's been eyeing us all the time."

"What does he look like?" asked Fred, who was sitting with his back toward the window but now had shifted hisposition."But I don't can to

turn unless it is necessary."

"He is of slight built, rather too white in complexion to be one of us, has a foreign look, is smooth shaven, with somethinglike a squint of one eye, and a large scar on his chin.Appears to be honest in ways, not wicked but yet seems to be a sort of tough character, and wearing a good uniform which must have been brand new, and yet he doesn't seem to be accustomed to them.I should say's he must be a beggar by profession if he isn't a foe."replied Angeline Jennings.

"Maybe he thinks he's going to discover some information from us before we go out of thisplace."suggested Dolores."Lots of strangers among refugees do that."

"Forget him, here are the dinners."cried Fred.

During the progress of the meal the conversation turnedupon ordinary subjects remote from anymilitary project.None of them now cared to discuss the matter anymore since three strangers were so suspiciously eyeing them and by mutual consent the talk finally had drifted to other topics."When dinner was over they proceed tourcoed to Radcliffes tent, where the boy was awaiting their coming. As they left the mess hall, they saw Gertrude Angeline enter the place with Penrod and two others whom they couldn't see in time, and though they looked about for the man who they had recently observed at the window, he was nowhere in sight.It took them fifteen minutes to reach Radcliffes hotent, and soon they were seated in the tent discussing with that boyscout gentleman the details of their proposed journey. It appeared that their experience on many other trips and adventures in chasters long before these would enable them to reduce their baggage and other impedimenta to a minimum.

"Now comrades"Proceeded Radcliffe, after satisfying they lits already know"We are informed by a private telegraphic letter sent by Jennie Turner, that the men you are after left the town of Lebanon by means of a raft on the river.It appears he and his comrades must have been escorted by a squadron of cavarly of the foe, for he abandoned the raft on the western bank of the river.At first it was believed they had gone another direction.Later a captured Guardian prisoner, taken during the battle at Lebanon was grilled by general Vivion.He confessed truthfully to the general and his staff there, that a great squadron of Glandelinian cavarly escorted the six messengers."His party had lately been transferred while further up the river, the prisoner said, to a short of train bound

for some section of the Glandelinian armies fighting that long battle somewhere far in the northwest."

"Then the spies are well on their way by this time."exclaimed Angeline Jennings with a note of regret."We will have to hurry up to catch them."

"Yes Returned Angeline Jennings returned Radcliffe"But remember that the train is running on the only railroad line open." though the train is loaded with wounded Glandelinian soldiers, and because of the pain many of them may be in the train which is going southwest won't be able to make its usual speed, which at best is to be slow.You and we ought to be able to beat them getting there, by trying to outdo of the faster trains go from this section.We can get a trail forour special use called for.I've been looking up the trains somewhat and know which to get."

"If the distance proves to be over half what we expect, as we have every reason to believe"Hans remarked"We ought to be able to get there in two days.That being the case we could then transfer next---"

Loud voices from outside suddenly attracted the attention of the group.Dolores angry tones were heard heard.

"What are you snooping around here for."They head heard her ask someone.

"A muffled reply from the other however couldn't be heard very plainly.

"I don't believe you a"came back her retort."You was trying to sneak a look into the tent. "

"But Miss---"

"You clearout of this territory or I'll make you look like swish cheese."her Retorted the girl."I believe you're either a spy or an eavesdropper. You look like one anyhow."

"What's wrong now Dolores?"called Radcliffe rising.

With flashing eyes the girlscouts officer entered the tent.She had left without attracting her comrades.

"The man who had been looking so long intoctie "ess hall window was trying to sneak a look into the tent."replied Dolores."I heard him speaking voices and noticed the door moving in a strange movement, and I know there's no wind.I suspected something a eavesdropping

and I slipped from this tent by means of the rear entrance.I didn't like trying to poke his head into the opening without being seen.It was the wise man.When he saw me coming he made a bluff at fixing a rope of the tent stake, but he wasn't quick enough.I think he's one of those Confederates of that Mutt and Jeff spies."

Quick glances of apprehension were exchanged by the members of the little group.They were recalling the numerous incidents of the earlier part of the day, not forgetting the battle that was still raging at Danger Run.

"What do youthink of that sin t situation now?"gasped Fred in amazement.

"I know what I think now for good and sure."snapped Dolores."I believe we are up against an organized gang of Glandelinian spies. Just one of these Glandelinians didn't go and steal those importantplans on any independent footing.Somehow there's even either a leak in the service, or these our own armies or else the gang is paid to keep a good watch on us to preventour taking a hand in the matter.They're not overlooking anything.They're as shrewd as we are."

Dolores I believe you are more than half right.I remember Violet herself told me those Mutt and Jeff spies have 10,000 spies or agents under their service""stated Angeline Jennings her sister."But I wish we could have had Gertrude on hand."What's to be done?"

"About searching for Gertrude?"

"No, about the opposition to our expedition,which seems to have developed"replied Angeline Jennings."I'm leaving the rest to Gertrude when she returns."

"What do you suggest Radcliffe?"asked Fred.

"If I remember correctly, your Pop and Gibbons have different watchwords and different signals."was Radcliffes reply."Use each of them?"

"On On of them is "Be prepared for all things."answered Dolores.

"And I further suggest that your whole force make haste."

"Thank you "acknowledged the girl.

"Now what do you say"asked Angeline Jennings to the rest."Are we ready to return?We ought to get Gertrude when she only returns."

"Look around and see that there is no fire"warned Fred.

"Thank you, Fred "replied Radcliffe,"and thanks reminds me that I nearly overlooked giving you the pictures of these six spies/ themselves.They arrived only to day.These chaps have used so many names that his lastone is not even remembered.This is their boss."

"They look like twin mice"commented Dolores, as they all inspected the pictures of the spies.All observed the striking resemblance/ They saluted Radcliffe as they went outone by one, and long after their departure Radcliffe and Angeline Jennings said nothing since the venture, the issue at stake, and their confidence in the three boys." Little realized the three boys in question were to their own tents, where they found the guardhad repaired the little damage done to it by a mischievous fire andput everything to rights so far as possible. Soon as they had secured a wagon they reached the tent the driver sounding his horn for attention.He drove to a position in front of the tent, adjusted a pair of skids and helped unload his burden.Fred signed a receipt and the driver then made haste to depart.Just as the wagon was leaving the ground Dolores appeared, with Gladys, and Joy.

"Upon my honor as an expert"Dolores cried"That driver is one our sworndescriber.How does it come he's out here driving a wagon?"

"That's strange "mused Fred."There did the supply station get him."!

"I don't know"replied Dolores."But he seems to be there all right."

"Well the fellow is gone now."Hans exclaimed impatiently. "Let's turn this box of new uniforms over.I'm getting anxious."

"Wait a bit"interrupted Fox Fred."Couldn't it be a good idea to inspect the box first and see whether it's really delivered for us or not. "Maybe that man may have brought it to do something to us and it wouldn't be what we hoped for.Boxes delivered by strangers are not to be trusted you know."

"Not on any box of this sort."forsted Henry."This box is all right. I'm positive of it."

"Better give it a looking over anyhow Fred"suggested Dolores."Here's a prior.Use it to pry up those boards.They're not nailed down very tightly."

Shortly a startled cry came from Fred, and which drew them and quite a number of others to the box.

"Look Dolores"he shouted."Look fellows.Come and see what's in the box among the uniforms."

" Large fire crackers"acidone of the privates."X Six big fire crackers in the box."

"Those are not fire crackersone bit."gasped Fred."Be careful there."

"Go easy for what."!

"Why they're dangerous."

"Guess you're right "admitted Fred picking up one of the strange objects."But they're about the size of big firecrackers though.But it appears to be they're wrapped in heavy oiled red wax paper.Besides there isn't a any sticks or fuses.Why it hands like a gunpowder"He exclaimed, manipulating the long object.

"For Heavy ns sake, Fredput that thing down easy don't fool with it. Do you want to see us all blown to bits.That stuff is some sort of dynamite if not a high explosive or T.N.T...."

"Huh T.N.T "scorned Fred."Why you're talking as if you didn't know what it is Dolores.Howcould T.N.T get in there into shapes of fire cracker s.That's high explosive all right but not NT T.N.T.It's dynamite."

"Sure thing" acquiescend Gladys Wenthworth comingup andlooking at the long wide sticks.

"Are you sure Dolores you remember who drove that wagon to this spot with this box on it.If no one of the spies was on the job all right."

"Well Great Leaping Lizards."ejaculated Fox Fred, gingerly holding the object at arms length."If we ever catch him we'll make him see another another world sure thing...!!)(!"

"Lay it down very gently.Don't drop it "advised Henry.

"It looks harmlessenough,----just like a great big fire cracker wrapped in oily paper."commented Fred depositing the burden on the ground as gently as possible.

"If any one us had handled the box a little too too roughly, the box, the tentand all of of us standing here would have been blown blown to bits if we had even tried to carry the box into the tent(went) with those dreadful things in the box."advised Angeline Jennings approach ing the spot.

"Thank God we turnedout so lucky, anddid not do it anyill we looked in it."Henry breathed."

"How shall we dispose of it."Suggested Hans?"

"Let's throw it into the river."suggested Dolores."That is the best way we can get rid of it."

"It won't drown.Glandelinians I suppose use these things to blast fugitive boats in the water."

"Then we'd better explode it at the stumps we had wished to dispose of yesterday.Let's take it down to where the stumps are, put it at the base, and shoot at it.We haven't any fuses so that is the best to do."

With the prospect of a little target practice, this suggestion was accepted by all. They were shortly at the two stumps indicated.

"Now boys I'll tell you what we maydo"spoke up Dolores."We'll pretend that we have caught the two Professional Mutt and Jeff spies, and that those stumps are they, and they have been sentenced to be shot at sunrise.These two big "Fire crackers" will be the firing squad. Are you ready for the game of " Make believe."

"Bloodthirsty as ever after the enemy as she ever was I see" laughed Gladys as Dolores became enthusiastic over the game."Always looking for trouble with the Mutt And Jeff International Spies."

"We ought to put a black mask on her to cover her eyes." added Joy St Claire"All give her the first shot."Anyhow executi executioners in the olden days wore black masks."

"Yes I saw one so they couldn't see what they done"Declared Fred.

"Do you mean so the spirit of the executed executed one would not recognize his killer."put in Henry.

"No your mistaken "said Hans."They were masks so that those when loved the executioners could not recognize them."

"Well I'm no "Lone Ranger"protested Dolores indignantly."Keep the masks for the Glandelinian Gargoylian Kurds , "Cheaters or what you call them."Will end up andplay fair.!!!!!!!!!!!!!!"

"But you surely will oblige us by taking the first shot, won't you?"Fred insisted Gladys.

"Much obliged"dryly responded the girlscout, well wrinkling her nose.

"Firing squad attention."Sung out Joy in an authoritative tone.

" Tenshun.Ready.Aim.Fire."

"Where's the fire"asked Dolores for the fun of it.

"In your pistol of course" chuckled Joy.

However at the command given the second time Dolores raised her automatic automatic rifle dkr directly twqrd the target.Then with the word"fire"she rapidly pulled the triger, sending all twenty shots hurtling tward the explosives, but with no result.

"Well Great Fros Frozen Hot boxes aim I aining wrong.?""he gasped.

All the others looked surprised. They went to see.

"No you hit the thing all right"said Fred.

"Well why didn' t it explode."

"I don't know.Maybe there only some other way of exploding it. Maybe by throwing."

"Who will volunteer to throw it?"

"I'm the one---out"admitted Dolores."It might explode in your hand.

"I'm going to try it"said Fred.

"No you don't "said Dolores intervening as he was going to pick it up."If it goes by throwing the very motion of your arm might set it off too soon. I'm going to set it in a differen t way and th try my pistol at it."

They then went at a respective distance and she fired one shot at it.Mingled with the reverberations of her pistol shots a sharp thunder ous detonation was heard, and a great cloud of smoke arose where the stumps had been, and which told that again Dolores pistol aim had been ~~thtem~~ true. Pieces of the stumps and great clouds(pouds) of earth and ground debris thrown high u up into the air by the explosion came tumbling about them despite the distance they were in confusion causing them to scatter in different directions to avoid the falling fragments.A lump of a stump got Dolores sam smack on top of the head. Then as everything settled down , the child scouts satisfied doubt of their wits examined the result.

"Just imagine where we would have been with that stuff in the boxe."whispered Dolores in an awe struck tone.

"Let's get back to work and getout of thisplace before soldiers come thinking a flank attack is attempted."suggested Gladys."This makes me sort of nervious.I want to get busy."

Accordingly the boy and girlscouts hetened back to their camp to still the alarm of their many comrades who had emerged out and were coming to come forward to find out what had caused all the noise. They know by name of the location where the battle that had been lar lasting for many months was raging, and therefore they examined their big "School Globe of the world". Then the spot had been properly located they pronounced their experience fit, and made a sketch of the spot on paper.They were as quiet now and as busy as they would be in school, not a sound from their lips.Dolores was the "Teacher"and though children they ~~were~~ were not playing schoolatthar.They were jubilant at the result.Gladys rostup got up to look at the glope for she had just forgotten something she had seen before.As she did so she saw something strange like a hand trying to grasp something from the tent opening.she was there like a flash and she had grabbed the hand and had sank her nice "little"teeth into it good and proper while a sound outside did credit to a man dying of Hydrophobia/.

Kicking wildly and suddenly giving forth a kick a that landed into her stomach and knocked her down the man whoever he was well withdrew his hand, and was heard running down the company street. At the cry however a number of girlscouts had ran out from tents near by.At Glandy's cry st"stop him he's a spy,"two of those girls drew their pistols and drored him into the road with well aimed shots. He was found dead when they ran up.Gladys searched the manmuskets and found by the letters he was a shadowmr sent by the Kutt spy to prevent the work of the girlscouts.

"That's the way we settle spies."said one of the girls."Don't ny to have them persued.Just let them have it.They show us no mercy."

"You did right"said Gladys "I nearly hit his hand off though.He's still not sos thh e in it."

She managed to force une open the badly bitten hand and found it was onlyone of her plans."

"This shows that to trifle with Abbiesnnian girl and boyscouts is a suicidal thing, especially when the spy is not crafty enough to do it without detection.

"Well I guess we can be about ready to start as soon as we pack up our kits and Gertrude shows us."announced Fred as Gladys entered. "Since they got that one scamp though, we had betterlook out for more scum of Glandelinia.Comrades let's make things hum around here.We haven't got time. John"to the one who was acting as sentinel"Were you not watching ?Why in sun hill could he almost get away with out dete t detection.If it hadn't been for Gladys he's have gotten away with the letter from Jennie Turner, endone ofourmost necessary plans."

"He must have slipped past me for I saw no one"admitted the lad.

"Well you certainly were not watching carefully enough then." said Dolores."It's a wonder he didn't take it into his mind to kill you. It's also to your safty to watch me boy.Be careful next time. Your the guard, and your danger is greater if you're not watching."

"Get's telephone Radcliffe, that we are ready, and only am waiting for Gertrude to come, and also ask him to arrange for the expedition also."suggested Joy.

"Good idea Joy, get him on the wire for me willyou "said Gladys.

"I would like to have Operator Four Six one City, Camp No Nine"said Glandys.

She got the number and told Radcliffe all about it, even about the spy who was killed. Radcliffe was indeedpleased at the announcement and surprised that one of the spies got it so quickly. Arrangements had been made, he said to secure passage for them on the big raft once more leaving first to the Abbiesnn territory two days later.They would thus have ample time for trials and adjustments of their new troops before the expdition started.

Accordingly the girl and boy scout officials worked in drilling their newones with a will that afternoon.

"I tell youwhat"Fred spoke up as the boys and girls all of them were eating a little afternoon lunch"We have been very fortunate thank God and His Blessed Mother, so far in avoiding serious trouble, and outwitting those trying to spy on us.I hope we start away on the trip all right.You know prayer is the real thing that helps us.The saying always is "God helps those that helps themselves."

"Oh we're the regular child army of little side steppers"gleefully assented Dolores clapping her hands."We always have hoodwinked the enemy."Then she added looking more solume now" "I wish weknew who the would besurderers were who seem to be trying to put usout of business or spy on us or rob us.What is that saying! 'Know about it ahead of time and you've gotfour arms.!'

"Forear Forewarned, is foreamed,' Dolores, corrected Gladys"You sure are a tomboy.You seem to only think of your boxing gloves and other things like that."

"Yes.Well one thing I'll say.If I could get the boob that put those twenty dynamite sticks in in that box of uniforms, who tried to burn down our camp early thisworning, and has been spying on us, he 'd think I had brass wings on."stoutly maintained the little girl.

"The Those Glandelinians deserves it all right."agreed Joy.

"Buthw willwe mangemanage when we start down the river or ride out on the flood again if any of the flood is still left up here."asked Henry."And besides all territories north of usright now be overrun by Glandelinians."

"Why we will Ak Ask God to help us."

"What will be our first move?"Dolores, inquited Fred.

"Pass the potatoes"put in Dolores(code words used by scouts)

"We can't pass through that se ction you suggest"said Joy"Main thing we'll have to discover whether these spies have arived and if thye they're going tward that battlefield by the route of ruinred ruined Abbiesnn.If the they vas not, we'll wait and learn what direction they're really going going.Radcliffe has already stated that they were going to go on an armoured raft of some sort construct ed by Glandelinian min military construction engineers.Withour own raft we ought to beat them to Abbiesnn by at least two days."

"But we's be stopped even by strange christian troops wuldn't be wouldn't we?"asked Hans.

"I believe it could bepossible, but it's better than being stopped be the enemy ."admitted Dolores."If we are discovered we'd have to fight hard if its the enemy or we'd all be seized, and even if we escaped afterwardour pursuit of the six spies would be delayed.But

whatever the result wemust take the chance."

"But how could it bepossible we'd be stopped by christichristian troops!"demanded Glady's."They sure can see we're christian boy and girlscouts.Who' d make such mistake as that!"

"You forget Glady's we are all going in disguise."

"Go on now.Why should we need to go in disguise.Do we have to put on that hated Glandelinian uniform again!"

."Fact"asserted Dolores"You see the trip we need to make will be through territores where Glandelinian armies are rampant.Now they say good parts of the Abbisann ter i territory is in the possession of the enemy.If all Glahdelinian armies were far away from this territory there could be no hinderance of any persons trying todiscover the Abbisan Explosion mystery, I understand."

"What else could any one do in trying to make such a dis covery."

"Well they could use all sorts od of detecting implements and so on.I don't know all the works.Each Scientist has a mess of his own. They were going to "Steam Shovel"the districts."

"Make labor to find clues.That's funny."

"Believe me"announced Evangeline St Claire forcefully."hen I get back on a trip from Abbisann I'm going to write up this subject for the encyclopedia" Abbisann blown up by girlscout Evangeline St Claire. Uncle Tom told her to do it and Simon Legree furnished me the explosive."

"Go ahead"said Dlo Dolores.And you'll go to the Hoosecow."

"No to the bottomlesspit."said Eva.

"When we get backwith those six spies"announced Angeline Francis "We'll all have seen Abbisann enough to go through it again in our dreams."

."Hurry when we get back.Shall we decide which part of Abbisann we say we were at, or shall we say we'll leave that for later consideration."

"Better wait."Advised Dolores.

"Why.!"

"B w Because there is no telling what might happen."

Indeed Indeed how true her words were soon to be proven.Could any of all of the boy and girlscouts have anticipated the many incidents that were to occur, and the great dangers that confronted them perhaps their hear s hearts would not have been so light.nowever care and all sorts of gloomy forebodings had no place in their healthy young minds, and they discussed the future only with thoughts of success.

Half an hour later all of the boy and girlscout officers only were examining the great raft boat.Every one of the old timers among the boy and girls were ve very familiar with the great raft constructed for Gertrude Angeline and her force by Abyssinkilian construction military n engineers at the beginning ofone of her main trips down the flood, and all new comers had visited every place fromstem to stern and had been favored by all the crew.

Theadditionto the scouts to had been welcomed, and the returning of so many of those who had been wounded in the Squabble on the Ventura road made the situation far more f avorable than it would have been otherwise. Although the rules of military laws forbid any p rson occupying the officers quarters of the big raft while the raft would be under way, Gertrude who is in main charge of the raft had long before laughingly promisehe promised to give as many of her friends as possible lessons in navigation as long as they were willing to learn.And to avoid any complications, she had often asked any new scholar to sign articles which would makeb them members of the crew of the highest rank of scouts while on board, and thus permit them on the officers quarters under the direction of the officers. Accordingly not a few boys and girls had signed the papers though considering the matter a huge joke and had also speculated on various ways of spending their time. Eagerly now the child scout officers themselves rehearsed every step of cleaning up and preparing the huge boat for the trip.A special duty was assigned to each of the boys and girls so that no time whatever was to be lost when they were once on their way with all the R giment.Between their excitement over the proposed task, the coming wonders of the trip, and the prospects of the new adventures before them they were all bus y all this time.As they were thus busy, imagine their surprise surprise when a great number of soldiers in purple from a far distant section not at all from the direction of general Vivians army v came aboard the raft, and the child scouts recieved a summons to the chief offe officer of these visitors, which one of the officers had delivered.Wonderingly the chief l aders of the boy and girlscouts obeyed the call, and speculating on the cause.

They did not have to wait long before an officer in charge of the troops appeared.He held in his hand a yellow paper, which the girl and boyscout officers at once recognized as a wireless telegraph slip.

The offider who appeared to be a general but who was a perfect stranger to them had a very serious look on his face, and this at first filled the boy and girlscout officers with suspicion and the apprehension that at first he and his followers may be Glandelinians in disguise with the purpose to trap and capture them all.Wonderingly they conjectured what might be in store, but nevertheless had their hands on their pistol holsters for Glandelinians have n ever yet been known to have captured boy and girlscouts alive.

"You are the boy and girlscouts of this command or the raft!"he asked.

"Yes."answered Dolores herself.

"Well, are there among you any persons known ad Dolores Mic-Holl ster Jennings, Angeline Richee, and Glady's Wenthworth and Joy St Claire."?

"Yes we're all here except Angeline Richee."

"Where is she?"

"Wellsir who are you and why do you want to know.Why the questions!" demanded Dolores."We don't tell whereour friends areunless we know the prsons who addresses you."

"Well Ladies andlittle Gentlemen"answered the general and his serious looks deepened"You should probably know that I too am a subject of Abbisannia, and that war is raging frufurious/y between Abbisannia and Glandelinia!"he glanced at every one who confronted him.

"How do we know for sure.You may be Glandelinians in disguise"admitted Dolores acting as spokeman"We cannot understand whether such is the case or not, for you may be Glandelinians in disguise.If you are we order you ovf this raft immediately or you'll be prisoners and what we'll do to you if your men boards here will be something terrible."

"Sorry you misunderstand me"said the general."I am general Herdrude, Francis Herdrude of Abbisannia. I'm no Glandelinian and it pains me to state that I have information here"indicating the wireless message, "Which if true makes the situation a very delicate one for some of you."

Puzzled the boy and girlscout officers waited ani anxiously for the general to continue.

"This message which if you don't believe me I'll even let you read, "Comes from some strange private individ al and of course cannot be regarded by me as official.He claims to be one man who says he's the Original "Mutt"who caused those sot of funnies to be made in some Foreign papers.He states in this message, that some of you he doesn't mention any names except Dolores and Angeline Richee are very cl ver clever, dangerous and shrewd Glandelinian child scout spies operating as the girls mentioned.I know they're true to their cause, but hesays that there are two or three who doubles as Dolores Angeline Richee and Gertrude Angeline for the sake of some dreaded accomplice of their's who is either original in apparance or disguises himself to look like Mutt, and has a leader known as some name I cannot pron pronounce here but who appears like "Jeff Jeff." If you here are the original ones then I'm sorry for themistake.but if not, then while I should dislike very much to do anything of the sort it will be my duty to hold you here as prisoners myself untill you can assure me you're not the ones that this message states of. It says a girl by the name of Dolores Mic-Hollester Jennings is an orginal v christian girl scout, but someone is doubling as her and I'm afraid you're the one.If you can prove you're the original then not only will I hop you can do so, but hope you'll understand the danger your facing by having a double in your camp."

"That's the Professional International Spies again"declared Henry."Oh the firing squad for those two!

With a look of wonder the general listened to Henry's outburst, and then turned to D l Dolores for explanation.It was indeed forthcoming without delay, the boys and girls realizing the strange blunder believed it better to be aba absolutely frank with their friend since it was general Herdrude and not a Glandelinian officer in disguise.Therefore they showed proov proofs who they were,and gave all the important features of their connection with the case, the adventures of Penrod with the strange spies, and every occurance taken down in their Diaries were laid before the general,together with thed commission papers,and other means of identification.As a final proof of the fact that they were not the duplicates, Dolores suggested that general Herdrude send an inquiry to general Vivian or to Angeline Jennings their main superior.

This the general did not consider necessary to do declaring

that he was satisfied that though the warning was a truesone, it was therefore for their own good,and that the real duplicates were some where else.

"It seems however"he said"That this party who is duplicating you child scout officers may be the accomplishes of those Professional spies, and that they are determined to cause you trouble or hinder the work you are set out to do, and in my estimation there is butone thing you can do to protect t yourselves again t against those while you intend to do your work of capturing those six spies ."

"What is that?"asked Gladys eagerly.

"Bring your girl and boyscout regiments away from general Vivians army for the time being, and either operate independently or join general Concentinian Aronburgs army for the while."SSWQ

"Thank you general"Dolores replied after a short pause."You have certainly treated us royally, and we should and willshow our utmost appreciation.We believe indeed that you mean well forour sake but it is a matter of the greatest importance, and we would like a little time in which to do consider the subject.Besides we'd have to consult our superiors on that subject especially Angeline Jennings my sister.She is our Matron scout.May we think it over??""

"Certainly"replied the general heartily."You are right.Consider it well and remember that I shall help you if I can .And general Hansonia Vivienias army is not far away."

"We really are aportion of the child scouts that readily belong to Francis Vivianannas army"spoke up Joy."We wouldn't want to complicate matters at all, but if we are forced to we'll go back to his command."

"True indeed"rejoined the general"but remember you have a bold and desperate set of spies to deal with, and they're liable to operate in any christian section they can to try andoutwit yourpurpose.Judging the two Professionals, by what I now know, and what they did to Penrod in order to make himexpose the hidingplace of Jennie Turner I believe they will not stop at nothing trifling or big.Remember that if Angeline Jennings brings her boy and girls cout troupto general Vivianias army you have the protection of that army as well as others."

"While I or my friends don't want to underrate the ability of your army"put in Gladys "I feel that these fellows are men of ability and cunning and they would attempt to frustrate us just the same no matter what army we came to!.We were once in Concentinian Aronburgs army and those spies even there were made it hot for us."

"But think ofall the glory and honor that will be your some day for assisting the good country in her time of need.You are always rewarded alri already, and God has blessed all your undertakings."

"We always think of that too."agreed Dolores.

"But also we must remember"put in Jane Mellfort that we are the boy and girlscouts called the "RA NGERS" and that the Vivian Girl Princesses would not wish us to beputting ourselves into the section of an army where there are different regiments of child scouts than our own.You have the Vivianites.We're the Rangers."

"I shallsay no more."declared the general."You have all your own idea, ideas and your will is yours.But you must remember it was better if you had remained at general Vivianannas Richee's army.That is the main army for only Rangers and hundreds and hundreds of them are there ye yet."

"We should have but the Princessespushed us on."said Fred.

Withprotestations of their gratitude, the boys and girlscouts went to their own quarters invitin g the general and his officers to remain on their raft to their comfort as long as they wished without interfering with their duty.They themselves sought the seclusion of their own headquarters on the raft.They at once held a conference to consider the weighty sub j subject which had just been presented.

All felt indeed the anticipated step wasone of great moment and that more than their own personal safty or inclination was involved.They knew too from what they had learned from many scouts and by telegraph that after having moved off fromengaging Myletze and leaving general Nero Viviania to watch Myletze general Viviananna Richee by the orders of the Galverinian government was concen trated some where near Abbieann.They studied the facts too that three or four ofthem besides Dolores, Gertrude a Angeline, and Angeline Richee were being duplicated. After reviewing the facts, and studying the subject by writing down everything that was said,which they always do to make it out better, Dolor s Dolores stood up, removed her spectacles and said;;;;;;,;,;,;,;,

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"Officer comades.comrades you are the ones to decide this matter."said Dolores."Shall we do as the general sugge sts, or remain with the army under general Vivian by communication even if we go abroad after those messengers."

"There isn't such a thing as remaining with gener l general Vivians army if we have to go from onepoint to another""declared Gladys . "If we have to go forth to chase after those spies, we just naturally seem to belong to whatever army we might comeupon, and that is all there is to it."

"Sure"Spoke up Jack himself"But we can of our own accord choose any army we wish if we have to do it can't we.If there are other kinds of boy and girlscout.Regiments there we don't have to mix in with them do we.We can remain a seperate regiment in some other locality of the qr army and not butt in where we are not wanteddf! .?:"

"If we go back to general Viviania Richees army, we could do all sorts of scouting round there and try to find out clues as to the causes of the disasters at the city won't we?"asked Mildred Maxwell?

"Why certainly"satated Dolores with some impatience."We can find out what was the disaster."Eruptions"or explosions, and if they were caused by mines try to go forth and find out where the clues as to to formations of theunderground galleries for themines were located. Then we could come back and tell our friends, where their remains are and they'll then blame Glandelinia and say she was the one who did scatter sucha big devastation storm of ruin and floods all over the landscapes.That would bemoreimportant than ca chasing after the six spies wouldn't?"

"Well no one has been able to prove yet that Glandelinia was responsible, have they?"

"No, and the disaster hasn ever harmed or made us orphans at any rate thanks be to God"put in Jack."wrone though I believe we'd better go ahead as we are, and do as Miss Jennings wished.Our business is to either get the details of Abbieanns destruction or to try and intercept those six spy messengers, and prevent them if possible from sealingout theplans they have stolen.Where here as scouts anyhow and that is our only work.We do sometimes join battles but that is notour work."

"And I say we had better make Glandelinia soon sue for pace peace even if we have toincrease the war and fight in itowselves to get her to do it ?"declared Dolores sericusly.??..::

A general laugh lsugh grated greeted this announcement.Dolores desire for peace even at the expense of a desperate fight was well known by every one .Indeed every one knew well her sense of fair play in war as well as her readiness to settle the war by conflict and by forcible means.Not for nothing was her hair(strange for Abbieannians) red.

When their laughing fit was over she continued;

"Our main predicament is that some one is always playing one or so of us of our double.Some one maybe a scout of the enemy side, or midget men would be able through some clever way to impersonate me, Gladys or others.That is the mea main thing that we are up against. It was not so long ago when Penrod thought Gertrude Angeline was turning traitor and trying to bey betray him to the enemy.When he discovered the deception he shot the impersonator dead.What are we to do about the matter. They don't seem to be around and if they are able to pull thro gh through with their work they'll throw everyone of us into confusion.Shall we go to Viviania Richee's army or shall we go along with general Vivians still.Shall it be "On to Abbieann" or stay with general Vivian?"

"Let's take a vote or ballot."suggested Fred."Of course there are about only ten of us here, so there may be a dead lock."

"Not much of a chance for a deadlock with ten votes cast one way."quickly put in Gladys. "I know how you and the others stand."

Laughingly Dolores handed a slip of paper to each one.

"Each one of you now put your sentiments on the paper, and drop the al slip into this hat."she directed."

"All right. Here goes."

"Who will count the vote"?Asked Joy St Claire.

"Evangeline St Claire will"said polores.

Only a few moments were required for the ten of them to prepare the ballots.A hat was then passed, and into it the h slips were first folded and then dropped. Evangeline St Claire at once thrust in her hand and drew forth a folded ballot...?"""

"Number One..."""she announced."Hear ye.Hear ye. The solemn word of Dolores, Chief girl leader of the Rangers.She says on this slip to head for Abbieann but to sent in the request first to either Angoline Richee or Angeline Jennings our two main superiors.Then this next one" sh she continued, reaching for another ballot"has made a picture of a po tato vine as her sentiments.That's surely some fine artist. That picture almost makes w me wish I was back in the beautiful country."

"That's mine"declared Jane Malfort."That's intended to be the branch ofa tree."

"Thanks"dryl y responded Evangeline, reaching for another ballot.

"This third one"she went on"Has made a picture of the Abbieannian flag."

"I'll take that"Cried Mildred."Abbieannia Fnever."

"Noble sentiments for a Flemingo leader"was Evangelines comment.

"Now this fourth one has made a picture of a bird of some , kind. I can't tell exactly what it is intended to represent."

The others had hlw however made the same thing, and soaxfrion dly argument resulted in whdh it was left as a matter of doubt whether they had intended to draw apicture of the Dove of Peace, a Hawk, Falcon or the American Eagle or some other big bid.Much good natured chaffing resulted , but it was finally decided that either bird would serve as a vote of "On to Abbieann...:..!!:.

"Now Dolores it's up to you to inform general Hindernine or Herdrude who ever he is that we are much obliged for his kindness, but we'll head for Abbieann.General Richee is our goal and the six spies."

"All right .Here goes.Come along with me comrades."

The general recieved the announcement of the boy and girl scout officers pleasantly and with some surprise though he was d ightly disappointed, and took occassion to compliment them on their loyalty to their armies and principals, declaring that at the same time that he would be glad to aid them in any way possible.

With much lighter hearts now they had made up their decision, and they all repaired to the western side of the raft boat of Gertrudes to watch for the approach of the regiments of child scouts.Some of them were gazing at the scenes beyond the ruined harbor of St Ethel dreda and g were greatly interested in noting the still smouldering fires.And far away they could still hear the roar of the battle of Hanger Run and wondering how it was turning out. Soon the wirst Company of the girlscouts came the girl troop being first at this junctur e, and due to the friendly assistance of the general an d his men, their blongings were speedily passed across the water to the raft, and soon the Company on of girls were all on board.

Boats hauled the boxes of well needed ammunition to the raft, and they were taken from the boats and brought to a spot favorable for their purpose, and l all of the girlsccuts worked whild while the girlscouts leaders superintended the work of loaif loading andplacing.

By midafternoon, they viewed w t with satisfaction the company of girlsccuts.Soon another batch of them came and soon the remainder of the whole force was on shore waiting to get to the raft boat, while an interested crowd of refugees hovered near to watch.

All this time thwy wondered where were Gertrude, Angeline R c Richee Jean and Penrod, and some others.

Just as Dolores announced everything ready, a motor boat drew up near their raft, discharging Angeline Jennings as its only passen ger. She was greeted with enthusiasm by all and asked to inspect their work.

"Boys and Girlscouts of AbbiamiaAbbieannia Ihw some good or some unusualaws for you." announced the girlscout leader and Matron after proclaiming her astonishment at the results so speedily and unknowingly obtained."

"If it's good news all right."Sad her sister."If it's bad news we don' don't like to hear it.Good news is always welcome."

"It is not bad news though its quite exciting."said Angoline Angeline Jennings."First general Vivian is giving the enemy a good ls lesson in the art of fighting. The Glandelinian army is falling back in disgrace.Next a strange launch passed us just a lit tle while ago.Whatever it was evidently made good the in it down the waters. If we could get him we'd be lucky.The Mutt spy was in it."

"And what about the man?"asked Dolores agerly while the others xrowded around her to hear the news."Did he land in gud shpe and did he have his companion with him, or did he leave the boat and swim across."???"

"I am informed by sem courriers"replied the girl"That he was alone

except with the man who drove the launch.The Spy left the vessel as they were passing the raft, and he swam ashore.He is no doubt on the enem enemy side of the shore now."

"Then all of us had better look out no2 now"declared Jane mellfo rt drawing her deepest breath."The rascal is perhaps going to head for the six spies at once to warn warn them of our intention...:. "

"According to the Officials"continued Angeline Jennings"he would if he got there even have a hard time to get into either army, as he has not been able tosecure a pass for either.So if he is found therefore by either side he will be apprehended and requied to explain his presence."

"That won't be any help to us at all I'm afraid."Dolores ventured. "He is crafty enough to keep out of the way at least of the christian lines, and if he can't get in to the Glandelinian camps in that far direction he has some crafyy means tosend the word alone to his six cronies.I only hope he doesn't succeedin getting to Abbieann or to any other locality, before we find where he is.If we can 't caltir capture himwe'll at least kill him to save the nation from disaster at his hands.I know there's a tremendous reward for his cpture dead or alive."""QA

"Now I must return to supertend the other work and of the moving of the tents so they can be brought on to the raft."declared Angeline Jennings."So far we have done all we could for the start and we'll have Masses and Novenas offered upforour success in the end exped ition.The only thing is that is delaying us, is the wait for Gertrude and the others.I heard they've come to camp, but have a nu a duplicate of Gertrudes cooped up somwhere but where we do not know. What they won't do to him isplenty."

She saluted and then renetered the boat(not the goat.((

Turning their attention to the final adjustments of the work on board the raft, the boys and girls soon had everything completed. They were provisionedand prepared for a long and dan gerous trip.?.

"Whatvisthfirst movevto b done now A Dolores"Asked Fred stowing the last article inplace."Do you suppose those six Glandelinian pies will head for that most extensive battlefield."

"Poossibly we would be wise to trycut the movement of the raft a b?t a bit to make sure everything is all right."replied Jane Mellfort thoughtfully."Then if everythin g proves to be in good shape, we can ret rn and wait for the appearance of Gertrude and the others, and also try to learn what the other fellow did upon swim in g ashore."

"In case he has not left the reason we will of course try to h get hold of him especially at som near spot, won't we?" inquired Jack.

"I believe it would be n best to n nab him as soon as possible."

"Yes easy talking but not easy doing."said Joy.

A"and maybe he has already gotten to a place where he can hide the pl ns plans untill he finds a place to seel sell them to some chief Glandelinian general."suggested Fred.

"All these Glandelinian spies are shrewd chaps all right"assented Mildred Maxwell"But hr is the most shrewd"and we cannot tellwhat he may attempt todo.I think we can find the boat thatput him ashore and induce theone who drove it to tell us where the Professionel spy has gone."

"Unless he is a Glandelinian not even bribery will do it."said Jack himself."Even if he is an Abbieannian he willnot tell us unless he really knows the man is of a suspicious character.Then of coure course hemight nab him himself and save us the work.Let's try out the raft and hurry back.."

"Accordingly they got the whole thing in motion, and their engineers started the engines.After the first few puffs of the smoke stack, he touched the throttle,and the huge raft began to move forward.

Accelerating the speed of the engines, the raft moved down the big stream in a majestic manner.They all cheered as the raft began to move soswiftly.They however headed tward their own camp to be closer so as not todelay the rest and the removal of the camp.

"The river takes a bend near the camp"said Fred."Lets go around the bend.We can get a pretty good view of the camps that way and do our best to help them in getting on board."

"I can get a good view of a big squadron of cavarly coming along the shore over th to the north."Dolores stated."They're in purple but they're coming this way too."she addedd???..::

It was as Dolores had said.A gaint column of cavarly inpurple, was rapidly approaching along the shore and but approaching tward or follow ing the raft.

"Let's give thes a good race."Dolores"Cried Fred excitedly.

"Sure" acquiesced Dolores.. "We'll show them that an engine can run faster than horses."

Accordingly the engineers were ordered to turn on full power, and in a moment the raft was skimki skimming through the water at a great rate. "Good goh gosh they sure must have swift horses."reported Jack.

"Why!"

"Why they're gaining."

"Gaining"!Inquired Dolores.

"You're right they are."answered Mildred herseld."They're even overhauling us.I didn't believe the christian cavarly have such swift horses."

"Well let them come." Mildred suggested."This is a trailtrip.But I never heard of horses gaining on the speed of an engine."

"How near is the cavarly now!"asked Dolores.

"About one third of a mile behind down the shore road I should judge "said Jane Mellfort.

"After a bit we'll try and make it a mile."smiled the engineer.

"At that instant from half a hundred of the cavarly men there came a rattling noise as of rifles being fired.Puffs of white smoke showed from the nearest of the gallopping horsemen, but in the wind and by the pspeed of the horses quickly disappeared.

"They must have spotted enemies."said Jack.

"It must be .They're shooting at something."Said Evangeline St Claire.

Dolores glanced at her companions and then at the horsemen.Again the rattling report of rifles were heard and other clouds of smoke and bullets struck on objects on the raft.

"Leaping Liz r Lizards."cried Jane Mellfort."They're shouiting at us. Are they Glandelinians in purple uniforms.""!!"

"I have nothing to say to mine enemies."Said Gerald Starring."I've c come to frustrate your work in hindering those six spies."

"You may think you did."said Gertrude Angeline"But we'llprevent you if we can and willdo so if we have to killbyou to do it. Your outrages to the Vivian Girls so often, from you and your companions have never passedour notice and now we have you trapped just where we want you. It's too bad th ay are not here to see you."

Starring wheeled upon Gertrude Angeline, and Angeline Richee."A "And all your dirtylittle devils in uniforms--if they're not in the war what're they doing here!You girlscout she devils cannot do your work alone eh! What are allyour members doing here in the diabolical Christian camps.And you want three, helpers, a boy and two girls to help you cpture orkill me eh Miss Gertrude Angeline!"

The desperate Glandelin ianboyscout did not want to parley, but in spite of his eagerness hisjudgement told him that he was in the most perilous situation in his life so far. He didn't fear the Vivian Girls when they had him often, but these girls before him.An evil spirit for nothing would fear them.And Penrod.He must taunt them untill they lost their heads from black rage,that would give him an advantage to fight his way to freedom.....

"You Gertrude Angeline, want to make me seek peace with the Vivian Girl Princesses I suppose you little christian devil.What do you know about me and them, my affairs and their's"he continued."You Penrod didn't get enough of experiences with the Professional Spies those days they almost had you .There's another adventure coming to you in a minute or two.Angeline Richee, if I'd been a girlscout she devil of your sort I'd have picked some men soldiers who could help you fight a boy scout like me if I was afraid, instead;;

He got no further however, for at that very moment taking the initiative he sprang like a enraged little tiger.Glandelinian boyscouts will hit a girl wooner than he will any boy when ra enraged when the girl happens to be an girls out enemy, and his fists dashd full into Angeline's face right and left altogether or almost together with as great a force as he could bring to bear.The force of the blows flung her backwards, her head struck the edge of the stall behind her, and recieving a kick from him into her stomach she dropped moaning to the flooor and lay there!.!!.:LK

Passing her with a gloathing look, H Gerald Starring leaped for Jean, but the agile little girl eluded him, banging him in the mouthwith her fist and darted down the middle of the stable screaming at him furiously and threatening totear his eyes out with her finger nails if he'd dare come closer.Before he could quite recover himself, Penrod and Gertrude Angeline with a furious shot and scream sprang from behind like wild tigresses to the counter attack.As Gerald swung sideways he saw a long dangerous looking knife glaming in Gertrude right hand and the looks in her eyes was anything but pleasant.Good as she was she was a little Rattler when aroused.She was Radcliffes sister and had her ways He thrust her arm up, and the blow diverted glanced, the knife ripping his sleeve open from wrist to shouldor.Penrod alswith a kin knife was spring from the other side demanding;

"Surrender you fool or I'll jab you in the side."

But Gerald seizedupon the situation with judgement for whih he could never afterwards account.F Dashing his fist upward, he caught Gertrude Angeline under the chin, forcing her head back and getting a good tight strangle hold so tight that her tongue protruded at the same time he grasped the wrist which hold the long glaming knife and swung so as to interpose the girlscouts body between himself and Penrods blow. As Penrod struck again Gerald turned with a cuse curse, saltering himself behind Gertrude Angeline, one hand still encircling her throat in the strangle grip, the other holding back the wrist whichshe was struggling most vehemently to use so that Penrods short mad stabbing strokes always fell short aimed around Gertrudes body.Backing into the stall adjacent to theone in which Angeline Richee had fallen, Gerald in this manner continued to ward of f Penrods furious attacks.The stall itself was narrow, and the enraged boyscout was unable to get past Gertrude, still struggling madly in Geralds grasp around her throat in order tostrike a blow from the side or rear.So long as Gerald could retain a hold on hold on Gertrude and keep her in thisposition he was comparatively safe and this hemust do as Penrod sure looked dangerous.But he had no more than about fifteen seconds in which to think out his next his next desperate move. It was all a question of muscular endurance both Gertrude and Penrod were equally as strong, he could not hope toretain his clutch on Gertrudes throat with one hand for many seconds, against the force behind the girlscouts shoulders he wasn't able to choek her hard enough to make her loss her breath even though her tongue was sticking out, and her strong body was too very heavy.Suddenly the Glandelinian boyscout made up himmind made up his mind."

He suddenly released Gertrude, flinging her backwards with all himsight. Gertrude fell against Penrod, sending him staggering, the two clawed at each other, and fell to the floor.

As Gerald Starring released Gertrude he caught sight of Jeans face peering across Gertrudes shoulders.The fall of the three scouts left Jean, Geralds only immediate foe.For a second Gerald Starring hesitated he hesitated to attack a girl or boy much inferior in size and strength.But at that moment he saw Jeans right arm drawn back, and the gleam of the very knife she hold.Before the upward thrust came he stepped back with an oath pulled the revolver from his pocket and brought the butt crashing down on the little girls head. The little girl, instantly drenched with blood, from the jagged scalp wound, hurled the knife at him just barely missing, screamed and fled, stumbling from side to side with handsupriased above her head, tward the door.Blinded by the blood that poured over her face she blundered intoone of the window emb rasures, and her upraised hands brought down the lighted lamp which fell crashing upon the wooden floor, and fortunately for them all went out.Still screaming, Jean found the door, and tried to push back the bolt, but Gerald Starring was on the spot before she could do so.He struck her q a resounding slap on the side of the face, pushed the bolt back himself, and taking Jean by the shoulders though she raged and struggled and pushed her with all his strength into the opposite shanty.The room however was empty.However the word had evidently been passed about that it would be advisable forone to make oneself scarce in view of what was going on in the big stable.But a group of girl and boyscouts were gathered about the door at the entrance peering in, and the sudden apparation of poor little Jean,covered with blood and Gerald behind her proved toostrong for their discretion.

They came running forward yelling brandishing their sabres.Gerald could have broken through them and gained the safty of the open grounds beyond a short distance away.Even the strange hazards of such a course was less than what he had faced in the stable.But the idea n ever occured to him.He was fighting mad, possessed as if with a devil he had come disguised with thepurpose to enter the christian lines to fight the chief leadsers of the child scouts, and he meant to fight the war quarrel out.He turned. He heard Gertrude Angeline and Penrod running across the stable floor. All his calculations which were not very consc ious were made in fractional seconds that very morning. So now he calculated that the pair would reach the door in about a half second before the mon in the sham ty and outside. They would emerge con i confident imagining him to be in flight before the crowd of girl and boyscouts.He waited.Jeans blundering flight which took her into the midst of the boy and girlscouts stopped them in their attack, just as Gerald had calculated it would, at the same moment Penrods head and shoulders became visible around the door.Gerald was waiting patiently forthat, and he jabbedupward m cat vigi vigoriously with his right.Penrod howled and fell backwards. knocking Gertrude Angelin off her balance in turn as she screamed, and before they had recovered from the surprise, Gerald had stepped back into the atable and bolted the door behind him'

Her saw their wonder and the dawn n dawn dawning wild fury and defiance in Penrods face, covered with blood, and Gertrudes infur iated pout, but they came on at him again, craftily now, crouching their knives drawn back for the jab.A revolver even when loaded is of little use against a knife,wailded by an expert at close quarters/ And he was fighting with two vivions. The girl and boy were attack ing from opposite sides too, and they watched each movement that Gerald made.He estimated that they would spring after a very brief delay, and to allow a close encounter of the two this time without some ruse would be absolutely fatal.Gertrude's face was white, her eyes glared dangerously she seemedpossessed.He hazarded a second and then stooping pickedup a broken board which in the first encounter had fallen to the floor from one of the wooden boxes.He weeled tward Penrod, who twisted his body to meet him, and then as Gertrude with a scream rushed in from n behind, wheeled again and brought down the boar upon her head with such force as to smash the board in to splinters so rotten it was.However Gertrude rell reeled, andones again Gerald leaped and caught her by the throat.But this time he was not quick enough to repeat his former manoevre.She had managed to jab him in the eye with her fist as he started chocking her, and Penrod struck at him from the left side.The upward thrust would have pentrated the heart of the Glandelinian boyscout had it struckwhere Penrod inten ded, but by a miracle of luck it passed between Geralds arm and his body only just grazing a rib.The point ofthe blade caught in the linings of his coat and before Penrod could withdraw his arm, Gerald pressed his own left arm against his body catching Penrods hand there and holding it like a vise.This movement swung him around forcing him to release Gertrude and the ensueing bovine rush with the girlscout made threw them both against the embrasure of the second window on the opposite door side of the door.Men themselves were yellingoutside and a furious hammering was being maintained but none of the fighters was conscious either of the shouts or of the blows.As Gerald and Penrod fell against the window shelf, the rotted wood broke inward , the shad sash fell down breaking the glass, the second lamp tottered and then crashed down beside them going out as the first had done and leaving the stable in co. complete darkness.

With a swift movement Gerald managed to draw Penrods arm fruther through his.With thepressure of his combined biceps and triceps he could hold it there for good and all if he had only Penrod to cons contend with.But he could not find means to use his right hand to force Penrods open and grasp the knife, which the boyscout was making frantid frantic efforts to use.He needed his right hand for Gertrude,and PEn Penrod had managed to twist the knife so that its edge was against Geralds side and with the sm sinews of his fingers he was scraping it backwards and forwards ripping open the coat lining and inflicting a succession of scratches and little pic punctures under the heart. Gerald backed suddenly and violently jarring Penrods spine against the edge of the window se shelf.Penrod groaned and made a frantic effort to twist himself free hacking at Geralds chins, and shouting to Gertrude to finish the job.Gertrudes forward rush had flung her between the two.Gerald felt her grouping in the

the darkness trying to gauge theposition in which she was leaning Gertrude was evidentlypuzzled by theposition of the two, and by the termination of Penrods shoulder against Geralds.Gerald sensed that Gertrude had finally satisfied herself and had raised h er right arm to strike callingout "Surrender" He flung away the revolver which he still held, reached up and seized the hand as it was about to descend. Thus holding the right wrists of each of his desperate little assailants, he purposely plunged forward bringing them to the floor with a crash that shook the barn from end to end.

He then let go suddenly, and s ranf to his fet.Gertrudes knife grazed the sole of his foot, as Penrod tried to rise Gerald caught him beneath the chin with the other foot.Penrod groaned and his head went back on the floor.That left only Gertrude in action.Gerald withdrew a step or two.He heard the desperate girlscout breathing heavily as she crouched in the darkness.Th n Then for the first time he began to be able to hear the loud knocking on the dor.It also sounded now as if a crowbar were being applied.Then as the yells of the soldiers came to his ears, the absurdity of hisposition did not dawn upon him, nor the fact that when he had settled with Gertrude he would have to reckon with the mod mob outside.He meant to deal with Gertrude as he had with the others.But in the darkness he could only guide himself by Gertrudes breathing which seemed to come now near his left side, and then on the right.Further away Penrod was half crying andmoaning.Out of the darkness but silently this time Gertrude leaped forward.The knife blow flashed past Gerald, who got Gertrude by the arms.They began to wrestle as if they were two tough boys.Here was Gertrudes superiority though she had no force in her blows if she did strike with her fists, her physicial strength was greater, and gradually the s strength of Gertrudes powerful little arms began to tell.The two panted straining together, but Gertrude was winning, and the knife arm was slowly slippingout of Geralds clutch .It reached upward.But at the moment when it was evading him, Gerald dropped Gertrudes left hand, and struck her a swift blow between the eyes.As he did so he heard the breathing on the other side of him.Gertrude staggered and screamed, and in a flash Gerald had both his hands upon her right wrist kneading the veins and sn sinews untill the fist opened. The knife clattered upon the floor, and Gerald stooped and seized it.That was the precise instant when the knife that had been dropped by Angeline Richee, wailded by Jean Saunders, and it was a mystery how she got in, and thrusted upward found its home beneath Geralds shoulder, while q . a blow from Angeline Richee who had come to again and with her fist felled Gerald to the floor, and he laid there.

"Well we've got the crazy little fool at last"panted Gertrude recovering her knife".

"He would strike at little girls with his fists,."declared Angeline.

"That's why we then resorted to our knives."declared d Jean.

"But I hope we haven't really killed him, though it serves him right.He would resist, and he being strong we had tofight forour own selves or go under at his hands.You know how Glandelinian boyscouts are.They're worse than the soldiers."

Radcliffe in his own tent stretchedout his legs upon a chair, and was drinking his coffee, while Dora Dora leaned against the wall near to where Jolly Joan and Annie Roony were standing, and listened to the superiors semi-silioquy.

"Yes girls we'll soon be on the rip n ow trip now"Radcliffe was saying."We'll get through the Abbisann territory for good, but we will have towait heruntill Gertrude an d the rest come, and then we'll beat it after those six accomplices of tha those Mutt and Jeff spies. Sure indeed I'll be glad to see something done. We all so far have put up a good fight against the enemy.And we girl and boyscouts have stood for things which no mortal man ought to be made to stand for because of the enemy.I've seen battles keep raging for six weeks at a time without any abatement, and I went through lots of horrors and did not say anything.I've seen the enemy win andlose.We have stood all we're going to from the enemy.I've lost t eight thousand little girl and boy scout friends in this fool bloody game, an d Gertrude and me will have to start organizing another round regiment of girls and boys when we finish our Abbisann expedition and maybe we won't hear anything about it either.But nevertheless when it is a case of being forced to see so many of your friends perish, just because the enemy boyscouts can't mind their own business when weours lves don't

bother with them or rub our noses in their business, I've finished and we're at war now with them too, and I've come to the end of my patience. You understand me girls.We fight the enemy boy and girlscouts too."So that's about all.We all go forth on the raft tomorrow.And if you hear that the heads of any of the Glandelinian generals have been cracked because they thought they were George Washint Wsh Washington s and Robert E Lees, and Napoleons, and Dukes of Wellingtons and the like don't you blame me for it because they can keep out of trouble.They're the biggest fools of all that carry on a war for a government that is failing and don't know it or want to know it.Even the whole world is going to leave Glandelinia to her fate"continued Radcliffe sipping some more coffee for he was finishing his dinner"It's her fault.Glandelin ia will get her head busted, and she deserves to get it busted."

Radcliffeput his cut down angrily.

"I guess I shouldn't have told Gertrude about the doubles trying to pretend they're her and spy around the camps"he said"But I was so piping mad I just wanted that Glandelinian boyscout Gerald Starrin g to run up against trouble.Me Maybe I shouldn't have for she'll almost kill him.But let himgo.He's a spy, and it'll be a lesson to him.I wouldn't raise my finger to help him against my own comrades if his darn fool head was being bustedopen right here before my eyes.You w know what I mean?"

"Yes"said Joan, and the word conveyed any significancethat its hearer might choose to put upon it."Yes"she continued thoughtfully, though what she was was thinking about was incomprehensible.

"It ain't right that we boy and girlscouts should have to go through this"Radcliffe pursued."I'm a good scout, I got my troops to think about, and I'm against all Glandelinia does, and the way she carries on the war.It ain't reasonable to force men in the army and then to force them butcher little kids is it Rooney?"

"I should say not"answered Annie Rooney decidedly."That's why we girls became scouts.We children have to fight forour verylives."

"You're right"said Radcliffe."Of course all of us kids have to fight forourlives."She filled her cup full of coffee and sipped it. "I don't know what in the world is wrong with the coffee this noon time"Radcliffe said, as she drank the cup empty.He put his legs down.

"I guess Gertrude and her followers ought to be in camp by now"He said."If xh she discovers that enemy boyscout in the camp she'll be breakin g his head if it is breakable for posing as she."

"You bet she will."said Joan.

Radcliffe crossed his right leg over his left, uncrossing them and then crossed his lefg left over his right. Then he got up.

"I guess I'll take a walk up the road, and see if she and her officials are returning." he said/

Radcliffes walk was a rapid one.As soon as he left the porch he raced his horse up the hill tward a cliff.As he reached the summit he heard the sound of galloping horses in the distance, and presently he saw a party of girlscouts coming tward him and two of them were Camp Fire Girls.He halted his horse, and hailed them.

"Say girls do you mind gi coming with me to Gertrudes head quarters?"he called.

The column stopped, and Radcliffe percieved Jean Andrews at the lead.

"Yes we don't mind"she answered."I'm glad that we met.We need you we're scouting round to find why Gertrude and others don't come back.The whole camp is worried about her."

Radcliffe rode with them. They urged on their horses and then Jean Andrewssaid;

"General Vivians army is gettin g worsted now,and general Kindernine is gone to help him.But where is Gertrude.She and those who were with her has not returned since they went out this morni g morji morning."

"I don't know"said Radcliffe.But I hardly am worried."

"Why.?"

"Because Gertrude is able to take care of herself."

"They sure can't be shooting at us, they ought to know us by our uniforms."protested Jane Mellfort vigorlously."Maybe its a mistake on their part or they may be Glandelinians disguised as cavarly d soldiers of our side."

"Mistake or not I know the sing of bullets by this time, and if those were not bullets that just passed across the raft, I'll give up. Everybody had gone to cover.If they're enemies in disguise we'll return the fire.They're exposed and we are not. "

"Watch out"shouted Dolores peering through a pair of binoculars she had hurriedly seized."They're really Angelin ians all right, and they surely are making some mistk mistake.If they were of the others we'd rout them in a hurry to cover.They're aiming at us again. Warn others ofour scouts not toanswer their fire."

Again the peculiar sounds as of the sharp crackin g of loud rifles greeted the ears of everyone on boatd board the raft.Dolores involuntarily ducked her head as she heard somethin g sing close past her.She knew they were Angelinians for Glandelinians in disguise would carry no flag at all, and these troopers carried both the Abbieannian Standard and the National flag besides a number of well known Angelin ian cavarly streamers.

"Perhpas we had better slow up the raft a bit, Dolores and see what these Angelinians want."suggested Mildred Maxwell anxiously. "This is a warm reception from your best friends I must say.I wonder if they always do make mistakes when they see new comers.Christian soldiers firing on kids.They must not be able to see straight.I have a mind to answer their fire anyway and treat them for treasion."

"No I don't believe its wise todo so.They cannot tell our sizes at this distance I'm sure."said Dolores.

The Engineer was ordered toslackenad the speed of his engines.

"Let's remain out in themiddle of the stream and if they wish to see us they'll come across and explain themselves.We won't goshore ward. Let's try that and see Dolores."

"Pick out a good spot where the stream is deeper and more wider and we'll stop there, but we'll not raise any white flag."

"Here's a good one on us."declared Jack."We didn't hoist our flag. Maybe that is the reason they're suspicious of us."

"Here's a good spot"the engineer announced."We can slack down in that wide ste stretch over there.We're then in view of a part of our camp and if the purple coated soldiers are enemies our comrades over there will come to our assistance.There's a batch of them watching the movement of the raft in that field by the barn with the slate roof.See by that large clump of trees."

"Indeed I do.But do you notice how the farm houses are set close together.How neat the country looks from this position.Difforent than when we traveled on the flood."

"Don't try to get our attention off the chaps in the purple uniforms still following us on horse along shore like that comrades."Dolores protested."If they do shoot again I'll get sore and answer their fire no matter who they are.Hoist our flag and see what the result is."

This order was obeyed,and evidently the leader of the troopers divined their intention of moving tward the center of the stream, for more than ever of their numbers rep reopened fire, but when the flag went up the firin g suddenly stopped, their was exclamations among those on shore, but nevertheless they contin ued on and deployed along shore as if suspicious of a trick.In a short time the on ginear had brought the raft to the center of the stream close beside within view of the farmhouses in dicated by one of the scout's.The troopers was still following along shore but now in a long thin line in stead of in groups, evidently in an effort to cover the whole raft should any trick be attempted by those on board.The leader did not seem to show any caution even when the flag was firing for some of those on shore con tinued a pretty hot fire, keeping those on board the raft under cover

"They are firin g anyway"said Jack."Shall we answer. "

"Wait and see first.Maybe their officer is half blind and cannot see the flag or either they're enemies in disguise."

Directly the raft had reached the center of the stream, the raft was stopped and the column of troopers sent up a shout askin g for those on board the raft to surrender.Then from the opposite shore two boats, accompanied by along boat moved tward the raft and as they rapidly closer.

"What uniform are th those wearing in the boats?"questioned Dolores. "I don't knowpossibly but they seem red.Possibly they're some of our own comrades?"

As the three boats came nearer they discovered they were some of their own and they were helped on board.Dolores then gave a good look at the leader of the troopre on shore. Dolores gave a start. The leader though inpurple was a tall slender man on horseback, with a sort of long nose, short mustache, and had quick shifty movements of the hands, and had small beady black eyes.Dolores tapped Jack who was nearest her excitedly on the arm.

"They're enemies in disguise or I'll eat my hat"she said.

"How is that.They're flying our flags."

"Either they are, whether they're carrying our flags or not, or maybe they're true christian soldiers and being hoodwinked by the one who seems to be le their leader."

"Are you positively sure."

"I've got his number."

"You're trying to give me the jim jams Dolores."

"No I'm not.That's the "Mutt"spy or I'm a Dutchman and not a girlscout. Look at his chopped off chin, and peaked nose."

"He looks remarkably like the pictures Radcliffe gave us."said Jack looking through his own fieldpieces, and he looked startled in deed."I wonder if it is really he.I'll bet he's told the soldiers he's with that we're Glandelin ian child scouts in disguise just to hide our purpose."

"I don't believe it"said Mildred."You can't fool Angelinian soldiers one bit(she told the truth.I'll) I'll bet you dolores they're all Glandelinians in disguise."

"I""If it is so we'll soon find out."declared Dolores."James bring me the big loud tones magaphone."

The boy obeyed and then clearing her throat the girlscout called out as loudly as she could scream through the horn."

"Well old Mutt, how's Glandelinia.Where your little fishy faced fellow Jeff."

Accustomed as he evidently was to surprises of all sorts the suddeness of this question startled the man under discussion and made the other soldiers start in surprise and look at him.He gave a quick start and glanced keenly tward the raft.Dolores by her field glasses could see a flush p overspread his face.

"The Glandelinian armies licked general Hanson "fine "at Lebanon didn't they."continued Dolores screaming as loudly as she could in an aggravatin g tone of voice. "I didn't think an Irish man could be licked by a christian general did you?"

Evidently recoverin g himself with an effort the man did not deign to reply to Dolores remarks.Maybe he couldn't be cause the distance was too great.In stead he directed his conversation toone of his officers evidently endravoring to convince that general of somethin g.Apparently he was having a very hard time of doin g so and the officer seemed suspicious.

"They're Angelin Angelinians all right"said Minnie Saunders."See the officers won't believe a word he says. We can easily hear what they say if we string up this wirless wireless.IgTll act as a sort of Raido."

This was done and they easily heard the conversation.

They heard this from the spy"I tell you they're Glandelin ians on board of the raft."

The officer spoke again.

"You're pardon sir, but I shall have to ask you to ex excuse my doubts.The one i on the raft who spoke through the magaphone didn't talk like Glandelinians.In fact she seemed delighted over general Hanson whippin g the Glandelin ian army at Lebanon.You must have been trying to fool us to bring them into trouble for your own ends.I am an officer of the Angelinian cavarly, and shall have to ask you to produce papers to prove and explain their presence here if they're not Gla christian child scouts as you say."

"Your're doubts seems to be unusual all right"answered the man speaking slowly."But I tell you they're are Glandelin ian girl and boy scouts for I have here a paper stating they were goin g to seize the raft before the force under Gertrude got there.I am telling you the truth sir and if they're really the true on es on board then my mistake for they may have gotten ahead of the would be thieves. You know sir I'm impersonatin g that Mutt man to try and cause his exposure.If they're the true on es why don't they come forth.They know we have no boats."

"There's a mistake there some where "said Dolores."I'll let them come aboard but I'll not draw the raft shoreward. shoreward."

This was done and the man men were aboard.At close quarters now the "Mutt"didn't seem to have the exact resemblance of the real personalty.He was too thin , for that man and parts of his makeup was missing.The officer spoke to the girlscouts and he smiled pleasantly as he said;

"Your pardon, children but I shall have to ask you to exuse my firing upon you.I am general Granier of the Abbisanhian cavarly and shall have to ask you to show your papers that proves you're the original boy and girlscouts on board this raft and explain your presence on it durin g the absense of Angelinia Aronburg.This man here secured a paper, sayin g that some boy by the name of Gerald Starring has secretly brought into camp a large number of boy and girlscouts of the enemy, and planned to seize this raft ahead of the real orginal christian scouts.If you can prove our mistake we regret firing on you."

"We pardon you for yourmistake"answered D l Dolores speaking slowly and in a low tone. "We arethe original ones and are set out to secure if possible six accomplices of the Mutt an d Jeff spies.Here they are.Our papers will prove it to you.Will you please to examine them!" she continued drawin g forth a ducument from her innerpocket. All the others followed example."

In a manner that impressed the boys and girls very favorably the officer examined some of the papers comparing the description s giving them therein with sthe ones standing before him.Evidently he was not satisfied.He then said;

"Couldn't go by passports.Glandelin ian girlscouts or boys don't and truthfully never knew you by name and may go by their own.I've a list of all of the names ofour own boy and girlscouts here an d to make sure will have to call the roll.If you answer to these names I'll thank God they you're the origin al an d got ahead of the little bandits."

The roll call was put through. Turning to his companion the officer spoke a few wordsin low tones whereupon the other turned and made for the boat.As he departed the officer said;

"I'm sorry to have made you this trouble, but I had this report from him that an equal number of enemi enemy scouts were going to seize this raft before you got it.You came on it on time.I believe is is a wise move for all of you to make this raft appear deserted and to leave it apparently float down tward shore as if it was not in occupation and was drifting with the river.I shall too have to place you under strong guard for the time, while I go for assistance and orders. You will by this ruse have a chance to capture the lot of them.This will be a redress for our mistake.You will not object to this plan.They'll believe the raft is deserted.Let them all get on, and then they'll be caught red handed. You do not object to th at plan do you?"

"Certainly not"replied Dolores but with surprise and alarm at the prospects of what might have happened."But we sure will need your help."

"We will do everything we can to help you child scouts to capture the lot.But remember it'll be hard to ea establish their identity for they'll come in your own uniforms.But they'll come probably in a more cautious way.But I wi wish to ask"he continued "Do you gi those Glandelin ian girlscouts and boys too know your sign als an d passwords."

"Absolu ely n o"truthfully answered Dolores.

"Then no matter what uniforms they're in you can nab them easily.That is on es of their set backs."

"But I wish to ask."continued Dolores"Why it is that that man says he's dressed as the Mutt Boy.Isn't he the original?"

"He certainly ain't smiled the officer."That man is not anywhere around here. He's just his du- duplicate. He's doing that to frustrate him. He's been in the army for a long time and got the make up two days ago from studying that fellows pictures."

"They say the original is in the christian lines somewhere"declared Jane."I wish we got could hold of him before anyone not knowing him lets him get away."

"Why do you want to catch him.Is he one of those who goes in the "Mutt and Jeff Shows." orshows?" asked the officer in surprise.

"No.Because he is known to be a dangerous spy who would do it to try and get us into trouble with any nation,and it isourpurpose or the purpose of anyone to arrest him and have him extradited."

A look of great astonishment came over the officers fine. face.

"How did you get the information?"

"We didn't get any information"declared Jack."We hadour experien ces with him."

"I believe I remember him."said the off c officer."Yesterday he sent me a information that Gertrude Angeline was a Glan delin ian spy. That didn't fool me as I've known her a long time."

"Ah ha just as I thought."declared Mildred Maxwell with some heat.

"However"continued theofficer, "I shall have his duplicate here remain on board your raft untill I return .I sh ll leave him on guard for you.He told me he knows the actions of the would-be scouts and can easily warn you."

"Good"said Dolores."We generally call the Mutt Spy the "Rat."His compa ion we call Fishy face."

Evidently pleased at his solution of a difficult problem the officer turn ed to his compani n companion who had been standing by the railing of the huge raft.Addressing him rapidly the general evidently outlined hisplan for the girls and boys saw a crafty look of satisfaction appear on the mans face.He eyed the child scouts however with friendly greetin gs.

"I shall be compelled to warn you children."announced the officer stepping forward.those enemy child scouts are dangerous, and therefore be sure to have them fully by surprise when you have them all aboard the raft.They'll fight fiercely if they're on their guard and you'll suffer heavy loss.This man himself says Glandelinian child scouts are as fierce as little fiends."

"We'll be on our guard." said Dolores.

"Now if you please"said the officer to the spy man who was impersonating the "Mutt"fellow"Will you step into one of the cabins so convenient.I or they desire to have you be on guard armed with your good repeating pistols and I will return with my cavarly and superior officer as quickly as I can to get the Glandelin ian child scouts whom you and the children here capture.Thank you "he added as the soldier stepped tward the cabin in obedience to his request.

Thenthe officer went back tward the boat and said to those on board the raft.:

"Remember keep yourselves hidden , and await me with p tience.I shal shall not be gone long."

"Here's hoping that Mutt spy falls falls and breaks his neck."growled Fred kicking a post."What a rotten situation this is anyhow.Gertrude isn't here, nor is Angeline Riches or others.May e Maybe she's gone or to be gone out scouting the full day b cause of that old battle near Hangar Run.I wish the enemy fighting us there would be swallowed p up into the earth.It would serve those Glandelinian s right ."

"Wonder what's the idea nanyhow?"Mused Hans."I'll bet those Mutt and Jeff fellows seems to have all Glandelinian generals absolutely hypnotized."

"And we'll have to have the idea od just policing a place to frustrate all his rotten schemes I suppose"Henry answered with an attempt at cheerfulness."I Hope the offi cer with return soon with a good force, for we may need their help if the Glandelinian boy and girlscouts do come and show fight when surprised."

"And while we 'll have that trouble and while we're delayed by waiting for Gertrude I suppose "Mr Mutt"s spies will be on their way further northwest by that time." protested Dolores with an in jured air."

"M ayhe they'll come and suspe suspect we're here an d shoot us up a little before trying to board"said Jane Mellfort."

"If they go and do that"Dolores flashed"We will show them we can play at the same game.We're all armed with automatic pistols and rifles rifles."

"Where do you think the Glandelin ian boy and girlscouts will come from?"asked Violet Jane incredulously.

"From the opposite shore"replied Dolores."We can't mistake it because all we haven't on board are the leaders we're waiting for and those those bringing the tents.The brainy officer told us how to beware. He's a bright chap that fellow. Follow his advice and you won't go wrong."

"Wonder what's the chance of getting out of this territory if we are hard pressed." Joy St Claire ventured."This stream looks to be too small to go through in much of a hurry an d I'm bankering the Glandelini n child s scouts may bring a troops of soldiers with them

to make sure they won't fail in their securing this raft."

"We ought to be able to get through by the cabin river."Dolores suggested.

"I don't believe it "Jane Me, Malfort replied thoughtfully."This river is good and large in itself but in someplaces it may be shallow, and if we ever got stuck we'd be stuck to stay and we couldn't burst through unless we had deeper water."

"Let's pren pretend we're all in dan ger, and then what would we do."Laughed Minnie."Set a big bunch of Glandelinians after us in boats and I'll wager we'd be out of the dan ger zone in two hours."

"I' going toendeavor to get the chances to spot those enemy child scouts before they arive, and to get the ears of one of their l leaders and make hishave aplaesant l ook when I got through with him." Jack announced suddenly."I have an idea that their beautiful h white souls might by som chance be chan ged if we had them prisoners long enough."

"I'm going on deck and see if they're coming."said Gladys.

"Don't do it advised M ed."You're worth too much to expose yourself should they be coming and they'd see you.And they're n ot worth wasting our own lead on."

"But we've got to get going sometime."protested Joy imp atien tly. "Do we sit around here all night.!What's happened to Gertrude and the others.Why don't they come?!!"

"It isn't night ye y yet by a long ways"Argued Fred"Keep your temper Joy we're coming out on top all right.We're not down yet. You know when Gertrude goes out, she goes out to st y stay a long lon g time."

"I'd like to know what you'd call it"Joy answered, somewhat aggrieved because the situation was not to her liking.If thi the enemy child scouts were to come for this raft supported by a stron g body of soldiers and that officer was late with the rest of his cavarly force they'd have us here fast an d we'd all be prisoners."

"Listen "commanded Dolores ,holding up a warning hand."What in the world is that!"

"That"cried George Zimmerson must be the Glandelin ian boyscouts coming now to get the raft."

"Not much "declared a boy called Harry who stood near the cabin window."It sounds like the droning of some sort of a whirlwind.If this window wasn't so small I could see without going onto the deck."

"Ask Gertrude to en rage the window."suggested Fred."Let me look."

Although every one who heard the wound did their best to cate catch a glimpse from the window of an anything that might cause the sound they found it impossible. However the noise grew more distinct and presently the droning sound appeared to be directly overhead.As the boyscout Harry had said, the noise was as strange as if a torn ado would have been approachin g but none was in sight in fact torneo tornadoes do not occur here.Evidently something strange was amisess and was approaching the raft."

"Let's get the raft going quick"protested Dolores. "This is dreadful.This is fierce."

"Wait a minute"cau tioned Dolores"We are not the kind torun away fro from anything."

"Sure"said Jack."We will know soon enough what it is soon enough!"

"Anyhow it is getting unusally hot."declared Fred."I can also smell smoke and a wind is rising.Whatever it is happening it is coming pretty fast.I hope's not a good rain storm and will do a good d al to quse quench the forest fires."

"You surely have got a good nose on you Fredrick." declared Jack laughing."If everything you smellll was true, what would we do?"

"I could smell a forest fire thirty miles away."Fred return ed tartly."Besides "he added my nose is as good as the rest of you."

"Nothing is the matter with your nose mai "maintain ed Jack,"Only its stubbed and freckled on d wr n wrin kles when you lose your temper at the enemy."

"Yes"agreed Fredrick with a lugh",nd it has always got a correctly fe good smeller inside.That's more th nthan you little folks can say."

"Wonder what our friend Mr Mutt is doing wherever he is right now?" put in the boy scout H arry."W h you 't heard much about him untill we l can to receive this strange news."

"He may be in general Carlo's lines by now"said Dolores.

"Well send a telephone call o to him and ask him for a drink

"Maybe he wouldn't pay [illegible] ion .He h [illegible] ive an Gasoline to drink, and all [illegible] nite powder with it."

"I'll try and shoot him from here then.Then that'll fatch him andmake him surrender."

"Dolores you're reckless as Jane."Laugh [illegible] laugh d laughed Jane Andrews, knowing full well that Dolores could not consider such an impossible experiment. Pe"Perhaps we'll find out in [illegible] short time what is going on."

"Yes I think so"agreed Dolores."I can smell alot of smoke though.It is a getting stronger.I'll bet there's something on fire near here."

At this a general laugh went up.The boys and girl s found it imp s impossible to resist Dolores 's droll humor in even trying and exciting moments."Many times had Dolores held courage in their hearts by her const n constant comments on trivi l trivialities.Directly the boys and girls heard the loud clamor of something now like far distant firing.

"I wonder what the enemy isupto now "Queri ed Harry trying t f vain ly tolook from the cabin window."Sounds as if general Vivian is getting worsted.And I'll bet those Glandelinian child scouts got wise to us and are not coming."

"I'll bet that is what is happening."Replied Jack."General Cannonis is proving general Vivians match."

"It cannot bepossible"Protested Dolores vigoriously."The firin g sounds in another location ."

"Why"Protested Jean as she sniffed the air"I smell something like wood and leaves and grass burning."

"Listen "commanded Harry raising e hand for att ntion.

All distinctly heard a strang e roaring crackling noise justoutside the craft but shor eward.

"Boys and girls the forest on the op osit e shore is on fire." shouted Dolores.

All the others who heard this gave a [illegible] of astonishment especially some of the boy and girlscout leaders.!!..!. Rushing ward a window they attempted again to secure a view of their surroundings.Driven befpe a gust of wind that was thre t threatening to rise into a terrific gale a immense volume of smoke entered, causin g those who had gone e back to the windows to step back choking.

"The stream is toeshallow andour raft is in danger."shouted Dolores to her followers. "There'll be no time for those enemy child scouts to be coming here.Everybody on d deck."

Jack himself raced too the engine room.

"Can you thawlget the raft to go toward the widest part of the stream Engineer James !"asked the lad noticin g tha t not far away such a terrific wall of flame was approaching that itlooked as if the world itself wa was burning up."

"Guess it's too shallow."returned the engi nner engineer eyeing the wide section of the stre m sort of [illegible] ly spot carefully.

"You have todo it"said Jack commandingly."It's shallow mybe but its better to be aground than to perish in the fire.The stream i s too narrow in widt e here and the fire will reach it.It seems to come from the direction of Lebanon confound it.what happened there I wonder."

"Well las I'll try it, but I don't believe I'll make it."

Accordingly the en gineer started the raft heading in that direction while n ow as many as were n eeded of the scouts got busy tocover the raft with sort of canvass that would not burn in case fire brands were carried across the stream..... The [illegible] while the boys with the paddles stoood ready.

"Look out for the enemy however."caution d the boyscout Harry anxiously."Glandelin [illegible]."

"Yes [illegible] for even the Glandelin ian boy and girlscouts."put in Jack"It would be justlike them to be somewhere else probably on the other side where there's no fire and open fire on us as soon as we are so seen on board the raft."

"I'll see that an eye is keptout for them."Minnie herself answered."And if they do show themselves on theopposite shore or anywhere else we're going todevote a few minut e minutes to usin g some of our own artillery on them.They' surely need to learn of us."

Ned and Harty s Hary stood by to give the engineer directions and to lend anypossible assistance in their endeavor to get the raft leave the shallow part of the river and get into the wider.Clouds of smoke as ifthey were from a a storm and as thick began to drift

past the raft and the crackling and hissing roar of the flames grew loudly momentarily.

"Look at the fire come."Gasped Joy excitedly."And see how the trees are waving.There's a fire hurricane also on."

"And that's some clouds of smoke too."declared one of the boys whose name was Jimmie Driver coughing as he applied one of his long paddles s"and I'll bet whatever cause thac forest fire to creep here never meant even the very country to survive the flames.This is the worst ever.Wish this river had been created much much wider."

"Are you ready engineer James"Asked Dolores as she came up to the cabin of the engines.

Then as the engineer nonnonnodded his reply Dolores said to Jack Saunders;

"Scoot around in front and raise the anchor, and see that we are not flanked by the fire just as quickly as you can.If that fire overtakes us before we get to the wider part of the stream none of us will last long.And it sure is getting hot already.Look at the temperature on that thing.130 already.Phew.Hurry."

"sure anythin g." to escape this Purgatory"put in the Engineer"

"Don't any of you stop to fight the a f advance of the Glandelin ian boy and girl scouts untill we get out of range of this forest fire forest fire"declared another."Then if a fight comes on our officers will referee the bount bout."

No one seemed to reply to this suggestion, but all of them shut their j w jaws in a mann manner that was familiar wity all kinds of boy and girlscouts.Their officers knew that the boy and girlscouts would do their best to bring the raft out of such a dangerous situation."

The fire was coming fast and was only a mile away.They didn T boys much more time to lose.The engineers first attempt was to make the raft force ahead but somethingmust have been wrong some where for he met with def-at that was beyond question. Without Without doubt the raft seemed to have been jammed by something on the bottom to permit it to pass with any degree of ease and the engine seemed to puff its itself to death without any rem lt. result.supported by his two helners the enmiise engineer gave a hurried backward glance and shook his head doubtfully and then turned again to the task at hand.It would be a tight squeeze but he was more than determined he was desperate.The fir e was comin g at a race horse speed and would not give them much time and they all would surely be enveloped as the stream here was noton e quarter of a mile wide.

All of the boys with the poles and paddles tried to help the en gineer, and Jack thrusting in one long pole attempted to push as hard as he could but he slipped and the pole went high into the air producing such a splash of water that he and nearly everyone on board nearest him got a shower of mud and water.Had he not been a good boy he might h ave said a bad word but he had all he could nevertheless to control his temper.Finally only with the greatest degree of difficulty did the lad manage after all to get the pole into the bottom of the stream as he wanted it, but push as hard as he might as he might he found it impossible to make it budge an inch.Evidently something below seemed to hold the raft for it could not be negotiated.

"It's no use"gasped Jack.

"Come back then Jack."called Dolores in fear."she was covered with mud and water he had accidentally thrown all of over her.

"But why give up" spanted the lad almost splashing her again.

"We don't want you to get caught if that part of the raft if it is out to get afire."she called."If we can 't budge the raft we'll all make for the o pposite shore.

But Jack was determined to get the raft going ahead and he struggled madly with the pole.

"Never mind come on back to this end of the raft Jack,"we will find some other way."cried Fred.

By this time the smoke swirling across the stream had filled the eyes of all the boys who were doing the paddling and the pushing on the poles.With every breath they drew in great draughts of smoke and great heat laden air untill they were n e nearly choking and theirlungs roasted .Reluctantly Jack had to admit def e defeat and endeavored to return from that end of the raft.The Engineer was still having the engine doing its utmost, t but that seemed far from enough, though it seemed to shake the raft a little.

Just as Jack was about to try uncentre to push with thepole a w screaming squall of hot winds fanning the huge wall of fire on fire on the shore dashed a huge rolling cloud of flame toward the

the lad and many others.They were so close to this part of the raft
facing the southeast that they could not escape this scorching
onslaught no matter how fast they ran.Jack in trying to get out of
the way met with Dolores none too gently and in the headon
collision badly lacerated his left ear and caused a lump to form on her
forehead.No one however were on time however to escape the loss of
their eyebrows and a pair of part of their hair.

"Don't try that again any of you."advised Dolores rubbing her bumped
head."It won't do. "

"Much obliged I'm sure for one"Coughed Jack."You are right."

"How about making the engine going b e backwards." follows"sug
gested Dolores.

"This was tried but to no avail.

"Do you su o suppose we fcould fight off the fire from the raft
if the conflagration happens to cross the stream?"asked Jack."It may n ot
be as fierce as it looks when it tries to cross."

"Never can tell till we have the experience."hopefully spoke up
Fred."What shall we use to fight off the fire.We failed to take any
thing from our camp that we fight fires with, andthe others here not yet
returned with the camp equipage."

"We have plenty of buckets on board."

"Use those "Dolores advised, as Jack was wiping the blood from his
injured ear."Get as many buckets as you can."

"Guess not this time."said Jack doubtfully, and rejecting the suggest
ion."We have even failed to bring a single bucket aboard except the
clear er ones we use for drinkingpurposes."

"If the day was lighter we could see better what we are doing."
cried the boy scout calllled Ned...!!!!.!"Have any of you got your
electric searchlight with you in your pockets in."

A quick canvass of the groups showed that non e of the boys
and girls had the desired articlesset. All had been left within
the camp.(scamp the lamp)

"We have topull the raft loose then."declared Dolores."We are lost
ifwe don't .We only have a minute now to make it or perish.""QA

"Pull out your posts there"ede advised Jack handing a pistold and
Jacket back to a boyscout called Jimmie."All of us work like mad
and get hold of them.That willvenable us to get the raft loose.It must
be stuck."

"I'm going to turn in a Four eleven"announced Dolores, adjusting
the strap of her holster over her head, and drawin g her automatic
from its place."Maybe our friends will hear the f iring and do some
thing toseave us from this situation."

"Shoot straight up Dolores"v Cautioned Jack.

"All right Mr guess"replied the girlscout pointing the weapon toward
the sky and pressing the trigger.!!!!M

"Look at the awful fire coming over there."she added, dr ecting h the
attention of her comrades tward the southwest shore.

"The forest are burning through."gasped Jack excitedly."W have hardly
to chance to save the raft."

"And it won't be long before the fire comes up and overwhelms us."
added George."

Dolores pressed the trigger again, and again,, and still again,,
in the hope that the sounds of their shots would reach friendly
ears and procure their rlvrelease from the sand bar.""

The wind had rose to a terrific gale by now, and fire brands and blazi
blazing leaves and even long pendant moss was being carried across the
stream by the storm, while the whole river was covered with smoke.And
the crackling of the flames grew much louder as the fire spread and
a roaring blaze started roaring from the opposite shore.... All
ofthe boy and girlscouts were choughing and choking from the smoke
whthey were compelled to inhale.To avoid so much smoke and terrific
heat they went in to the cabins and other shelters of the raft.

"The raft is moving now, the engineer finally worked it o ff"Yelled
the boy scout calllled Jimmie(shimmie) in delight, as the o thers were
preparing to find means to attempt an onslaught on fire brands
and blazing rubbish on the raft in spite of the dangerous con
ditions."It is moving slow but we'll get out of it now."

His shout had been called forth by the raft suddenly breaking into
the u much desired for motion.Springing quickly tward the door he
called out in spite of the heat;

"Hurry up there Mr Engineer.That's right.Pull us off the bar.We're
chocking suffocating and being roasted by the heat heat."

A few in uintelligible words came to the boyscout and o the others in
reply.Directly the raft was removed from the bar it began to steam
ahead with great rapidity, but as if urged on by a greater effort in its
mad attempt to destroy the boy and girlscouts and their raft, the
forest fire blazed up with redo blad fury and spud on with in
de increasing speed.The entire forest on both sides of the stream
burst out in such a flame as if to make the world appear to turn into
into a molten planet no doubt augmented by the sudden rush of the winds
of the hot hurricane which was blowing down the river.The forests on all
sides within view was doomed.

The engine pulled the raft so fast that it finally burst through
the walls of flame trying to reach across the stream, and nearly ran
down a large number of boy and girlscouts in boats who were coming
down the stream from the other direction with the effort toescape the
flames too.

When they were at a safe distan ce Angeline Jennin s J ennin gs said;

"We are much obliged to you sure for trying to run us down."

They all got on board even while the raft was still going
and then Dolores shouted to the Engineer

"Renew the speed of the engine.We have to move away from the forest
fire or we'll be hemmed in presently."

Then they saw in a lone boat beckoning to them an old man
trembling with excitement and fear.And his pu peculiar custom
excited their curiocity at once.He was dressed in a loose fitting
racket that fell outside baggy trousers his bare feet thrust in
old sadal sandal slippers with long white hair falling down over
his shoulders and he presented a sight the boy and girlscouts wouldlong
remember.In spite of the urging of some of the childscouts the
a man refused to get on the raft, all the time mumbling to
himself.

"What is he saying"inquired Minnie, as she has grasped the boat by a one
of her boat hook and was detaining the old man.

"Listen"commanded Dolores .Then addressing the old man;

"What did yo you say sir.what are you doing out here in the
stream!"she shouted.

"Dolores.Dolores." cautioned Angeline Jennings."Maybe he isn't
deaf."

"Sure enough"agreed Dolores in a self condemnatory tone"I forgotl;
and tried to shout at him because he dosn 't seem to understan d our
language.He must be English."

"What is he saying!"again asked Dolores, drawing n earer.

"I'll ask him"said Jack.Then addressing the old man;

"what did you say sir.'What did you want to come to the raft for!
What do you want here!"

"I'm lost.K'I'm lost." repeated the o ld man in English.

"Oh it's the boss you want."triumphon the responded Jack."Then
indicating dolores he said;

"This is our girlscout leader.She understands a little English
so ask her!"

But the poor old man only shook his head, and tried again to avoid
the raft for fear it would ram his boat.

"I'll bet I know what he wants"Cried Jack."He may believe we're
raiders, that we might have stolen his cow or other animal and is
looking for it even in the heat of this fire.Here Mister is this it!"
and the lad emitted a long and very dignified"Moo-oo-oo-oo.

A sort sort of smile overspread the aged figures as the man shook
his head vigorously.

The boyscout Ned glanced at Jack with a twinkle in his eye.Catching
Ned's unusual glance the lad turned to ay with a very red face and
mumbled;

"We're not Glandelinien raiders.We're Christians of Abbyssinia.Your
property didn't here.You need not believe we have it.We only hawour
horses.You needn't suspect us."

"That's a goodone Jack"Dolores laughed."But he isn't looking for
animals and he surely doesn't look like a farler o a thief."

"Well then that is a good joke on me all right"admitted Jack very
sheepishly.

Taking the old gentleman by the arm Dolores an d Angeline
Jen nings managed to get him onto the raft.In a short time the worst
of the forest fire had past passed by, and silently engine the old man

not watching the destruction of the forests near his own locality.

"Well where are the Glendalinian boy and girlscouts that were ordered to try and capture this raft?"asked Fred recalling them all to the present."If we could only get hold of them I'd warm their jackets."

"Don't know I'm sure."replied Dolores."Maybe they must have got word from some source we were on board and changed their mind or maybe the fire came up suddenly and frustrated their efforts."

Jenny Jinkings gave a gasp.turning to Jack in an anxious tone said;

"Dolores or Jack too you two don't suppose that those boy and girl scouts of the enemy might have set up this forest fire with thepurpose to overwhelm us.I don't believe it."

"Say"put in Jack"You're wrong."I heard of a forest fire raging yesterday near Lebanon and coming this way.If it wasn't so hard to believe that would be the most reasonable solution of the whole matter."

"Wonder what in the world is the matter with Gertrude Angeline Richee and the others."suggested Harry."Suppose some of us go out scouting and see if they're returning."

"We can see in the direction of the forestlessepart of the shore very easily where we leftour camps."so spoke up a boy called Mike. Suppose we ask the old boy here if he would like to have some dinner. He looks hungry."

"Why not!"laughed Dolores.

"He suremust be.Let's get the man something to eat, and then we'll get some one among us who understands English and have him ask the old fellow if he noticed which way Gertrude Angeline and her followers left.He must have seen them....."

"All right get Ga r Georgie to go ahead and ask him."

"Awe shucks"sputtered Georgie Georgie."You know I can't talk English."

"Go on Jack yourself, say Polly Voo to him, anyway. "laughed Vivien Cooper.

"Polly Voo yourself if you want to."answered Jack somewhat sulkily: "I've made a fool of myself once, and that's enough.Besides"he added I want to go and get somebody towash this blood and dirt off my ear."

"That's right Jack, we nearly forgot you and your little collision with me."said Dolores."We ought to have thought before we neglected you like that after your brave effort to rake the raft so."

"Approaching the old man one of the boys who was found who could speak a little English and who was still bemoaning the loss of his property;; the boy first indicated to the man by signs asking him whether he was hungry, but the man only shook his head "No.Jack himself had gone to bathe his bleeding ear.

Filled with enthusiasm at the prospect of his venture to speak a little English, the boy tapped the man shoulder, and then said;

"Are ze hungly."?

The man still didn't seem to understand and the boy pointed to the mans mouth, and describing a circle with his hands he indicated a plate heaped high, and then patted his stomach.His efforts were effective.Instantly comprehending the man smiled and shook his head in a manner to say yes, and the man was brought to the Cabin and something given to him.

"I wish we could hear the way now."said Dolores."I don't think we need to wait for Gertrudes return.She and her companions may have gone far away by this time."as they intended to go alone and for the space of it said nothing to us."

"We'd better head for Abbiemn too."advised Angeline Jennings.

"Let's overhaul the old raft first and see if the fire did it any damage."

They did so and found nothing injured.

"Hello, what's this tied to a brick!"cried Harry in an outburst.

"What's the out out?"

"It looks as if some Glendalinian boy or girlscout left us a sort of farewell note."

"Not them kind."urged Jane who came up at their shout."That's an Alabamian boyscout name on."Maybe it has something to do about Gertrude."

"Gertrude may be able to take care of herself in many ways"said Jane Andrews."But if that Sturgine boy who it is said she camp crowd gets the upper hand he'll kill her.He's a dangerous character."

"I heard some talk about her having captured one of the Glendalinian boyscouts from one of the soldiers"said Radcliffe."But I guessed the whole story was all talk."

"It is not idle talk.she and otherknew that some Glendalinian boyscouts by the name of Frederick Berger, Jackson or Jacksonia Berger or whatever his name is and their chiefleader by the name of Gerald Sturgine had a plan to try and frustrate our purpose to get after six accomplices of those Mutt And Jeff Sniks"said Olga. Even Jennie Turner as far as Lebanon where a big battle raged heard of it from some the of the Gemini leaders a few days ago---it was on the day you went to see general Vivian on somedaporteant matter.General Hanson too had a ridden with can Jennie turner and told her so.she at first did not believe himthinking he may have been dreaming it.But the plan was formed before either the St Rholdrada or Lebanon battles took place.Only it had not been settled how ,when or where.General Hanson told Jennie Turner,and when she was finally convinced she told Violet, and her sisters but they in turn thought she was joking. But then Violet, and her sisters learned of it through one of their cipher exploits, and one of the Prin cesses told Jennie Turner to telegraph a warning to Gertrude Angeline and told who the real con spirators were.A At first Gertrude could not believe her eyesight when she got the telegram.She then came to me."It's a devilsplot" she said to me almost sternly"To outwit our purpose in this holy war war"and if they do any harm to our residents or send any of their forces to try and secureour raft by sneaking ways they shall all pay dearly for it ..... Maybe Jennie turner has the boy trapped somewhere in camp and wemust get there in time not to save him but her and those who are with her as he could in time lick the whole bunch.You will do all you can to save her will you not Master Radcliffe!!!!!!!!!!"

"I'll do everything that is in my power Miss Olga"he said."I'll stand by her and her friends-- I'll fight for her if there's any fighting to be done and----and----"

"There will be none I'll assure you"said Jane Andrews,,,."But Jennie Turner, and even the Vivian Vivian Girl Princesses under stands now what the whole situation is.The girl and boy scouts are in greater peril from the enemy than they ever were or probably ever will be. She and her sisters and the Vivian Girls know the chara cters of all Glendalinian boy and girlscouts especially Gerald Sturgine, and his two Con federates, andthe evil mind of all their followers.and they have learned fortunately before it is too late...!"

Not another word was spoken/.The party on horseback descended the hill and rode toward the boy and girlscout camps which many of those still there were now breaking preparatory for boarding the raft.As the party crossed the rickety bridge they heard the far off sound of distant battle probably the action raging at Hangmans Run. At their approach there gathered the entire population of the boy and girlscouts who had remained, gesticulating and chattering.

They fell back in the greatest dismay as Radcliffe dismounted from his horse, and assisted the two girlscouts down.They were wondering what had brought them so suddenly to the camp when it was being broken up to be placed on the raft.Olga and the others followed.Radcliffe tried to urge the girlscouts to remain on their horses, but they paid no attention to "him." They then listened with the most in tense anxiousnessness as Radcliffe addressed the crowd of child scouts , their lips compressed. All eyes were fixed on Radcliffe without wavering. They however did not know where Gertrude had gone, but some of them pointed toward the Mess Hall, where she and her boy scout leader had been last to be seen as they entered after the escap ing Glendalinian boyscout leader. Radcliffe hurried through the door way the girlscout or Camp Fire Girls immediately behind him.A large number of the child scouts clustered about the Mess Hall door , and several went with some hesitation inside.The Mess Hall though lit by an oil lamp was empty save a few later comers who were still eating, and also the dark barn barns near by also seemed to be empty, as at least seen through the open doorway.

Radcliffe mumbling something to himself snatched down the lamp and carried it hastily toward the stable door.He raised it high and then looked in, then turned and tried to bar the Camp Fire girls from entering.But they rushed past him, and Olga saw, cried and wrung her hands and ran in to the middle space between the rows of stalls themselves.

Radcliffe following the girlscouts saw them sorted upon the floor, and Penrod and Gertrude too covered with blood lying a stretchedout and motionless. Olga took Gertrudes head on her lap.Gerald Starring though he too may have been wounded by Jean, was no where in sight.He had escaped.Olga ben t over both Gertrude and Penrod and Radcliffe never forgot the look of angl anguish in her eyes or the t nsion o f the white face. It was evidan t that through some ruse after being wun ded Starring had injured them both and escaped.Jean was no where to be found.Evidently he had carried her off. Still supporting Gertrudes head she began tearing long strips of off her Bandages which she took from her mess kit, doing it frantically as if she hard yknew what she was doing. Radcliffe again muttering something to herself set the lamdown on the floor and kneeling by her, raised Penrod himself very gently muttering and shaking his head which is face was as white as Olgas and as terrified. There seemed to be no thin g that Radcliffe could do for either.Penrodsclothing and of that of Gertrudes was so da drenched with blood that it was almost impossible to findout where their wounds were.There were livid bruises about their mouths and faces as if their vanquisher after stabbing, striking or slashing had kicked them both. The other girlscout found Angaline Riches still unconscious and with two terrible black and blue marks on her face.Radcliffe half turned both Gertrude and Penrod and then uttered an exclamation,and pointed to Gertrudes shoulder, and Penrods side near the ribs from which fresh blood was still slowly welling.Radcliffe to his relief saw that bothwere still alive, but they breathed very faintly faintly, though their faces had the color of death more bloodless than those of their rescuers. Radcliffe attending to Gertrude first began cutting away the cost then the lining, which would not come with it, then the waist. He' lookedup.

"Bring some water Jean"(o Jean Andrews)

Jean hurried out, the apprehensive girl and boyscouts outside being in panic as they realizedwhat had happened.He called to them, but they didn't hear, but as Jean stood among them asking for a spail of water one of the girls brought a pail as full as possible without spilling it.As she reen tered the shed the r oroud of child scouts slowly gathered around the shed, notout of curiousity but of dread of what had happened in side, with with l ks of fury on their faces. Jean took the bucket hurrying into the stable. Radcliffe took a trip of the bandage dipped it in the pail and began to clean the wound pursing her lipsand shakin her head the hille. The other girls attended to Penrod an d Angaline Riches.Radcliffe could see that Gertrudes wound while not long was terribly deep and it was still bleeding.It was impossible to do more than clean it properly owing for the need of haste.Having done this Radcliffe made a pad an dplaced it inposition, while Jean Andrews working with steady fingers which were thelic be her face began to wind the strips over it round the chest.All the while she worked here and Radcliffes faces were agitated, and yet composed, and only the tortured eyes betrayed what they were suffering, but when the wounds of all three w re were bound Radcliffe "himself"broke down.

"I'm afraid it u is my fault."he cried sobbing sobbing as if in dee despair.."I warned her not to wlesh with that Gerald Starring and she wouldn't hear me thinking three helpers would get the best of him. He could lick a score of us in a closed barn like this.I know this camp was in the camp long before and I would not believe it.If that Gerald Starring has killed her and Penrod I'll get him even if I have to die in the Glendalinian camps as an assassin for it."

Jean An drews noticed a du ncurstely that eyes in "this "d ark cent "ho "held Gertrudes body motionless lest he should disturb the unconscious girl whose head he held, and whose life seem d to be ebbing slowly flickerin g away.Jeans hand fell on her shoulder.Olga noticed too and b lieved it a od sign that wild thoughts Rade/i Radcliffes thoughts were and probably untrue, did not think of disturbing them then.... Radcliffe looked up and meeting Olgas eyes grew calm...!!..... Jean Adrews or Jean Andrews, stepped forward bent down , and gently raised Gertrudes head not from Radcliffes knee.replaced her hands beneath the girlscouts shoulders supporting them, while Olga lifted the low r part of the body, and tenderly carried the stricken girl into the shed shanty and laid down where they had l d their burden.

Penrod, and Angeline Riches was also carried out. Then Radcliffe made motion to Jean Andrews to mount h r horse while Gertrude had been placed on her saddle..!.

"You girls can lead them to the general Vivians headquarters."he said."As Jean will be no room for me on my horse I'll therefore walk.I know you the way because the general aide-de-camp is on a out with the general and Jeanfors you can't be mistaken to . . . ."

"No matter have to take them on board the raft.There's too much battle in this neighborhood.Do you think Red they should go where the noise of battle might echo round there when they are like this.THE disturbance would kill them.....!!.! "

Olgas voice rang po proudly, indeed the tone of voice allowed no opposition. Therefore Radcliffe was silent. Simply he said-

"To the raft then.It's better.They'll be safer under the care of their comrades."

The reddened Jean with girls did not find word to answer him. Presently Radcliffe as they rode on slowly heard Jean Andrews sobbing herself, low broken sobs th t she could not for her own life check for a long time.Sometimes she took her eyes from the road to look for a moment in to Gertrudes face, and once she stopped the cavalcade for a moment.

"How are they!"she asked.

"They are living comrades"said Radcliffe for their light breathing would hardly have stirred a feather on their lips and Rade/ Radcliffe and his girl companions who had seen so much death beyond con compr ension knew that this simulacrum was not far from the reality.They had no flashlights and because of the dense smoke of forest fires rising up from the Lebanon region covering the sky it was nearly as dark as night and therefore they needed all their wonchsulness to avoid the stones and other obstructions in the roads.Luckily the glare of the distant fires were bright, and the horses steady.The Raft Radcliffe now was not far from where he had seen it before when all the others had got on board as quietly Jean went by the road that branched off a little above the Ventura River Bridhe near Sta Maria Run.It had been made a few days b fore and ran through the heart of the burning forests consisting nothing more than of two old tracks, which heavy wagons were frequent from boulders and were their horses on [illegible] Once as the girls happened to [illegible] Radcliffe still trudging behind.He himself seemed to be still [illegible] . [illegible] heart was heavy enough, and to him it [illegible] to the four girls.Had he known of what was to occur he would have prevented Gertrude from trying a finishing on that dangerous Glendalinian bonfire. And he had wanted to do so.But he had not calculated that Gertrude would do any such thing as scorner the Starring Rebellion he scout.He was still blamed in his despairing reflections when as he observed the forest fire was raging on the opposite shore he saw the raft making headway from the flames which threatened to reach it.The trees far off were all burning away away flaming the h a haze of the forest fires.But he did not pay any attention to the sublime of nature.They followed the raft un till it stopped in the wider section of the stream and then Radcliffe tried to hail those on board the raft.He and the girls with their burden of wounded stopped on the edge of the stream, and all tried to hail the raft.They knew you could not cat an answer as the distance either side too far or those on board didn't hear them.Jean Andrews examined the three injured child scouts, and raised their limp limbs, then she turned her eyes to Radcliffe not by asking him that question which could not be spoken.

"They are no worse "said Radcliffe."We have come this far and we may as well lift them down off the horses.Gently now girls"he added"and to other [illegible] raised the wounded child scouts from [illegible] and laid them down [illegible] on the grass.They were within [illegible] the raft by now, as they had carried their burden [illegible] .

"Peck "Stopped the [illegible] called Jimmie(click the [illegible]) "I [illegible] that Gertrude would write this note in such a code and ask us to response the [illegible]."

"Maybe the part [illegible] is asking us to [illegible] and return to general Vivians camp or what ever it's nowcomeare tr do e to [illegible] little [illegible] and we couldn't do?" asked Jonnes, with twinkling eyes.

"The [illegible] is it was [illegible] Vivienne "was Fred's [illegible] reply, for he had no [illegible] recovered from his [illegible] wont."I've not an idea of this as that is [illegible] happen the [illegible] won't forget in a hurry.Oh we'll be learning...!!!!""

"Let's examine that message a little more closely,,,"Prompted Dolores,,, [illegible] her position by the [illegible] well."It [illegible] looks like some log or [illegible] work, but was evidently prepared in a hurry."

"Yes and it [illegible] like [illegible] look"declared James.

"I believe that is what it is.Where did you find it Jack!!!""""""SY

"Right here lying on the edge of the raft tied to a small brick by a strong piece of twine.Who ever threw it so far must have had a powerful arm.The way it was thrown it was jammed between the lower section of the railing.I was just going to throw it away when I saw the marks on it.I'm wondering what it.And it is written in very very poor Abbiennian, part Abbiennian, and part English...!!""

"Look at the signature"spoke up the boyscout Harry Terry [illegible] over Dolores's shoulder."That's part English spelling and broken Abbiennian.Can you read some of it in English Dolores.""

"He"she said with a peculiar smile."I [illegible] you can , and you cannot make out a single word."

"I can make out a little"said Jack"at least the name"It says John Jackson or something.Guess for our's in John you know but what Jackson is pronounced I cannot tell."

"He's either an English lad or someone from the far distant U.S.A "put on Jane."But [illegible] speak [illegible] Abbiennian."!

"Maybe he learned it."put in George [illegible].....

"What patrol does he belong to certainly not the Rangers or the vivianittes nor the [illegible]"demanded Jimmie."Try and look for his mark.If he is a friend of ours he'll put that in too."

"He's a picture of a small kitten..... Maybe that is his [illegible] or the patrol that he belongs to though I have [illegible] heard of it before.And besides there are some other marks that indicate his rank no doubt...."said Jane Melfort.

"He [illegible] makes a pretty good picture of signs in [illegible] drawing men and [illegible] fighting each other."was Mildreds comment."Three men [illegible] ing [illegible].That's a neat picture and proves he's a good [illegible] artist for his age.Why"with a startled glan ce around the raft and toward all shores,"That's a sign of "Danger."

"Correct Jane.Go to the head of the class Mildred"decided Jack.

"I vote we start get going anywhere."put in the boyscout Harry, glancing shor ward wondering what was keepin g Gertrude."Hello "he added stumbling over an object that lay in the [illegible]."Guess my sight is poor."I didn't see these fishes, and they're broken . Who put them there?"

"Take another look"said [illegible]."Were the fishes [illegible] piled [illegible] top of each other."I thought I [illegible] the pile [illegible] just as you kicked it."

"They sure were."admitted Harry."Who piled them there I wonder!"

"Maybe the Kitten did it."the boy scout Jimmie reported [illegible] his [illegible] a pile of provision box boxes."It [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] note."

"Hello"Cried Mary Stanck, as she examined the ground beyon ond where Harry was sitting."There's two moreplies of brokendishes close by here."

"I see them."Shouted Harry, again tipping out their position."And here are more lying beside these piles."That means there's danger in the direction we were heading for, accordin g to my understand ing.What do you think it means?Has anything happened to Gertrude and her followers, and if ;)-- ---"

"Just a minute "cried Jane Melfort."Tred in what direction is the Abbiennian region from our present location."!

" ourtly speaking a little northeast."answered Fred....

"Then I'll bet that is a warnin g for us not to go to or by that direction."Jane exultantly went on."The bones also shows that the five piles of broken dishes lie almost directly n ortheast from the end of the raft starting from the southwest and n d ending a little to the n ortheast.That's it."

"I wonder if that "Butt"or the Punt of a "Jeff"spy knows boy and girlsco out signs, andout those things there to head us off from foll i following the six spies.It's a sure thing eitherone of those ' Professional International Spies were headed for the Abbiennn territory somethin g after Angeline Jennings got word of it."decided Jack...!!!!...!".

"You surely must be right Jack."Jan e Melfort agreed."But why should he sign himself John Jacksonia?I can 't understand that."

"What does Comanchie Waua mean Jane?"asked Jack laughing.

"That."

"Comanchae Waua."

"Search me re"replied the girl."That word isn't English and it is not of our language either.It's not even Spanish French, or any other Laten word either..I'm not up on mysterous languages."

"I think it is some strange code meaning "Look out friends." Dolores answered thoughtfully."Wasn't that the meaning given in the article we were reading about codes, where it told that Safencon Moonimma means Boys, and that Latoria means "Neighborhood home?I believe that's it."

"Rather sarcastic for a friend I should say"ventured Mary Glorinia."It wasn't a friendly act to sent a forest fire down upon us to rout us out ofour shelter and drive us out in to this up open and then try to burn us down here.Whoever it was he or she then added insult to in jury when they left this note.and besides what is the matter about Gertrude, Jean, Angeline Nichee, Penrod and the rest.They do not come and there's no sign of them either nor the rest of them with the camp and its provisions.and how did the party expect us to find this note if we were burned to death on the raft!!!!"

"That was a rather nervy piece of businesss"scornfully decided Francis Pickford."I vote we use the cannon on them when we see them.I'll bet's its some plot to surprise us and secure the raft. With Gertrude not returnin g with the others every thing looks very suspicious to me."

"It's too bad Francis we boy you did not live a hundred yards ago" Dolores laughed."If we didn 't know you well we would be think ing all the time that you were a pirate and ticking for a fight."

"I'm not much of a scrapper."Francis Stated"but if I and that Gerald Starrin g boyscout ever meet you will Mary Have a chance to use your First Aid supplies and medical kits on him."

No one said anything to this for they all well knew Francis's tendency to do anything he said, and yet all felt too that they all had maple ground for feeling aggrieved at the one also called Gerald Starring."

It was decided that the six special spies of the "Butt and Jeff Fellows, had departed for the Abbiennn region, and that as n othing could be gained by returning to general Vivienies army at this time, and as Gertrude and her followers were not yet showing up, their best course would be to go to Abbiennn also, and wire Gertrude the route they had taken so she and her friends could follow. Now ever Angeline Jennings refused to do this declaring that she had recieved no instructions to go an ywhere without knowing where Gertrude Angeline or ? Angeline Nichee was, and besides without Angeline Nichee their guide being on the list it wouldn't be safe to done so. It was decided therefore by Angeline Nichee, Dolores, and Jane Melfort to organize a large searching party and try to locate the whereabouts of Gertrude and her friends..... " o time therefore was lost in preparing for this///.They all therefore about thirty of them lead by Angeline Jennings got into boats, and waving a farewell to their comrades whom they left on board they were soon under way toward the shore . A darkness as of dusk was still retaining because of the smoke of the forest fires as they load ed on the christian zhorec shores, and left their boats near a row of trees at a roadside, and as they stood in a group Jane Melfort asked

"Shall we need horses or do we intend to go out and scout?"

"No I don't think we'd better do that unless we cannot get word in comp ainout Gertrude"said Angeline Jennings ."Besides no telling what it going on and we may be too small in a body,and besides the enemy scouting parties might become alarmed if they see us and send word to the Glandelinion army commanders at Vonar Fun, that there is a party of girl and boyscouts roam in g round and we'll be lost get caught under heavy artillery fire...!!.."

"I believe we'll have to go to general Vivions headquarters or Gertrudes and inquire about them and find where the [illegible] intended to go."said Mildred "Mildred Maxwell."

"Good idea!""""suggested Jane Delfort."But do you know how we can reach them?We are quite a distance from our camp from here."

"Yes,southeasterly is our general course."I will travel a little southeast by guant about a quarter south for the raft drew us some distance to the northward of the campwhen we fled the fire which tried to overhaul us."

"The way it is getting dark from all that smoke in the sky we ought to be able to see the lights of thechristian camps when we get further on anyway."another girlscout suggested."How far away is the camp from here that is if they didn't break camealready and are looking for the raft. How far did we go anyway!!!!!!"

"We have been come about two miles and one half"replied Jack"and is just about thrity miles from the battle of Ranger Run and as you said they have broke camp or moved it since we started for the raft. I don't think they moved it though for they may have decided to await the return of Gertrude Angeline ."

"Would they move the camp if the glandelinians it!" asked Jane at her tormentor."I don't suppose the Ventura River is near enough for them and so they may move that too to fool us."he added.

"If they have buckets enough they'll move it"she suggested.

"Well"returned Jack I understand they would move all their own camps and mution stores if they got whipped by general Vivian. "

"Oh I know that one"shouted Jane."And General Vivian will be the First Class Moving Man for the enemy....."

"I see a long string of lights far ahead"Cried Violet Violet. "What are they?"

"Don't know."Seems strange strange for the lights to be in a long,,, straight line....::PROOF!""

Suddenly out of the dusky darkness ahead the boy and girlscouts observed a long train of wagons and teams with cavarly guarding it by front and rear.In a short time the boy and girlscouts came up close as the wagon train was coming down the road and approaching their way.

"They're of our army"said Ned"Maybe we can ask them about the girlscout leaders."

"Follow them a little way then"suggested George.

Dolores nodded her head in response, and walked up to the approaching train.Soon all those within the one hundred wagons became aware of the presence of the thirty boy and girlscouts."Hands were thrust out, and groans and moans came from the wagons, and cries and shrieks of pain.

"Goodness"cried Dolores, aghast."Just look at that will' you. Why"the girlscout leader continued in a horrified tone"that whole wagon train is filled with injured soldiers and there are other similiar "Red Cross "trains also approaching."Every one is bandaged up and cries of suffering comes fromevery one of the wagons...::"

"It is probably train or wagon train loads of wounded coming from the rear of the christian lines at Ranger Run"suggested Hans."Let's get out here out of here.I don't want to see so much misery. I can't stand it.My father was wounded once and I know what it is."

"I should say yes"replied another of the boyscouts, horrified at the sight of so many thousands of wounded men."Why they are bringing to safter zones many wagon trainloads of wounded."

"That's the way the soldiers of the enemy in jurasmen nowadays by the score of even railroad train loads."declared Jack."Just tell me those guns of the Glandelinians are something awful...::"

"I guess they can't be much worse than the machine gunsour own side uses in all the battles we have already fought in the past."put in the girlscout called Lucillie Hickson."Six hundred to one thousand shots a minute I understand to be the speed of one ofour own modern machine guns.That's sure going some and that is not the worse either."

"And if general Vivinia ever gets into another big battle especially with Vylatze there'd be such things like this too with his with his army,and with many thousands of his men as the wounded."shuddered Dolores."That's awful.This is going to be a terrible war.I heard lots of Lebanon and that was some frightful battle."

"Well what can you expect Dolores, when a whole nation like ours is compelled to shoot up another nation because of the latters own folly.They try to kill as many of our own side as they can,

and think nothing of it.And yet they said we are the ones who are the butchers/.

"But I can't comprehend how the Glandelinians can ad will do it, and why they do it."declared George Georgeson quite emphatically. It does not seem right to me.I believe it is more than cruel."

"Making a big nation represented byone man"suggested Francis Pickford."Take my case for instance over five months ago.Didn't I go outand declare war onn some Glandelinian boyscout and five of his accomplices."

"Well that was not so very different, come to think of it."admitted Jack.

"But I had a very good reason ."admitted Francis.

"That's what our nation and Glandelinia thinks."declared James. "When a big war rages they don't stop to think of the millions and millions of individual soldiers any more than you stopped to think of your lips and fists. Be on es that suffer are the fellows like those wagon loads of wounded by th othe many trains and the innocent non-combatants suffer the most. And children in this war especially of our own country are the main sufferers.!!!!""

"You win the argument"admitted Jane"But that makes me think-----If Gertrude and her companions were bound for Ranger Run, why not go there too.That's boy and girlscout trailing for you...::::::."

They took therefore a set of horses for thepurpose from the camp and set out for that direction and soon left the trains of wounded far behind . Many of them sighed as they disappeared from view.Jack noticed the sigh from Jane herself and comfortingly said!!!

"You girls should worry about that stiff.Forget it. We're not going near the battle lines.It's dangerous for us too.Listen to the roar of battle .It's like a big thunderstorm with rain and a blizzard of hailstones and a great volcanic eruption combined with the end of the world and its consequences together.So we're not going to see it.For get it for a while will you you'!!!"

"I'm worrying about what will happen to the army under general Vivian if he get's mix mixed upwith Ingner Hylatzes and his big Glandelinian army.Maybe they couldn't lick him but before the battle stopped a whole army of men would bekilled, and a bigger army of them hurt.You know we get killed and wounded by big armies full in these battles. battles."

"What in the world is that strange thing over to the northward!" asked Joy, pointing in the direxction indicated.

"Where"asked asked Mildred."I can't see a thing in hi this mark... "

"It looks like a tall pole or something in framework standing straight up."

"I see it"cried Jane looking through a pair of field glasses. "It looks like the picture of the famous French Eiffel Tower in their city of Paris.It must be some signal station."

"That is what it is"said Joy.

"Let's see."requested George, reaching for the glasses.. ::"

"Yes indeed it is a signal station all right."he added."Look Dolores."

"Dolores recieved the glasses and glanced at the object."

"I believe you are right George."she agreed."We are nearer the christian lines than we thought."

"Then we had better decide where and when we want to stop as to avoid getting close to the battle "suggested the boy scout Jimmie."Have you any idea as to local ities.;

"Not in the slightest"replied Dolores. "I believe by means of telegraph we had better get in touch with the War Office in general Vivinslines as quickly as possible to have them sent soldiers to search for Gertrude and the others amore soldiers to help us head off the six spies from getting to that far away battle front."

"I can see the smoke of battle far away and they're puffs." spokeup Lady's

"Nobody home but the clock, and that's on a strike"put in Dolores.

"That smoke is from forest fires.Why don't they have a bunch of troopersout here.And the weather is getting as dark as an iners pocket.Have the christian armies all gone away or where they defeated? There's not a soularound."

"Probably somewhere the enemy has won a advantage."explained Joy."Maybe the generals are afraid of Jonnonia and Reppo Evans. I heard one wounded man say on the wagon train that this is a terrible battle."

"Well we ain't fighting in any hotel."Interted Jane.

"Yes but neitherour side nor the enemy don't know it."agreed Jack Saunders."Let's useour searchlights and try to findour way. But do you say."

It was agreed that this would be the proper thing todo, and two of them turned on the small switch of their flashlights.Housetops faraway, trees, and the u outlines of dist nt landscapes w re revealed in the glare of the far distant fires.By its reflection too the boy and girlscouts saw that they were still a considerable distance from the dreaded battle line.No place for shelter appeared in case they'dsuddenly find themselvesunder fire.

"I see the river again."announced Francis."Don't get ourselves wet."

"Guess we'll have to right about face or swing around and go through one of those passes"suggested Harry himself."I can't makeout any other vacant spot for a short cut.Is that a good idea."?

"I guess it is as g od as any."replied Angeline Jennings herself riding now at their h side."We can urge our horses and try that broad meadow h we have come in sight of."

"Hope we'll meet with a bunch of christian soldiers when we get there."George put in/

At that moment from the direction of the mad meadow there came flashes of half a dozen rifles, reports of the shots reached their ears and they heard a peculiar t earing whistling sound of bullets in their flight through the air."

"This business of being fired on and not knowing who is firing on you is getting entirely too common nowadays"protested Jack."

"Cannot be Glandelinians as Gl ndelinians cannot be within the very heart of the christian lines"said Dolores.

"Maybe it was some nervous resident who thinks we're Glandelin ians coming to steal and massacre his children and burn himout of his happy home."jane respondented somewhat sarcastically."If they're not Glandelinians then why would friends fire on friends within within the christian lines. And it is not often that Glandelinians nor friendsmistaking friends for enemies can hit anything shooting at random random like that.We're facing enemies I tell you.I know."and she drew her pistol."

As she spoke there came more flashes of light, and more reports from the direction of the meadow bespoke another attempt to fire upon the horseback riders.This time one of the bullets came nearer the mark for it tore through the lower part of Dolores dresses. Alarmed the boy and girlscouts peared in the direction of the firin g and scattered as if to attack.

"Hurry up and get somewhere into shelter everybody before they get any of us"urged Dolores."This isn't so funny as it might be, and we're not being fired on by friends in mistake either."They're Glandelin ians. Hurry or some of us will be hit.If they attack we'll open fire too."

"Yes and if they hit any of us those child murderers will go around covering themselves with glory ever afterwards and be the "chief heroes" out in Jano."I wish they'd pass a law in California giving quarter to no Glandelin ians wearinguniforms.They don't deserve it."

"Watch out now Dolores commanded tersely."I don't know what this lane is, and they'comeing as if they're going to charge us."Maybe too there are elt cletric wires there."e can pull them down and entangle the enemy in them."

"Good idea."said Mildred."I'll handle the searchlight."

"And I'llpull them down"volunteered the be Jennie, seizing his long reaching snippers as he spoke. "I'll give the Glandelinians lety plenty of excitement if they want it."

"Under the skilful handling the wires were brought downand the remainder of the boy and girlscouts gracefully came into the lan e and though they were fired on they were not jarred by the sudden storm of bullets, nd and not even their horses were hit.Whether the Glandelinians were not aiming right in the darkness or they were firing up in to the air.Some of the Glandelinians came clearup on horse back and almost cornered the child scouts, and in the firing that ensued the leader of the Glandelinians waskilled and two of the other officers more mortally woundedand ten of them of the privates killed and four teen wounded and not a less on the other side. Jennie himself for a moment in the meantime was in a predicament.He had been compelled to climb a pole to cut down the wires and though the Glandelinians in the fo m formant column had been crippled by the entanglement the lad had a hard time boat away and now h rdless had just a minutes time to escape ies and ll farm house.

The Glandelin ians on horseback swarmed around the house and some of them dismounted.

"Now l isten men"saidone of the scouting officers who was a colonel."That boy is in the house somewhere, and too those crazy christian dog child scouts have always been makingmonkeyscout of us Glandelinians.We've been chasing and hunting them down from town to towi and from array tourney since the war began and they alwaysout wit us and give us th4 h--ha.That lad fled in to h this house right now and we've got to get him do you get me."

"Yeh.All right Colonel." and the rest of our comrades will coop up the rest of the little cutterships."

The Glandelinians didn't noticed that the lad was right close to the window above their heads.Jennie had in his hands a small washtub full of slopy soapy water and this bottom upward all of a sudden he h brought with all the force of his boyish strength upon the head of the Glandelinian colonel causing confusion among the two others who had been standingunder the wa win dow.

"Ding bust the---Help get this darn thing off of me .The soap in my eyes help help"he colonel bellowed wh while for the moment his two under officers was too bewildered to even move a hand or finger while the lad himself said-

"Har--har, just like a bullhead."

The two others managed to get the pail off.

"So-o-o-o-o you dirty little christian dog.You're here by that window are ye.Up to your old crazy christian dog tricks eh!"

"How did you guess it Colonel?You're a smart old scout.Try and catch me if you can."

"I'll show you you little devil.Go the both of you men and have every man of our soldier got into the house by every window and door and don't dare come back without that little rattlesnake."shouted the Colonel in his excitement and rage.

However the lad hadpulled up from the floor a wide loose plank and this he suddenly placed onto the Colonels head and slipd down in it circus fashion to the ground, and before the men could do anything to ing intercept the lad he was off down the meadow as fast as he could run.

"Did he get away Colon el"criedone of the soldiers.

"Shut up to Dumb bells.Get down here. Get the men on horse and get after the little fiend. "The fiend.GET HIM!."

In a few minutes the soldiers about ten of them were on their horses and racing madly in the direction he had gone with the colonel in the lead.

"What did he do you you ca colonel?"askedone of the lieutenants.

"Never mind what the little devil did to me, just hit it up and keep your eyes peeled for the little cuttership".

For a time it seemed as if the Glandelin ians would gain on him so Jennie whipped out his pistol and fired. A man reeled in his saddle and fell.He fired again and another fell.He fired a third time and the Colonels horse sank to the ground.The Glandelinians then returned the fire and the horse the boy rode sank to the ground. Just then when the Glandelinians were gaining on him the boy came across two country kids, two little girls one with black hair and the other with yellow

"Say girls will you give me a lift with your little speed wagon and the strong little pony you have.Those Glandelin ian fiends are hot on my trial and my horse is shot and I'm all tuckered out.I wish to regain my comrades and I'll direct the way."

"You bet we will Mr Forescout"said the little dark haired girl.Hop in soldier boy."

The boy obeyed sittin g between the two girls and soon they were going as fastas the pony would allow.

"Suppose they shoot at us. cried one of the girls.

"They can't hit us said the boy. If they do I'll pop them.I shot down two already before they dismounted me."

For a time even such a small pony held the pace with the Glandelin ians left pretty far behind but finally the little pony became tired out but just reached the meadow in time and rushed in among their com his comrades who had repulsed the assailants.

Fearin g a trap the Glandelin ians halted and waited for the remainder of their own comrades. However the exciting n oise and the firin g had attracted a large force of christian soldiers of the reserves and they woreup to the spot in a moment the Glandelin ians surely

287 Leaving a hasty retreat. Talking volubly and excitedly, the christia cavarly soldiers clustered about the boy and girlscouts, addressing shouts and inquiries as to how they got surrounded, and how they escaped and so on. Needless to say, the Christian army, as it was impossible to answer so many questions the children remained in their positions.

"Here comes a number of officers"cried Jimmie, catching sight of the foremost."Maybe they'll be able to tell us where Gertrude and her friends are."

"Dolores it's up to you to be spokesman as usual"suggested Jack as the crowd of soldiers parted to afford the officer a nearer approach. "I a spokesman""cried Dolores."Now you talk Jack.One of your blunders again.I thought I was a she, not a he."

"Sure you're the leader, and you know how to talk more to the officers than we do whether you're a he or a she."chuckled Jack..:!((' A rapid question was addressed by the officer and then when explanations were given, Dolores asked about Gertrude Angeline,and her friends.But the officer spread his hands palm upwards, and and shrugged his shouldershi in a deprecating gesture." Again Dolores spoke to a nother officer but more vehemently this time.Apparently she was demanding anxew answer to her former question.

"We heard you the first time girlscout"replied the officer."But if it i just the same to you we don't know what you mean.If you expect to find some of your lost companions you'll have to hunt around outside the lines.They say she has gone out scouting this morning and has not yet returned.But we have captured five or six duplicates of Gertrude Angeline in our own lines."

Instantly murmur went round the crowd of boy and girlscouts.Not icing themurmur, the officer continued;

" ed are children I made them understand at first shot. You ought to have noticed how those duplicates grabbed the Abbissinnian ways.I'm good ehBut as to why Gertrude Angeline does not return is a mystery.

But evidently Dolores was not satisfied.She urged her horse closer to the officer.

"Now take it easy there sir and explain things right."warned the girl." I'm a very superior officer of the girlscouts and need information."We are supposed to go on an important expedition and do not wish to do so without her.""

"Sure "said Jack."You've got all afternoon sir so take it easy.Go slow, tell us what you know of the duplicates and it'll last longer."

"However the officer couldn't tell much about the duplicates, except ing stating that when he saw the first one he had known it was not an criminal had therefore called to her to halt, and she had not heeded him but had evidentlyintended to carry out herpurpose, and continued to mount the stairs.The officer had fast lost his temper and had quickly produced his automatic even thoughthe spy was a girl. "Now back up you little roughneck"he had said to the spy aiming his pistol at a spot well above the child scout spy's head."You are going too far but no further."Evidently the tone if not the words had penetrated the little spies comprehension for she had precipitated recipitated r rapidly on a retreat for the open road.She then was captured by some soldiers suddenly rushingup and in she was now being held for investigation.

"How did you know Gertrudes duplicates were in the lines?" demanded Mildred Maxwell.

"The boy Penrod telegraphed the warning to us."

"I wonder if these little duplicates are not some of the accomplices of that dangerous Gerald Sterling Boyscout that we have heard about and who are so fierce round the Vi lan Gilcof" pierced Jane.

"Possibly they are."replied Mildred."I understand they are very efficient as protectors and leaders of the Glandelinian boy and girl scouts too.They look like fine boys even though they're foes.But that darger lad is the most dreaded."

"Aw, shucks"protested Jack." One of the Vivianites squad of boys, and even the girls could get a half dozen of any of these Glandelinian boy and girlscouts.They don't look like so much."

"Oh no "said Dolores almost with a sneer."I'll tell shows how much you know about Glandelin lan boyscouts.That Sterling boy could lick four of us with his fists and we using knives."

"Gee, the sooner we have to go carry with them if we do encounter any of these little overgrowted scouts."unless we're sure of our lives we'd better not start anything that will result into our coming into conflict of any kind that'll get us no time out of good fort."drill Jack....

"All right boyfriend" acquiesced Dolores."Just as you say."

"Better throw on a light so our soldier friends here can see what we look like, they're coming in a bunch."warned young Zimmerman .....who had been watchingwatching.

With the snap of the switch of their flashlights, a flood of light revealed the child scouts to the Angelinian soldiers.It They also revealed the approaching officers, and everyone had their right hands raised in salute.Instantly comprehending the situation teacher who now seemed to be in command of the rest,,, sailed at the child scouts, and raised his own hand in return. He seemed immensely relieved when he saw they were the boy and girlscouts belonging to Gertrudes command..: Approaching as near asposible, he spoke to Jack politely in English athe boy did look like an english lad, but the boy only shook his head and replied;

"Excuse me officer but none of us here speaks english that I know of therefore we cannot understand you.Perhaps you are a foriemer too and don't know Abbissannian.At least that's the only language we can speak."

"Ah"an swered the officer pleasantly;"And who have I the honor of addressing?I do not seem to recognize one of you here."

"We are the Boy and Girlscout Rangers of Calverinia"replied Dolores herself in spleasant tone of voice,,"Making a trip through all war zones just to show the enemy whether we're afraid or not just because we're little"innocent"kids.We have been hunting for Gertrude Angeline and had met with a little party of the enemy, and therefore are some what confused as to our location within the christian lines lines and had been attacked right at this spot.Perhaps you could direct us o part of the lines where we'll not be too close to the battle, and also aid us in hunting for Gertrude and her friends...:!"

"Certainly my good ... little girl and boy scouts."responded the officer."I shall be just happy to accomodate you brave children in any way possible.But first it will be necessary for me to examine any descriptions of them you may give me, and then report the situat ion to one of the generals you know.It is only just you know and we can go at the details best."

"If we can be sure of a strong guard to protect us as retainers" Boy t Claire suggested"If ... ...ed to accompany you to general Vivians headquarters if it is not too close to the battlefield near Hanar.We can heard the noise of the conflict and believe it's pretty bad.We must also communicate to other portions of the christian territory outside the christian lin es and the battle zone at the earliest possible moment.We also wish to avoid the curious peer of which six Glandelin lan spies who are said to be the cronies of the "Catt and Jeff International Professional Spies:"

A look of great astonishment and interest overspread the features of the Angelinian officer.Turning to the soldiers who were close by he rapidly gave orders and they all fell into rank formation and at attention. Those who would have been strangers here would have been deeply impressed with the respectful promptness with which all the cavarly soldiers obeyed the officers commands.The boy and girlscouts also were at attention and ready for the next move."

"At what time did you recieve word about those Professional Spies?"asked the officer.

"About the same time that Gertrude Angeline went out to scout."

"What time was that?"asked the officer whose name was Major Jimmie Gendarme.

"Our pardon please."spoke up the boyscout."I do not understand the real time she went out."Then she went she said nothing, as all her movements is always kept secret from us"

"Yes ... bunch of Grand members arrived asked one of the scouts who was a foriegner and whose Abbissanian was not perfect though he wasn't English.

"And ... pardon please"also spoke up the officer" I do not understand the term ... yourself ... just used." ... of your language though I know a little is imperfect."

"The use of Abbissanian is also some that imperfect. "spoke up the boyscout somewhat confusedly"And I am ... who should beg pardon. "What term, is Gr... ... ...ch members as Hendro Jamie, Schlode , and Gandrome ... Jamie."

"I comprehend"laughed the officer"and you are not at all at fault. ... ... that since General Vivians ... moved in this direction and Vivianites ... scouts ... none of those men are present just now. We shall be compelled to wire for them though if we know where they are located.But later some.We'll try and learn

The party of boy and girlscouts set off at a brisk trot in company with the troopers, and were soon first station before the desk of some officers inside of the big tall signal station that had first been at the distance.A white haired and whiskered Colonel con from ted them.And indeed a quick glance at the kindly expression in his eyes and on his face told the boys and girls what this man really was and that yet all enemies of little little children would fare ill at his hands.Dolores at the code suggestion of Angeline Jennings decided to fully confide to the officer, and to tell him the object of their visit.Immediately upon arriving the officer who had recommended them conferred with his equal officer in rank in a low tone, and watching closely the boys and girlscouts were readily convinced, that his report was about the missing girlscout and other leaders.At length the elderly colonel first made an entry in a book, examined a small map, and then addressed the child scouts. His manner was dignified,..... yet conciliatory.

"Very much to my regret children of the army, I have to inform you that, although your reports seem to be perfectly proper, there is lodged with the army department of generalofficers a couple of complaint that three or four duplicates of Gertrude Angeline are here seeking information either about us or of your bands that would be put to improper use and be a danger to the nation, and it might be possible by that cause we might have a prisoner among us who might be the original Gertrude Angeline.That might be why she didn't show up."

"In other words"Jane Melfort put in, as the colonel paused-- "The duplicates are suspected, and perhaps accused as being here as spies, and that it'll be hard to find out the original Angelin ia Aronburg."

"I don't like to use just that term."- returned the Colonel, and then added"But after all as name matters very little.Besides anyhow if you girls and boys could despite disguises r a recognize the original one than you're lucky.We can't tell head or tails between the prisoners as they're wins in the business though they appear by the tone of their voices to be boys in disguise."

"Your informant curbt to perhaps be well known to us"spoke up Glady's Wentworth.

"And"aded Annie Rooney"The Hutt and Jeff Spies are also well kn own to us.We have had dealings with them before this, and also Gertrude Angeline, a lad called Penrod, and even Jennie Turner are very well acquainted with them.You may or may not believe it sir, but we know them to not to be only a dangerous set of rascals, but a traitor as well.They'd sell out any nation to get money for their devilish schemes."

withiressteson ishment nie Rooney was recieved by the colonel This statempt of little Annie Rooney was recieved by the Colonel with considerable aston ish ment.His glance too at the little girlscout was plainly a question.

"Just now "put in another girlscout "Annie Warbucks"These two Professional spies are operatin operating for the cause of Glandelinia and are do ne all their best to frustrate even our work."

"I have heard of those spies"said the Colonel "but did ot not know they had anything to do with you little girls and boys..:: '

Briefly the boys and girls gave a syn- synopsis of the even ts already known in other volumes concerning these two famous Landelin ian spi e spies not forgetting to mention the dangerous situation in which these two famous In ternational spies had succeeded in placing them and Gertrude Angelines friend Penrod on ly a short time previous to the present.Not a word was lost by either of the officers, who occassion ally exchanged quick glances full of meaning.

(14'a.

CHAPTER NINE.

SAD PROSPECTS. SOME GOOD NEWS.
CONSEQUENCE S ALMOST DISAS . . .

"I surely have good reason and occassion to suspect these two persons representing representing representing the Hutt Hutt and Jeff fellows of some American N avessmar, and I am sure yo your efforts will be crowned with success if you persevere."the colonel offered, at the conclusion of the story."Ho ever my orders were to detain those doubles of Angelini Aronburg endless any of you can recognize the original they we cannot do anything to aid you.You will of course appreciate my position and understand what "duty means."

"Yes sir" Annie Warbucks" answered"We believe we know what "Duty to all of us means, and we surely cannot object to you doing yours but we would like very much to know where those disguised Glandelin ian spies you referred to are located at the present."

A smile overspread the colonels face.

"They are under surveillance.They cannot get far away untill permitted to do so by agents of the Military War Office of general Viviens army.Although their credentials appeared to be fully as valid as even those of you, we could not afford to take risks at such a time as now when they come from the enemy side of the region, and they would not make the Sign of the Cross as we do.They will be pro duced in good season unless you want to take the trouble to go where they are held and look them over."

"Thank you"replied Ann ie Warbucks heartily."I feel easier now and hope our mission is nearly accomplished.If they refused to make the sign of the Cross then the Original true Gertrude An geline is not among them and she sure isn't in camp then.If we can at once obtain extradition papers and see to it that those spies are sent to the proper and higher military officials we shall be pleased.It's a grave offenseindeed for anyone to duplicate any of us formurposes to say on the christian lines for any intention whatever/.::!"

"When can we find it safe to visit the general section of general Viviens inactive-sections of his lines and lay our case befor e the proper officials and have a search made forour missing friends!" asked An geline Jennings."We don't want to lose any time."

"Perhaps not before morning"was the answer."The battle is general all along the entire line and it's dangerous to approach.It is too late now unless any of you want to take the most dangerous chances.It's up to you of course.We cannot stop you as you're superior though kids."

"Despite the bloody battle over there isn't it possible to get some one on the wireless telephone!"suggested Jack Scundars interrupting the instrument at the colonels elbow as he spoke."I'm even worried about a girlscout by the name of Jean Scundars who was with her."

"That would be very regular or irregular unless the case were very urgent, and it would be unusual for a boy to be worried about his little sister ."

"I'm sorry sir to say she isn't though I wish she were." said Jack."But nevertheless this case seems to us and our followers to be extra ordinary urgent."

"I believe you are right."thoughtfully acknowledged the Colonel."I shall assume responsi bility and make the effort at once providing the noise of the battle over there doesn't prevent the operator from h hearing me."

"Accordingly he asked for a number, and in a short time was con versing with so one who appeared to be his superior.He soon replaced the instrument and turned again to address the boys and girls."An interview has been arranged for to night, unless you want to take chances with the battle." he announced."In the meantime if you feel too fatigued to go forth on the search for your friends we will provide on the best accomodations at our command."

"Does that mean that the Hutt and Jeff spies have hoodwin ked us already "Indignan tly protested Gladys, pushing forward."I protest sir.It isn't fair."

"Can't be helped. There is no other way. "declared the colonel kindly.

"But suppose we go to the battlelines."argued Jay."We can find

find some warns I hope."

Shaking his head decisively the officer said it was impossible, suicide to approach the entrenched christian lines as the battle was too severe, and indicated that the interview was at an end by rising from his chair.The boy and girlscouts were not easily pacified however, and decided to go forth and take the chances.They also declared that the very nation was highly insulted at being placed in such a situation by two "Forlorn Devils"who came spying on the christian nation like two Judas Iscariots"to obtain blood money for the defeat or destruction of the nation for Glendalin's welfare.

"Hello look who's here"cried Jack in the midst of the argument.

A young lad with two girls about their own age had entered.They were dressed in a uniform which seemed to be a modification of their own but their hats signified they were three"Vivianites. As the Ranger boy and girlscouts stared at the strange new comers their hands arose in the well known child Scout salute.This was promptly answered....:"

The three new comers for only two minutes stood at a attention, then quickly the boy crossed the room, and extended a hand in greeting.Indeed Indeed his frank face beamed with pleasure as he shook hands with each of the boy and girlscouts assembled there.Dolores herself broke the silence which followed by saying;;;

"Well Scout thisandfriend I see by your badge that you are a Viviannite."

"Yes indeed Miss"slowly answered the lad. "I belong to that patrol. I'm new in it too.I was once a Ranger of general Concentration Area Burge army.I wanted to be an advanced scout of the Flamingoes but there was noroom and I was transferred to the Vivianites.so I belong to that control.I came all the way from Armor Viviana army."

"Well we're the Advanced Rangers"volunteered Mildred Roxwell.We are all from general Viviania's army and now worked since we left for general Vivian.We have had a long travling adventure and it seems as if it is only begun."YAZ begun."

"Oh returnedthe new comers while the two little girls nodded."You have traveled a long way for I've heard of your adventures.I hope you are enjoying yo realves."

"We don't like the hotels here very well."returned Miss Dolores. "Often during our journeys we have nice rooms in the Hotel De Flop."

"I don't understand little girl."puzzled the boyscout"where are those Hotel De Fo Flop at"

"Anywhere wherever we sleep at night on the march."We should call them the Col Coolers but they're the Purgatories Purgatories."replied Jane Hallfort.Then noticing that she nor the others had not yet explained matters tothe boys satisfaction and as the two girls also lookedpuzzled, Jane continued; "During our journeys we had to either sleep on the floor of the raft or have the floor of the forest or some landscape or hill side for our sleeping quarters."

"Now I understand"laughed the other."Pleasant indeed. I wonder why you wouldn't sleep in a camp.We never had to go through hard lick like that yet.Why should you di do it.!""

"That would be disagreeable."said Dolores.

"I should say it would be disagreeable"declared the boy."Perhaps at some other time you should be able to arrange it in som other way."

"Well if you or your two girl companions here have got a pull with Viola, and her sisters"the boy scout Fred stated"We would parodie appreciate it highly I can tell you.We don't like the out look.Gertrude Angeline Hiring, four duplicates of her in the camp and Heavy known what."

"Perhapsthe better way to begin would be by introductions"suggested the boyscout."In fact I do not even know the Vivian Girls or the three.My name is Francis Napoleon Bonaparte."

"Glad to meet you Mr. Sure."declared Dolores now in extending her hand. "I'm Miss Dolores Mae Hallister Jennings of Alliania. This is my sister Angelinaand Cecilia Jennings."Then indicating the rest of her companions she named them in turn. Now I guess we are acquainted."

"Yeah yes"Answered Francis"Well let me make a note of the names so I can tell the more of you officers how to then there pre relatives.I can remember them later if I write them all down.."

With that he drew from his inside coat pocket a small writing tablet and a fountain pen.As he was searching for a clean page with no accounts written down, Jane Halfort nodded Dolores...!". Drawing down on a valid she took from her coat pocket too the note that had been found on board the raft.Carefully unfolding the paper, Jane compared it with the pages of the tablet in which Francis was already inscribing their names.Nodding her head the girl rapidly conversed with Dolores in the sign language used to great advantage by all boy and girlscouts in the Abbiennin army.

"It surelymust be the same kind of paper."she sign sled.

"It looks so" returned Dolores in the same manner."It looks rather strange."

"Maybe he knows something about those International Spies."Jane ventured.Then as Francis lookedup with a pleasant smile from his work the girlscout smilepleasantly;

"Well comrade, we got your message all right, but we couldn't see our way clear to stay away from the Abbiennin region."

A puzzled look came over the boys face and he shook his head.

"I don't understand."he said;

"May I take a look at your handwriting."requested Dolores reaching out a hand for the small writing tablet, which the lad willingly handed to her.Quickly running over the leaves Dolores soon found what she sought while Jane looked on.Drawing from hersocket the message Jane had handed her she fitted it to the stub of a torn page. Flushing with hardly suppressed excitement , she turned to Francis;

"Did you write this warning?"

"Yes . General Izmar Mylatzar army is concentrated in the Abbiennin region and he knows all of the work you're attempting. General General John Manlay ordered him there toprevent the work."

"Do you know anything about the International spies."

"Yes, Manlay and all his generals exceptiny Mylatze are in league with them."

"Well all I've got to say "declared Dolores,"whether they're in league with Mutt and Jeff or not is that they're in mighty poor business.It's a strange thing indeed though that you should happen to leave this note of warning and then happen to drop in here just at this time.Can you realize how it is Mylatze is up there when it was reported he was to have made his Angelinin Aunthis Council."!

"Because Manlay has the idea it's more important to keep every one away from the Abbiennin region."

At this Dolores discomfort was apparent to all.Her rather uncertain temper against the Glendalinians was rapidly getting the better of her as she considered what seemed to be some sort of evidence of the guilt of Glendalinin now, in the belief of the "Abbiennin disaster" Jane herself said;

"Your handwriting my lad is remarkablylike the signature on this message.Perhaps you may be able to tell us something more about your information . We'd all like to know."

Francis laughed a merry peals with mirth. First I didn't have time enough to throw out that message from a boy and the sign in broken dishes. In fact I had barely time to do that when the forest forest fire overtook us.I felt sure you would understand.I believed believed you would consider before going to such a dangerous territory unless you disguised yourselves cleverly and pretended to join the army under Mylatze.He may be not so bad as other Glendalinian generals but he's sure dangerous to resists and spies."

"You interpreted the message correctly,I believe"answered Dolores herself"But at first we believed someone else had written it.You were a stranger to us when we found the message and we therefore believed it was written to another.So Mylatzes army is in Abbiennin territory. well I'll bet general Hanson and his brother chart Vivian can drive him out and we're going to try it."

"Even though I may made some mistake"ventured Francis soberly." If I had to do it all over again I should or would have tried something else,but because of the forest fires my time was limited and therefore I did the best I could under the circumstances.And to go after those six scouts,lifers of the two professional guide is equally as dangerous as they're well aware of your purpose and instead of having some there you expected they went are chasing outingered instead...:!""

"Is that so."

"It seems into is Mrs."

Did you pile up those stones or broken limbs.! "asked

293Dolores still rufled .

"Yes indeed"was the frank admission. "tried my best myself and your followers not so my too quickly for either that region where the battle of 4 years duration had been raging for in the west up to Ahlisann where Mylotza is concentrated with mighty army.He left these divisions under Gannonis and Beppo Evans to frustrate enemies general Vivien may make against Tamerline so Tamerline and the Wolves could retreat eastward and join him.I knew the dangers in store for you and the two Vivian Generals."

"Maybe you didn't know the dangers we and theraft were in at the time of the fire did you!!!""

"No I didn't.After we had rotten some distance away I looked back and saw you making frantic efforts to work the raftout of the path of the fire and you were already enveloped in clouds of smoke and fire was trying to reach you.Did the forest burn on the opposite side of the stream too!!!""

"No the forest there didn't burn, the fire ate it up"declared Joan indignantly.If it didn't burn I don't know what to call it.Who set the woods on fire anyhow?These woods were not in the path of the main Southeastern Galvanitis fires at all, in fact were fifty miles out of the path and seemed to come from the direction of the battle field of Lebanon.Do you know anything about that fire?"

"Yes.The fire started near the battle field of Lebanon.I saw the whole thing and the Vivian Girls had a narrow narrow escape from the blaze.The battle didn't cause it though.And I suspect some persons Glandelinians.I am very sorry we did not remain to assist you for now I understand that you and your followers were in peril . At that time I believed you were only in danger from the smoke and the persons only which I referred..:::.!!""

"Why however did you wish the note ,the Jackson?"asked Jack(broke his back)

"I thought you being vivinities, would recall the word, and would know what it meant.John of course was simply added to make a complete name.I did not think you were danger boy scout girlscouts."

"You are progressing ."declared Dolores."Now if you'll be kindly tell us how you happened to be on the spot We will all be much obliged to you...:"

"I am interested in helping all boy and girlscouts out and prevent them from running into unnecessary perils."Was answer Francis."This morning I was on my way here with some of my followers.We had proceeded toward Hungars run earlier in the day intended to go toward Gispbal drade in the afternoon but learning a battle is raging near here we changed our course.While passing through the ruined suburbs of the city of St Kthaldrade we were approached by a soldier in Red Uniform who offered to pay us well for being directed through the christian territory.I did not like his looks around as we were strangers here we were supretended we didn't know the country well and he went away disguised and said we were ignorant Dish yerns."

"Did he say where wanted to go through christian territory? " Inquired Dolores.

"No.Later in their conversation he came to us with two other men and said that he wouldlike to go part of the distance with us asking us to follow and prepared to lead him through the lines if we needed to do so.He offered to pay extra for this service but we struck him. Accordingly we noted the direction taken by your raft before the forest fire came so suddenly upon you.We then were on here back proceeded more slowly, and arrived a before the forest fire overtook you.As we halted we overheard from some part of the interviews in hand of Hading for the Ahlisann region.We then already learned you were boy and girlscouts but of what division we did not know and my instructor had told me and my two girlscout companions that these Glandelinian spies were not at all where you supposed them to be but were in the christian lines in disguise and intended here exes directly on shore as ever know of if you dared to issue them.Perhaps this is only to were you as you and your follow[illegible] and I found o the raft on a boat which I procured and threw the hatchet on message, and then seeing the way was clear hoisted the raft and placed the broken dishes. I had hard [illegible] to remain on alone on shore when the forest fire broke loose.Those Jack and Jeff spies are somewhere within general Vivians lines but they're hard to detect."

"Well"decided Dolores"I guess we are a good secure all right and I want to ask you [illegible] us in trying to reassure those girls never believe.Even error or not we do not look out of nothin no.Ahem...:!"

"I can readily do that"smiled Francis"If you'll agree to forgive a mistake of you when you were in peril from the forest fires."

"Let's forget that part forever."urged Dolores."The thing now for us to do is to find out the reason why our leader Gertrude Angeline and her friends do not return and also to get some personnes who tried or did make themselves looks like Gertrude Angelis and who are said to have been captured.We want them.""

"In answer to the puzzled look on Francis's face Joan explained briefly the reason why they were to takepossession of those three "Gertrude Angelines" and ended with a description of the original Angelinis Aronburs and stating that their expedition was being held up because they failed to return.The boy and girlscouts all felt that Francis and his sisters when the girls appeared to be who were with him, could be trusted.

"Wait a minutes comrades."and I will see what can be done about that"the boy off red offered. Turning to the colonel who with the other officers had been sitting at a respective distance he spoke rapidly through the wireless telephone. A brief conversation ensued following which the colonel himself again made use of the wireless telephone.Then this time Francis himself conversed with the party at the other end of the line and seemed to be urgin compliace compliance with his request.Evidently satisfied with the result of his efforts he returned to the boys and girls with beaming face.He was intensely pleased at the outcome.

"We will proceed at once to general Vivians headquarters at the rear of the battlefield"he announced"There we will be met by one some high officials of they Camp wire girls who wish to listen to our story They consider it very importantindeed so they decided to hold a short meeting over it."

"How did you do it so easily for us?"inquited the boy Jack."Have you influence with those high ranked Camp wire girls!!!!!!!"

Francis however only replied with a smile.He also seemed anxious to start at once and was impatient at the short delay necessary in issig assinging an escort to the boy and girlscouts with the purpose to accompany them to ward off attacks of Glandelinian patrols for they were still in dangerous territory.After a brisk hour so back ride or short hunting they reached a large little [illegible] and were ushered [illegible] tent with red and yellow andpurple striped tent.Here in the center of the tent seated at a large table were a number of distinguishedlooking camp fire girls who evidently evidently were officers from the designs of their uniforms though each appeared to be between the ages of fourteen, fifteen and seventeen. As the boy and girlscouts entered, accompanied by the soldiers,theypaused for a moment.All eyes were turned in their direction.Then at a silent signal from Angeline Jennings all stoood at attention and gave the boy and girlscout salute. A faint smile showed for an instant on the faces of the superior girlscouts about the table.Returning the salutation with a military salute, they acknowledged the greeting of the child scouts.Then seats were indicated for all.

"Since it is understood that you Girls and girlscouts do not understand the situation along general Vivians away at Hanger Run" began a Camp Fire Girl at the head of the table"It has been decided by the general himself that we ourselves carry on the proceedings as you wish .There's a terrible battle raging there and it would evidently be exceedingly dangerous for you to come too close. This spot is safer."

"Thank you" Dolores here herself spoke up."We regret very much the fact that we cannot understand the situation of the battle.However we hoped you will not be inconvenienced."

"Not at all."smiled the Camp Fire Girl."Girlscout work of any kind is familiar to all assembled here, though ours is even more superior, even to the stenographer who willmake notes of what is said."

"Gee"whispered Mildred somewhat awed by the surroundings and the superior and older girlscouts before her.This is going to be a regular girlscout court."

"Looks like it indeed"answered Jack, who sat on a chair close to her."We are all right though but we must remember to observe respect here, they're superior to us you know.Those girlscout Camp Fire Girls have very high occasions and so we must act accordingly."

Once more Dolores was intrigued to tell their experiences, and the causes that led up to their long trip on the flood with the raft twed Abbiemm in quest of the Abbiemm mysteries, how now they were in quest of Gertrude and her followers, and also how they were trying to cause the capture of their chief foes whom they believed to be exact duplicates of Gertrude Angeline.Her statements were listened to with int nse surprise andinterest by all.As she spoke of the desire of herself and comrades to prevent the six men getting away with these important plans quick glances were exchanged.These Camp Fire Girl Officers had never heard of the Two Butt and Jeffersies.However the earnest manner of the little girl was evidently making a favorable impression upon her hearers.

"And so"concluded Dolores in her recital"we feel that we are asking a great deal if we request you Camp Fire girls to be on the lookout also for those spies who have theplans which theyhave stolen but for the sake of Country and God we ask of you to do it."

"My dear girl"Spoke up one of the Camp Fire Girls"Have you considered what those spiesmight do with theplans you mention should they still be in their hands?"

"Yes.They'd be given over to a big Glandelinian co-operation for in the west.The loss of thoseplans would be a serious disaster to the country."

"Have you suggested what the Glandelinian generals might do with the plans you mention should they come into their hands."

"Of course"Dolores replied""e boys and girls all understand the situation that exist over there somewhere where for a y ar a long bloody battle had raged for a year day in and day out with diabolica diabolical furv on both sides, and we cannot believe the country would be safe if the Glandelinian generals secured thoseplans for any purposes.They are very valuable, however to the enemy and would even bring our country serious disaster during the seaies of Vivian Wickey."

"But is it as serious at that?"

"Yes."

"But it didn't seem so.How could the spies get way over there."?

"But Think Man for a moment that the two armies are so long engaged in the west along the Pembia Run."

"I understand, but is it probable that the enemy have not already to topographical maps from which the Glandelinian generals could determine very accurately just where all defensies of the beleagers at Vivian Wickeymight be imposition and replaced."

"That may be true indeed."admitted Dolores colorin-.

"Even were the Glandelinian armies to be victrous in the long battle and would advance upon Vivian Wickey"Continued the Camp Fire Girl "such plans would not be necessary to secure information in such an unusual andundesirable way as theone which the six men of whom you speak is going to deliver there. If you can you know and Sayles the general Vivianslines shadowing you we might try and apprehend them. We can also look after Gertrude Angeline as you say as we can her well, but it seems strange she's not returning."asks she is all right andintended to remain out all day before returning.Did she mention whether there was any hurry for such an expedition."

"No"

"Well then we'll try and have a search made for her."

"I'm very glad to hear you say that."Dolores responded in a tone of relief."Now if we could get these three duplicates of hers and start them to the proper authorities we'd feel better."

"We have one of those duplicates here."said the Camp Fire Girl."We will have him ushered in here and hear what he has today for himself.some one of my girlscouts captured him."

"Um?"

"Yes him"decided the camp fire girl."He's disguised himself as Gertrude and with that wig appeared her likel likeness.Had not the capture seized the wig no one would have never known.:::::::"

"turning in her chair she indicated to a Camp Fire girl Patrole standing near that she might have the prisoner brought in the room.In a moment an exact duplicate of Gertrude Angeline was brought into the room.

"Here is the prisoner if you wish to interrogate him."Began the Camp Fire girl who had questioned Dolores.

"Will you kindly state the purpose of your duplicating the one of our lead ers?"asked Dolores .

he

The Glandelinian child scout did not answer however.He gave a quick glance about the tent and he seemed to be satisfied with the fact that he might expect little chances of escaping altogether if he allowed himself to be in the custody of the Ranger girl and boy scouts.and guessing full well that these child scouts might have been aware of the situation and that they had been given an opportunity to tell their story, he said with a short laugh

"As I had an important communication to make with your christian general I had to dupl duplicate her but since you have captured me I don't care if he gets the message at all.I will reveal the secret when are there are no little striplings present."

Then wheeling in his tracks the Glandelinian boyscout made a dash for the door.In his path however stood the girlscout who had conducted him into the tent under guard.surprised at the sudden movement she didn't regain presence of mind quickly enough to make any effort to stop the deserting prisoner but remained motionless in her position...

Then before any of the rest knew what the boy was going to do he suddenly threw out his left arm in the familiar movement employed by foot ball players,,, when warding off an adversary, and like the inhuman rascal Glandelinian boyscouts-are landed his fist squarely on the solar plexus of the Camp Fire girl and she was bowled over in a most undignified manner.Prre she could recover her feet or draw a pistol, the Glandelinian boyscout had dashed madly madly out of the tent, mounted a horse which he seized in the road outside, and before any soldiers outside could stop him he had shot down two of them and made good his escape.

"Walked right in, and turned around----" quoted Dolores ,with a surprised and embarrassedlook.

"The girl attacker didn't leave his card either."declared Jack.

"I'd like to see blinde that to me and he wouldn't do it again."Ponder where he is going in such a hurry"he added."He is surelyupto some thing."

"Probably he will head for the Glandelinian army now now that he sees we are all up to his plans and the plans of his accomplices."ventured Mildred."This is surely undif undignified.He where before did I ever see any boy strike a girl scout with his fist.Watch till he is ever captured again.I'll know his face."

Thrown into surprised confusion by theunusual and undignified interruption of their efforts and deliberations, the Camp Fire Girl officers who had recievedthe "Little Rangers" were apparently unable to give coherent thr thought at once tothe matter in hand. They were called to a consideration of the case by Angeline Jennings.

"We'll be able to put a strong dragnet out and have this boyscout foo arrested if we do it quickly enough."she said presently."If you can have him detained on some charge, we will at once telegraph for the necessary papers to secure his exchange for the Vivianian army.He is as dangerous as any Glandelinian spy to be allowed at large."

"Thank you for thesuggestion"exclaimed one of the Camp Fire girls. "It's a good one indeed and we will act upon it at once."

"Just Assured"spoke up another"The soldiers themselves and especially the cavarly will at once take that boyscout into custody and the matter will be arranged as you wish."

Considering the matter closed and with repeated assurances of better friendship for the boys and girlscouts the Camp Fire Girls wi had wished them success in their undertaking after telephoning and telegraphing instructions to various parts of the inactive army regarding the recapture of the Glandelinian boy n and -irlscouts.

The Vivianite boy and girlscouts volunteered to accompany Dolores hand back to the raft, and in their company they left the camp of the Camp Fire girls.They had not sooner come twerd the raft when they got the surprise of their lives.Owing to the scarcity of soldiers of any kind in this neighborhood due to the distant battle thing raging they had been compelled for safty sake for fearing of meeting with the enemy to walk to their proposed destination some distance out of their usual way.

The incident came after Dolores had conducted her followers and the three Vivianites to a section of the country where without her knowledge every indication betokened it to be of a dangerous locality. Also they were near the unruined section of the City of Ethel Reeds and at this spot the houses were old and slightly in ruins though not having been touched by the fierce conflagrations of the past battles.This section was absolutely deserted there seeming to be none around.

"ctin: the char x character of the city condition wrecl ll: of this section of the city, the boys and girls commented rather un favorably in that regard but believing our ships were wrong.

In the meantime three strange Glandelinian boyscouts had been in this neighborhood, and they had seen the christian boy and girl scouts, and their distrust was not lessened as to what would happen when they observed the character of the very city at this section where many christian boy and girlscouts would be in hiding on the ou look for any enemies who might pass that way.one of the Glandelinian boyscouts whose name was Francicus apologized for the location but stated that it was the best available hidingplace from the christian enemies at that late morning hour.It was he said to his companions too late to go elsewhere and he hoped the christian child scouts who were approaching would not see them.They w nt into an abandoned house to avoid being seen.

Scarcely had they entered theplace when someone entered the place and apparently not noticing them engaged in conversation with another who had followed him.One of the Glandelinian boyscouts whose name also was Jack was keenly alert of his surroundings, and noticed that the new comer seemed to be indicating in a guarded way the three Glandelinian boyscouts seated at a table apparently playing cards.

"I'll bet" he whispered to his companions"that' we'll be sur ried when we dare leave this place.We have the advantage now as to size us here would mean an unequal conflict and they know it.That boy scout looks suspicious to me."

The boys stole surreptitious glances at the boyscout indicated and all agreed with Jack that he was evidently a disguised christian boyscout of some sort planning to have them captured as soon as they left the place, or to surround the place and force them to surrender.They were ready to swear that nothing in the way of attempted capture should be attempted inside theplace.Contrary to their expectations the place was not being surrounded by no one at all.however a Glandelinian boyscout by the name of Jimmie Hawkins glanced from the window and espied the suspected boyscout standingoutside evidently waiting for them to appear upon the street.He had gradually drawn back out of sight.for perhaps a block or so in going toward the open country the four boyscouts walked together in a close group discuss ing the possibility of an attack and the best means toward it off should it be made.Then suddenly their attention was attracted by a sound as of a Cat Mewing somewhere.An answering signal sounding like the cry of a cat when you step on its foot or tail at once came from across the street. At that moment a number of girlscouts on horseback dashed up from the rear.As this column of girls halted b their horses a number of boys sprang from two doorways.Other forces were seen approaching on the run.The boys were surprised by the suddenness of the movement, and were hardly prepared to resist so strong a force. In the gloom of the street they could not measure the number of their assailants.They tried to keep close together hoping there h thereby therefore to better withstand the assault.A boy called Ned got down two of the boys and three girls killing them all, Frank struck out bravely with hispistol but landing a straight ford forceful blow against another girls jaw breaking it, and killing another who appeared directly before him.Apparently after all a rridupon them were not the object of the assault.Though they killed two of the boy and girlscouts and wounded thirteen of them mortally, they were finally disarmed, Frank and Ned weakilled, and the two others were disarmed and seized in rough arms while dexterious hands wound ropes about their arms and clothe about their legs effectually prevent in - an outcry.Their arms were securely pinioned.At a low spoken command from a girl leader the child scouts lifted the now helpless boys into a waiting army wagon which at once dashed madly along the poor ly paved street, the horses going at full l ngths when lashed by the driver who was a soldier. Struggle as they might the two boys were unable to release themselves from their bonds.Not a word was spoken by their captors during the wild ride, and at length the prisoners were over their unseless efforts. Directly the wagon was turned in to a smoother street, but the speed was in no wise diminished. At length the horses slowed down, and then they came to a standstill at the command of the driver.Jumping from very places like so many sacks of grain the captives felt th selves hoisted to the very shoulders of their abductors. Judging from the sounds they were then being taken into a building of some sort, and all smitten with considerable curiosity were indication of the next movement.At this was not long in coming. Long passages they was now hurried fell out be a journey up

a long flight of stairs/ which creaked before the weight of them as they wentup . Then presently the two boys were deposited in not too too gentle a manner upon a hard floor. Then footsteps retreating down the creaking stairway indicated that they were being left alone.Nothing had been said that would indicate the bad if dent identification of their captors. Jimmie's impatience now and frantic efforts to free himself from the bonds and gag were interrupted by a voice full of Childish rage.

"Might as well save your wind young boyscout of the enemy" the Glandelinians heard a familiar voice say."You'll need it all before you get out of this.Sneaking around our territory eh, spying on us, and trying to find out our intentions, when there had been pledges long ago given you Glandelinian boyscouts not to interfere with us and only men.So this is how you keep your pledges.Shows what you are.Then since you join the war too against us then we'll break ourpledges too.So o what'll you get when you face the christian generals to morrow.And besides you two boys havekilled a considerable number of us Camp fire girls and boys and willing for it.and as you fellows are so good at getting out of tightplaces let's see you get out of this.You escaped from our band yesterday, slipped away from a harm wanut you into but you did it because you had help or wheedled someone in to your way of thinking." is is different.You get no help here.Besides you are on the top floor of an old Orphan Asylum that had been partly burned during the conflagration of the city during the battle.On one side is the broad river Ventura on the other is a street blocked by debris from the ruins of many burned buildings there.No one ever visits this locality as many of the buildings are still smouldering f m furnaces so you'll have lots of time to think it over.Next time don't try to interfere with cumplans,or theplans of the boy and girlscouts under Angeline Arenburg and others.Do you understand.""

n despair the two boys lay helpless and listened to their informant as she who was the girlscout Tania Olga's sister closed the door.This was barred on the outside and heavy materials were thrown against it.Then silence reigned...!!#

For a long time the two glandelinian lads lay listening for sounds that would indicate the presence of others.A muffled splash of water now and again was the only indication of movement that reached their ears and the sound of the distant battle..Pre presently a slight movement showed that one of the boys was shifting his position.A sudden gasp followed by a most violent exhalation of breath showed that a great leap in the struggle was taking place.A tearing of cloth was th then heard.

"Whoo-ie" gasped the boy the one who was named Jimmie "Conner."That was a tough job indeed.

"Any of you fine other fellows get loose yet"the lad continued, but for very good reasons there was was no answer to great his question.

"Oh I have forgotten"cried the lad."Maybe you're still tied up like I was."There are you"he continued taking a scuffling step."Why don't you talk."

Quickly the boy produced a searchlight from an inner pocket, and it was the work of only a few minutes to and find and release his fellow prisoners. There was a great stretching of arms and deep inhaling of breath following this action.All were loud in their expressions of gratitude to James and wondered at his ability to break loose from the bonds.

"I guess these christian dogs didn't take the trouble to fasten my wrists very tight."explained James modestly but the abrasions on his bleeding wrists showed positively of the heroic struggle the lad had made.

"We will fix you up as soon as we get out of here"argued the other lads."Here suts must hurt near a bad.James you're a brick."

"Aw shucks"and jumping Neptune lets get out of here before those little christian do e dogs come back with their bulldoggs." deprecated James.

"Here's a window with cross bars over it"announced a lad called Henry who had been examining their prison."Maybe we could crawl out of that"

"Yes and go plumping into the river."scoffed James approachin. "Maybe a there might escape a Glandelinian cavalry patrol in this of the river."at cautel Francis."If we could attract their attention they we ld help us to get away from these christian dogs."

"Good idea"Jimmie approved."Let's try it out the dickey."

Drawing his automatic the boy sent two shots into the rapidly rushing stream which lapped the sides of the building." followed these with three three more and again three, and again three,, emptying the pistol.!!....
As he was reloading the Glandelinian lookout Tarrington was and been wearing across the river cried;;

"There were some on the river and they've heard you.They are coming for I see a bunch of them in a boat."

Without the loss of time in explanation s the soldiers loaded the five boys into one of their boats bringing the crews whales nearly to the waters edge.A rattle of rifle shots greeted the tiny crafts as they pulledout of the shdow of the ruined Orphan Home.A number of christian soldiers dimly outlined stood above them sending shots after shots in their direction, but apparently with poor aim.
The Glandelinian soldiers in the other boat returned the fire and brought every one of them down.Then dashing to the edge of the shore stood a boyscout and he too sent forth shot aft er after shot.Hiddly incensed one of the Glandelinian boyscouts swung his automatic around and fired.
A scream echoed through the gloom.

"his last inciden t happened just as Angeline Jennings and her party came up.They saw the escaping boats, a saw the boy fall, and dashing tward the river they opened fire in a fussilade, killing and wounding a number of the bostman but the remainder got away. At once Angeline Jennings hesitated . A short parley was held in which it was decided not to bother with the Glandelinians in the boat but to continue on their course to the raft, where they would be with the rest and have a report made of the incident.Accordingly they urged forward their horses and were surprised to come upon Radcliffe, and the others who had the wounded girlscout leaders with them..:

"Forheavens sake what're waiting for"cried Angeline Jennings."Get them on the raft. What in the world has happened to them.And we've come through all this looking for them."

After twenty minutes had passed all were safely aboard the raft.
The three wounded child scout leaders were placed in their respective cabins, but Radcliffe drew Gertrude to her own cabin and crouched there supporting the head and the upper part of her body .But Radcliffe who was ever watchful uttered a low cry.A little blood was leaking through the bandage.She has He hastened to the other side of the bed and began adjusting it, while Olga herself the Camp fire girl who had also come on board had come out side again and turned tward the threatening crowds of boy and girlscouts which for a moment before had been looking on in paniaky silence broken only by low words andmutterings.

"This is a bad days work which these Glandelinian boyscouts have done to all of us."she cried.

"They shall pay high for it every one we capture and the assassins too" Cried the crowd."We know them all.Gerald Starring is their leader. "

Then Jack Saunders stepped forward.

"They areall guilty in trying to hinder our work."he declared. "Jean has returned and she told me all.After the boy had stabbed Gertrude and Angeline Riches and Penrod, and when he got away she had organized a persuit but he escaped.I myself knew nothing of this untill she returned and told me how the scrap was, and how the deed was done. It is the fault of some of us for not going through the camp to look for her and her friends at the time.We would have used every effort to prevent his escape. The idea of a Glandelinian boyscout scrap striking a girl with his fists.That is why they drew knives on him. These boy and girlscout comrades ofours have asked me to speak for them.They sure praise Radcliffe for breaking down that stable door.Jean herself says saved their lives when they were about to be to be cut to pieces."

"Their lives."cried Olga Scornfully."Their lives hanes by a thread , and whether they die or not their would be murderers will die for it if they're caught.Allthe boy and girlscouts of the enemy are equally guilty"she continued addressing the crowd."They have broke their pledge to any and fight hon men only.Those Glan delinian boyscouts left them lie there to bleed to death."

"Miss Olga Herdrude"said Jack"Jean told me when she arrived with a troop of cavualy she saw all that went on.Of course she admits she came near being one of the victims as the rascal struck her on the head with the butt of his pistol."

"They shall pay dearly for it."cried the Camp Fire Girl."I'll leave here to night, and go to Angelinia Anthia to get a written declaration of war from Emperor Vivian against the enemy child scouts

for they have openly broken their l pledge."And listen further. You think that Gertrude a Angeline and the rest of us are not in danger.So I not hate the Glandelinians more than you, who by murder have robbed me of home, parents and all I have.And you think that general Jannonia brought the army to Hungar Sun to oppose general Vivian?No. He's there himself or was and has left a great army near Abbieann under General Valisman.It was general Vlatze who brought his armies up here with the purpose to frustrate our intentions to help Violet and her sisters to learn the details of the Abbieann disaster."

There was a sensation at the Camp fire girls words.An excited babble broke out.Radcliffe who had just completed the bandaging came out of the cabin on hearing Olga's words.He turned to the crowd of boy and girlscouts.

"Was that Gerald Starring left them lie there to bleed to death, to die after his attack upon them.I know when they w n went into the barn where he was they at first had not contemplated any attack on him"he said in scorn."But when a crazy fool like that strikes a girl in the face with his fists and falls her to the floor I don't blame them for drawing their knives."I'd like to see a Glandelinian soldier even strike me with his fists. I If it was too bad none of us were around. These Glandelinian child scouts cannot to forget that pledge they made."His eyes blazed as he denounced them."They have forgotten that when as long as we were in the army we did nothing to them, we worked only to w frustrate soldiers and they seem to have forgotten the pledge in these days, and are actually at war with us forgotten thepledge in these days and are actually at war with us comrades.They have no memory of their pledge not to interfere with us as we never interfered with them.They have forgotten so we too will break our pledge.It's war against them as hard as we have warred against the enemy armies."

There was another movement among the crowd of boy and girlscouts.He His words seemed to stirr them even more than Olga's had done.

"They have forgotten .They have forgotten ."cried several voices."We we won't forget this."

Jack Saunders came forward again.

"They say Miss Herdrude we did not know till know that there are enemies within our very camps doubling up on us to appear as Gerald Gertrude Angeline.That is the reason we for this.Gertrude Jean says knew this as she got word from Penrod.They thought that Starring had something to do with it and they tried to capture him."

""all if they did what then? How come he to escape. "

There was a renewed muttering.Jack spoke again.

"They escaped because a large party of Glandelinians came to his rescue.Jean had a hard time escaping herself."

Gertrude hersh[illegible]

Gertrude herself was stirring now [illegible] trying to toss her arms and to mutter in delirium."The pulse was stronger but the flush which had s supplanted the pallor denoted fever.Presently Angel R [illegible] Radcliffe entered and went straight to the bedside.The boy and Olga and Jean looked at Gertrude, the other wounded child scout leaders a [illegible] at each other.

Then Mary Glorinny who had been called entered and looked at them.

"I've seen men and children who were wounded far worse than they are [illegible] ly."said Mary."The [illegible] bled much, but the heart of Gertrude is not injured critically [illegible] hurt---well we shall see [illegible] the three good friends ofours get well."she ended cheerily.

Radcliffe who however had read little hope in Marys face, spoke with the Medical [illegible] later.

"W[illegible] surgeon at once."he said /

"From [illegible] Various [illegible] R [illegible] of Radcliffe?Why before he can arrive from that distance the result willhave been decided.

"There are doctors nearer?"

"None with the skillto pull these through."

or if it be there was nothing more that Radcliffe or the others could do.He too would have stayed but he felt th at he must await a issue with patience.Jean was already established at the bedside of Gertrude.Radcliffe went o in [illegible]

"I shall come early this afternoon Bright [illegible] Mary"he said. [illegible] want to see what you said to Angelinia Jennings [illegible] this morn,- -I [illegible] it was my fault.I guess I'm the [illegible] one to blame.I ought to [illegible] followed her and I thought the [illegible] was no danger and did not.

You and your girlscout scout commander did far more than we Mary and it was not up to you. I mean it was not your main business to save him."

"No!" whispered the girl or child scout doctor raising her eyes to him. And Radcliffe felt like a blundering fool."

"I hope you'll save her and the two others." He said. "We dont lose them. We want them, we all want them. I guess we didn't realize how much we wanted them until now--till this disaster happened."

He was half way across the raft before he stopped as a thought struck him.

"I guess Mary does get things her own way." he said to himself.

Some of those who had been a participant of the rescue of the wounded girlscouts, and who had also were in the chance with Jean when Starring a girl scout were immediately put presented before Angeline Jennings who first took their story in detail, making suitable entries in a book before her. Jean acted as theone to give the main statement. Only a glance at the badly soiled condition of the uniforms of the boys and girls was necessary to convince the girlscout leader and her officers of the truthfulness of their story. Before the boy and girlscouts had succeeded in making themselves presentable, an officer who had been detailed for thepurpose returned and reported that although he had troughlo thoroughly searched the region for the escaped Glandelinian boyscout noone could be discovered. It was therefore decided that if Jeans parting shot in her pursuit had found lodgement y her target having no doubt been carried away by the Glandelinians whom she said had come to th the rescue.

"What shall we do not now since our main leaders of the expedition are wounded!" questioned Jack gloomily as they all accumulated on the raft and a deep sad depression had fallen on all with bruised uniforms and washed faces.

"Might as well go back to Purgatory and stay there forever." suggested Jo n Jean with despair. "We've been in it all the time anyhow."

"We've had about enough excitement for one to call it being in hell." said another of the boyscouts. "And listen to the battle far away. It sounds as if the world was at war with the planets. I wonder if general Vivian is getting the best of it or the worst of it."

"I object to the subject" put in Jimmie. "Suggestion of council is immaterial and irrelevant. We ought to go back to general Virginia's army and stay there."

"Why so?" inquired the boy scout called Harry. "We are too far from it, and we couldn't find himanyhow. and besides Wylatze is not there."

"Viviania is at Big Girl Knool." said Jane. "I recieved that news in a report. The enemy are concentrating there."

"Suppose they are." p r persisted Jimmie. "Is that a dangerous guarantee that the city is safe. Sometime when the Vivian Girl Princesses permit us I'm going back to his army. I'm going back anyhow. You can sleep. But I'm through with all this hell."

"Can't we telegraph out there and learn if everything is all right." put in Flanders. "The officers at Big Girl Knool would be glad to report."

"How would you get them on the phone or the telegraph!" Scorned Jean. "Did you see anylinemen stringing wires in the middle of the big floods or through the territory of the enemy or through the forest fires!"

The boy flanders was compelled to admit that his suggestion seemed very foolish if not very impractical.

"Well then comrades" Flanders went on "since we are in knowledge that we are leaderless entirely, and our expedition seemed or seems to be nipped in the bud, we'd better be on our way back to the camp and wait till they come to. We'd better be on our way."

They soon had the raft started on their way back toward the location they had left though they had to run the gauntlet of fires which they recently had escaped. Jack, and others stormed freely against all the Glandelinians when they were so often having sad encounters with, declaring sensibly that they would be delighted "to use brass knuckles" on the Starring boyscout if ever the opportunity offered.

"One of his companions however made any objections to his speech for they knew it was only his way of relieving up his pent up feelings though he would do it if he had the chance as boyscouts never make any false boasting. They usually do more than they say." again - the progress of the raft backward toward its destination, most of the depressed scouts discussed the situation at some length.

"Mildred herself,,, held that the boy scout Gerald Starring,, would be well on his way toward any one of the glandelinian armies withhis two Confederates if he could make his way out of the christian lines without being seen, while Jack and Jane contended that he would not be satisfied to leave anyportion of the christian lines or the camps untill he was assured the christian girlscouts and all their followers were frustrated in their efforts to downi the purposes of the " International spies. They also thought,,,,ultilkely that even the Glandelinian boyscout would come in to make another effort to work them all great harm since his previous attempts even though he had wounded two girlscouts and Penrod had thus far resulted in failure. They feared his vindictiveness and those of his followers.

"Aw shucks" protested Jean saunders,, "since he had wounded Gertrude and even Penrod so badly it probably had beat it lut out of the christ in christian lines as quick as he had blocked the dor to that barn where we found Gertrude and Penrod and poor Angeline pishes lying in their own blood. I see now it doesn't pay to engage any of the Glandelinian boyscouts at close quarters." We were foolish. Violet, and her sisters told that to us often. Boy and girlscouts of the enemy are more dangerous than even we are...!!!_"

"You're forgetting those who opened fire on us from the boats when some of us were on shore." George Zimmerman suggested. and who were "And who were those two Glandelin ian boyscouts with the Glandelinians in one of the boats. And what were they doing in the town before they were seen in the boat? And who were they." I asked I ask.

"They were probably one of those many Glandelinian boyscouts sent by the Vivian professional spies to spy dog us or when they had posted to make sure we didn't surprise any interesting thing they were going to make no raid. I don't at all the six spies!..." Violet replied.

"It was rather peculiar the christian cavarly soldiers didn't find any trace of them nor the Glandelinians either." interposed Dolores. "I felt sure when I heard that scream that one of them was hit prety bad by your bullet. Who ever i he is, he certainly yelled some."

"Maybe he was just scratched on the leg and it smarted." replied violet. "and again maybe he wasn't hit at all but just let out that wail to get some of us to follow so theycould get a better sight at us."

"You never can tell." decided Jack. "The glandelin ians are very treacherous. And anyone who would get mixed up in a gang of Glandelinians like that would always be pretty full of trick. I've learned that even the fiercest of wild beasts are not as dangerous as the Glandelinians are."

"Maybe he fell out of the boat and went into the river." put in the christian boyscout Francis.

"Nix on the swim." quickly vetoed Mildred. "And besides we easily saw the boats and anyone one fall overboard. And besides there wasn't any splash. And if he had gone overboard he'd have undgone grand loud and exciting dis turbance."

"Not if he was shot and killed instantly" argued Francis.

"How could he be killed instantly if he went and let a yell out of him as big as the cry of an insane demon." questioned Jimmie in dig nantly. "No sir" the boy continued "You'll find that that glandelinian was a natural born coward and was more scared than hurt. I don't think I can say where near hitting him. I'll bet he's telling his comrades right now what a brave man he is and how he outwitted us boy and girlscouts."

"Hey it your own way Jimmie" pointed one of the others. "We are more interested in the movements of the six Glandelinian spies anyway. The question is where have they gone, and how can we continue the expedition after them when Gertrude and three others ofour three others of our leaders are wounded. That's the main thing to decide now."

"Believe me" insisted Dolores. "The next chapter for those six Glandelinian spies will be entitled "Beating it for Africam and it'll start in sudden and so mighty swift. He's probably going as fast as one of the other spies whom we chanced during the battle of Water Starring."

His chum laughed as they recalled that strange incident. For the benificent benifit of their new comers they described the amusing incident which from so many other incidents innumerable there is no room in this book. Directly some of the boy and girlscouts were delighted to observe theout lines of the more familiar part of the shore. "The approach of their raft however was halted by

by a challenge challenge from one of the guards.Upon discovering their ind identity, thanks to those who recognized the boy and girlscouts, the guards allowed them to proceed.

"By the sound the battle had changed location I see."Ned sied to one of the guards.

"I believeour sid is advancing against the foe if that is what you mean"was the reply."After all a battle of this kind is not always wonderful.They're too many and causing too much loss."

"Then too you haven't been bothered by any strangers nor Glandelinians since we left."ventured Angeline Jennings drawing the raft nearere to the shore."I suppose too it's sort of lonely out here in the street."

"No Glandelinians have been here boy, except those who sent off as r prisoners."

"The prisoners we sent!" questioned Angeline Jennings wonderingly. "Why sir you sure are mistaken.We have no prisoners and did not sent a any ashore.I don't quite understand you.Whatdo you mean!"

"Why you sure sent prisoners sure you did, ten of them."insisted the man."One of them had important maps in his possession and a diagrms or somethin g of your raft, and the number of names of all yu boy and girlscouts.They had been on to captured with a couple of boys from boats as they tried to land."

Angeline turned a puzzled look to her followers now grouped about.

"What sort of appearing chaps were they!"quickly inquired her sister Dolores advancing.

"Quickly the man began a short description which they all recognized as the ones whom they had fired on when they got away in the boats but not one of them was anyone of their acquaintance.

"Jane and her Camp wire girls trapped them."gasped Jimmie himself in bewilderment."Why I thought they had an easy chance to get away." the lad insisted vigoriously.Now you tell me "We"captured them and sent them to the christian lines!"

"Maybe you didn't look closely enough to see who the captors were Mr guard."put in Dolores."But we didn't send anybody.We didn't capture no prisoners."

"Pardon, but one of the girls had from you an order stating that she was to escort them through and into the christian lines, and that she returned with certain papers."insisted the guard."My companion further down the road has the papers and the maps map I mentioned."

"Call him over here."requested Dolores."I want to see that."

While waiting for the approach of the other guard,, some of the boy and girlscouts engaged in earnest conversation, with th others of the boy and girlscouts over the strange discovery..... Turning to Angeline Jennings Dolores Dolores explained too that she was recently informed that the "Butt and Jeff "Spies in some company with another man had recently visited general "Vivians headquarters and had certain certainly a na narrow escape from being shot down by the guards, and had fo tunat l fortunately failed to secure anything. However at first the guards had been almost hoodwinked, and thinking the fellows all right had permitted them to go into the building.and not being inclined to trespass the guards had not accompanied the men,but had remained at their respectful posts untill the men and their companion were ready to leave.Then some of the soldiers had gone into the house discovered them raiding and had tried to capture them but they had escaped by knocking down the soldiers and by other means.

"Here's the paper telling who the captives are."Offered the second guard."The girlscout who is the head said her name is Jane."

Dolores took the paper,and examined it.A quick exclamation brought any of the others crowding about to investigate the cause.

"Look at this sister"Dolores cried."It [illegible]."They are the veryones captured when we fkedupon forkilliemone of the boyscouts."

""It's true indeed."Let me see it."

"Well of all things"gasped Jules St Claire taking the paper from Dolores hand,and examining it closely."What do you think of that.!And they thought they could get away when captured once byher band.Ha.Ha that's a goodone on them.It takes Camp wire girls to show these Glandelinians where to get off at."

"How I see "?????"Inquired Gladys Gladys's bete [illegible] crowding forward."

"Sure "Replied Jules."Here she is or has written of how they had escaped when she and her follow-rescued them in [illegible] of the glandelinian soldiers,,and not captured by them [illegible] I ought to call these Glandelinian boyscouts [illegible] Ha,Ha escape and [illegible] it to

Jane .She even writes that we ought to overhaul the engine on our raft.She believes the Glandelinian boyscouts may have been on it in disguise and weaken the engine."

"Let's look it over and find out."suggested Harry at once.

They all went back on the raft from the shore,,,,,, and going into the engine room, they turned on the lights, in compliance with Harry's thoughts, and there they examined carefully all the outer parts of of the machine the engineer doing the same.However it seemed apparent not a thing had been disturbed.The instruments and works were all in place, the arms intact and everything belonging to a boat driven engine in place.The boy and girlscouts felt easier.

"Maybe they put some explosives in the engine somewhere."urged Jean."Glandelinians Glandelinians are mean enough to do that."

"They didn't have time."decl red Jack.

"By the way Dolores , suggested George Zimmermon to her as she was still standing near the engine."Why need we group around here with only search lights.?- havelts of battery current, suppose you turn on the lights for us."

"Right-O"asserted Dolores, reaching for the switch.

No illumination resulted over the engine.Again the switch was turned by the engineer believing she had not turned it right but no light came.

"They've cut a wire somewhere."declared the Engineer."Maybe h he may have used one of my pliers and just j nipped off what he could reach. I believe so because I've missed one of my pliers and have been searching for it before you so came in."

"Try to start the steam engine Mr Engineer."requested Jean."Maybe one of these Glandelinian boyscouts have cut the wires leading to that as well as the light circuit..It would not surprise anyone of us to find that he may have even tried to locate any of the steam valves and disable them.I'll bet he has done so.It would be justlike those Glandelinians so they could frustrate our trip.And yet they have I' sure for how can we go with Gertrude Angeline, and two others of our leaders disabled."

For the first time to even the surprise of the engineer the engine itself failed to respond to the Engineers turning of the main steam valve, in fact to make it plainer the valve wouldn't turn no matter how hard he tried it.The wires to the lights had been severed, and something had been done to the main steam valve for the Engine."

"Harry"You are familiar with the lay out of this engine."Dolores suggested to the Engineer."Suppose you and your assistant overhaul the wiring and the engine and repair both.There's plenty of time as we can't go ahead anyhow."

For nearly an hour, the Engineer and the assistant whose experience about engines had been very exte s extensive, labored with the ass s assistance of his firemen to repair the damage done to the machinery by their little enemies/ Nearly electric wire giving lights had been severe, and every sort of water and steam value had been tampered with.It took the greater part of the afternoon for them to accomplish the work, but at length they were rewarded by a flash of lightfrom the lamps, but to put in new valves was much more work. However when thelights again came on, this enabled the other work to go ahead more quickly and in a comparatively short time just a little before supper the engine itself had been repaired, and the new valves placed in. George Zimmermon now came forward,,, with a suggestion. He had been conversing earnestly with the guard having who having remained on shore during all that time and then rowed back to the raft.

"The guard tells me"he said"That the two boys were talking defiantly to Jane the Camp Fire girl defiantly about something while she was hauling them away, and she has brought them within general Vivians lines to be held for investigation while the soldiers who had been captured were brought elsewhere.Perhaps it could be better to consider this."""

"Hurrah Girls and Honor for Jane Harrystone"Shouted the boyscout Jimmie. "It takes her to capture Glandelinian raiders."Wonder where she brought the prisoners.Did she say ???"

"It's would not be safe to go toward that location now."said George Zimmermon."Jimmie Jeans sister got word the enemy is here in force forward and general Vivian is concentrating more troops. The battle's getting pretty hot.It's raging nearly due north of Hayes Pass with great violence."Replied Nelson:

"[illegible] to go down [illegible] that the [illegible]."

[illegible] Jean."Rather my plans stand."Dolores is [illegible] enough with these [illegible] and [illegible]."

"Then nothing."Lionels proteated protested."The christian line is stretched so that the enemy couldn't occupy any section of the stream nor on either shore.General Cassonia didn't know general Vivians foxy ways.And if he did he probably didn't think general vivian could do it quick enough.If Jane brought the prisoners to the [illegible], I don't see how it is we couldn't get there safely...::"

"It can do no harm for some of us to leave the raft and go to the camp where she brought them anywhere or anyway."agreed Jean."If we go tward general General Vivians headquarters it won't be much out of our way.I vote we go and interview the prisoners."

It was rapidly approaching evening now but all thought of sleep had been driven from the boy and girlscouts by their recent experiences and by the dreadful thunder of the distant battle. They were now over anxious to also be in pursuit of the six spies as had been proposed but with Gertrude being the one wounded and Angeline Richess too they were stumped.They too needed Angeline Richess's guardianship.Everyone were depressed, discouraged, and also enraged, and their enemity of the Glandelinian boy and girlscouts began to grow.They however t[illegible] head first for Abilenn as was prepared and hoped that by that time Gertrude and the others would have recovered.Soon the engines were running.Those on board within sight waved their hands t and handkerch[illegible] to the [illegible] soldiers on shore whose white gloves vibrated a message of good luck and good wishes untill they could no longer see them.Beyond them dilly lay the still smoking ruins of St Etheldreda. The big Vantna River wound through a short of low valley now dark and uninviting. The eastern sky was forever [illegible] with the glare of the dreaded Forest's Red Plague."

"I hear something like motar boats "announced one of the girlscouts presently.

The sound of motor boats became [illegible] to all."No doubt two or three were rapidly approaching.They could even see them and they watched their approach with interest and some curiosity.

"They're going beyond us."announced the boy James, as the boats drew near.

"Suddenly a number of rifle shots rang out in the evening, still [illegible].A bullet whizzed its way through the arm of one of the boys and he sank limp.Another shot came from another boat."

The engineer with some difficulty brought the movement of the huge raft boat to a more tranquil movement . So unexpectedly had the rifle shots struck one of the boys, that had the aim of [illegible] been some true the boy might have been killed.With a frantic effort the boy regained his balance and placing himself behind a pile of wood treated his wound which was merely a scratch, and then waited for development ..due to the fact that the child scouts had not felt the raft's speed essential to [illegible] attempt has as yet been made to put the engineasxof the raft to its fullest pace/.

The motar boats however and there seemed to be [illegible] of them, however seemed to be traveling at a high rate of speed and were not long in securing a favorable position,for the evidentpurpose of their occupancy.and the boats that were armed with small cannon.

"If they gett within our range they'll let go shrapnell or bombs."cried Jack in an angry tone."I'll bet they're Glandelinians trying tode disable our raft.They must have been watching for us to start."

"Put on a little more speed Engineer."urged Dolores anxiously. "Let us try to prevent their getting within range if we can.I don't like this and if we're compelled tonswer the fire we'd bring more of them upon us."

"Hang on"cried Angeline Jennings glancing tward their their persuers. "I'm going to try tododge them if I can.They're some long boats, and I'll I'll bet those on board are clever too."

Obedient to Jennings request, the boys and girls prepared for the sudden swinging motion of the much [illegible] raft in a near ing direction.No doubt Angeline Jennings had intended to have one of the nearest boats passed by the raft. The [illegible] "[illegible]" Almost instantly the engineers were running in an unusual manner and the raft began a series of movements that were calculated to frustrate any attempt on the part of the enemy boats to successfully launch a missle with telling affect, and at the same time [illegible] of the [illegible]."

Those on board the boats must have suspected this movement for dodging and darting hither and thither the boats while opening a rattling fire without effect gradually drew away from the raft, which slackened speed, while a number on board answered the fire and killed six on one of the nearest boats. Then with a pull at the controling levers the raft began to go forward with a speed that gave the raft some good distance ahead while one of the guns on the raft was brought into position.The engineer himself hoped thereby to gain the advantage of position but the pulot of the boats were evidently prepared for such a movement, for while the leading boat sheered offabruptly to one side as if abandoning the chase the others opened with their long guns, and solid shot went crashing with great noise acrosss the raft, one going through the fabin but hurt no one nor fortunately did not do very much damage///.

"They'd shoot at children the cowards"cried the engineer as theraft was brought to an oblong form acrosss the river as if to try and make the onsooking boats ram themselves.It was a success with one for the polat couldn't stop its speed and with a crash it ran headon into th raft with disasterous effect.Those on board seeing the danger of being captured an d not expeting mercy dived into the water, while the boat sank beneath the waves.

"There they go the cowards"exulted Jimmie."Now see themheat it when they think we have the best of them.The gunner fired a shot at another of the boats and blew it into the air.

"If you think the survivors of the boats are going to leave us alone just for that dame dammee Jack suggested"Let's get the raft go going onward again."It won't be so hot and smokey from the fire further on and we can see the country better. Except for a headland forest I can't distinguish anything down here.There's such a fog and smoke.We ought to also take a look at the situation."

"Sure"agreed the chief engineer."I'll get the raft going faster."

"Where are the surviving boats now?"questioned Angeline Jennings as the raft proceeded onward."I don't see them to our rear any more."

"I can see six of them away to the right."answered Bob....::....

"Yes there they are as many as before and some of them as big as Sube swine shooters, and twice as natural."put in Jean herself."Let me have the binoculars, and I'll try and see if I can make out who the Glandelinians are.I guess it's still light enough now so that I can still see."

After a somewhat long examination of the other boats Jean handed the glasses to Jack.She shook her head and glanced quickly at Dolores who was standing close to her.

"I wonder what that fellow thinks of himself."she said presently. "Do you suppose that he realizes that other people consider him the worst kind of a sneak, a reptile in human form.He surely must be case hardened if he doesn't hate himself."

"If his past actions tward us is any sort of indication"Dolores offered"He probably thinks he is a fine fellow being heartily abused by christian boy and girls and has to get a lot of Glandelinian soldiers to help him"""""""

"Really feels sorry for himself no doubt?"Joice asked with scornful contempt.

"I should not wonder one bit..""""said Minnie."People of not our nationality get queer views sometimes.""""/

"Here that butt fellow is coming back again in the leading boat." announced George Zimmerman, who now had the glasses."He's hitting it up too and has one of those long range unsquinted directly at the raftt raft.Looks like i he is in an awful hurry and afraid we'll get away."

Astonished the boy and girlscouts saw more of their persuersthan before heading again for the raft,,, but this time in a manner as if to try and surround it and cut it off.The course of the leading boat which was a [illegible] long rakish craft,, was laid so that it would crosssa that of the raft itself and try to head head it off in front. With some anxiety the boys and girls observed the manuvers.Jean herself drew her pistol for the [illegible] compared to reple should any more shots be fired in their direction . The clamor of the approaching boats grew louder and nearer .

"Some of those boats are going to cross each other in front of us and try to place us in a cross fire of their guns."announced the boyscout Harry, watching closely."I can see both the po pilot of the leading boat and the glandelinian soldiers now."he continued,

"And it looks as if the leader himself was that "Mr Butt" ap.I believe it is he."

"Here comes the glow of a big fire some where."shou ed Jane."I'm glad we can have some more light even if it is from a fire.We can tell better what the fellow and his followers followers are doing."

"Guess we will have to be ready for anythin gunusual when that fellow is out persuer."George said, with his eyes still at the glasses."They're evidently trying to do something in the stream.The foremost of them are working away at smaller cannon."

"What do they seem to be doing?"both Jean and Jack inquired in in a single breath.

"I can't tell from here it is so dark, and the glare does not reveal it but I can seeone of them apparently adjusting something. He seems to be quite busy about it, whatever it is."

"Maybe"gasped Ned"He's preparing to sweep the raft with machine gun fire or will hurl highexplosivesupon us."

"They're opening fire with some sort of small guns or some ph somethingas I can hear some sort of sputtering."cried James excitedly."I can see the sputtering flashes of guns in the darkness from two of the boats.There, comes another in action."he continued.

"What can it be?"wondered Jack."He can't be firing machine guns for they're not near enough for that range."

"I can see the flash of some more guns."announced George excitedly. "Mythere are lots of them."was Harry's astonishment for statement. "If we don't look out we'll be hit in case their fire sweepts the decks of the raft.Any more s speed Mr Engine r.!!!"

"Nots of it 2 reassuringly answered the engineer gazing at the dangerous gunboats from the engine room window."It puzzles me though what those fellows are firing.It can 't be they're discharging machine guns for if they are they're wasting lead for we're too far off for the raft to be swept."

From points of advantage and protection all of the boys and girls who had remained outside were intently observing the oncoming boats a, as they appeared to be following a course at some distance beyond their own.Some of them were even winning the race with the raft.The curious flashes of light from the unknown sorts of guns caused them considerable wond r wonderment and too they did make the sound of machine gun fire.Not for long where they left in doubt. The raft was being swept but none had been exposed and they heard nothing clattering.suddenly there was a strange whizzing noise then came a terrific crash aboard of the raft itself, a flash and a mountain cloud rooling upward.Ten of the boy and girlscouts were wounded and George himself h gave utterance to a cry of pain.

"Jack, Jack"he called."Where are you Jack?Are you hit too?!!

"Here I am George, what's the matter?"responded the boy.

"Can you take the gun here .?I can't see a thing to fire.I'm hit by some fragments of the shell they tossed on board the raft."

Jack sprang to the long range gun at George's request notin g with horror that blood was flowing freed freely into g George's eyes from a gash in his forch a forehead."

"James, Henry, Francis"cried Jack"Help the poor German boy out of his precious precarious position here, so I can get at this gun and stop those fellows.He's badly hurt.Help him quickly. "

Willing hands were extended to George's assistance.Guiding him in hi his efforts to leave the position at the gun, the three boys were soon able to seat the German lad in some favorablenlace.In the meantime more shots and shells had been aimed at the raft, but were fired too close by the gunners on the boats, and the bombs explo ed on the opposite shore.Jack had in the m a meanwhile unlocked a small box containing a first aid out fit, and now was ready to assist his little German chum with medical attention, which seemed to be badly needed.

"What was it that hit me?"George asked presently, as Jack succeeded in stemming the low of blood."I saw the explosion near the gun and heard lots of things striking in every direction, then felt a gash right on my forehead.I guess one of the Glandelinian gunners got me with a shell all right."

"I'll bet I know",announced Jack""ese Glandelinian gunners are using guns that hurl high explosivesupon the raft, or some sort of shrp shrapnell shells that u hurl iron bolts or screws or darts or something.One of the fragments must have passed through the

cowl and hit you.I see one of the fragments now."

"Where is it ?"inquired Jean."Let me look at it,please."

"Here is the fragment sticking through the floor5 floor of the raft.Here is the place where it went through the cowl leaving a jagged hole in the middle.And the shell had wrecked aportion of The cabin.Good thing no one was in there at that section."

Jean proceeded to extract the shell fragment from itslodgin g place, and soon brought it forth for inspectionthough she almost cut her fingers in doing so.Jack and many others kept a shrp look out for the boats, preparing to use their guns and tri try to sink them all if they returned. With a considerable degree ofinterest the boys and girls examined the object brought forth by Jean who was now tying bandaged on her almost cut fingers. It was a piece of iron fragment interlined with lead and tin about nine inchesolong, and half that in width, and showed it to p be a fragmen t of a shrapnell.

"Gee goodness."ejaculated Jean."What shell must have hurled forth a few bushels of those fragments and other materials and had our whole regiment of beyand arlscouts been ex used on the deck at the time it would have created very sad havoc.Those fragments and these bolts and lead lying about the decks would go through us all...!!! .."

"You're right Jean, they sure would."declared Jack Jack."Even had the shell exploded high above us the cabins would have been no shelter and if the shell hadex loded high in the i air they'd go through more than a person.Even the cabin would not shelter us.But Jean did you cut your fingers."?

"I did on that fragment but not very badly. "

"Well George you're lucky the fragment of the shell or the interior materials didn't hit you instead of the compass"Congratulated Mildred Maxwell."We need both, but you more than the compass, if either is to be spared.I'm glad it wasn't worse and that the shrapnell exploded on deck instead of up in the air.What I dread is they may use rocket bombs on us yet.""

"Let's be rea y ready for the them if they returbn "suggested Jack.

"It's better to get out of their way."Offered James."We can beat the enemy boats if we try."

"Not much."argued Jack."We are not the running away kind and if in real trouble could sent forth a signal that'd bring us all the help we need as we're comfortably close to the christian lijes lines.Those Glandelinians had some nerve to attack us in the face of general Vivians army.And we're goi g to show them thatthey're monkeying with a Dog with Rabies when they bother us.Ifthey can use guns on children like that we can se ours on men.And we ,all of us can shoot better than they,I know from our recent experiences.We'll sink everyonf of them."

"All Glandelinians are as savage as blood thirsty animals."smiled George Zimmermon.."Would it be right for us to be the same way?"Jack?"

"I certainly would"Stoutly maintained Jack."You Fordam boys don't know our situation I suppose.Glandelinians don't care any more for us then t we do about the serpent that spoiled the whole human race in the Garden of Eden and who personally is even responsible for this awful squa bble.We've got as much rights to live as Glande linian ch ildren have.""

"Well we won't havemuch case to have any arguments about it" Jean announced."The boats seem to be on a retreat and going fast. Maybe christian troops have been aroused bythe firing and come to see what is the mater."

"Probably heading for the northeast."Suggested Jack."Let them go."

"If those two Professionals leave us alone, we will be there soon ourselves and head for the Abbisann territoy."George Zimmermon re replied. "I don't think they everintended to go west at all..."

"We can beat them to a race."Boasted Hans."What speed do you think we are making right now without half trying?"

"Only the Engineer knows I'm sure."Replied Fred, glancing tward the engine room."

"Well we can double that anyhow."Said the Engineer who had overheard the remark."There's a railroad train over yonder full of soldiers.See if I can make the raft overhaul that railroad train.It's a t rain full of soldiers."

"Yes and it's going some."Jack stated."You'll have to hurry to make this raft beat it"

The engineer in an endeavor to exhibit his skill with the

engine been urging it to greater speed. Up to this time the engineer had not endeavored to secure speed preferring to wait until the engine so recently from the shops had been given time to get down to bearings. They were expecting great things of the new engines but were scarcely prepared for the burst of speed which the engineer coaxed it to yield. In a few minutes they had overhauled the train and were speeding along a short distance ahead of it. The engineer had brought the large craft to a distance but a little beyond the flying locomotive and its long burden.

"See big tow to beat it or beat us."cried Jack triumphantly.

"He never can do it."agreed Hildred Maxwell."Besides he'll have to slowup for the bridge across this river some distance ahead. That puts him out of the race."

"Here comes a string of those Glandelinian boats again."Cried Jean pointing.

"Well of all things."declared Hildred."He's got nerve."

"Let's all of us keep cure and show them what "Rangers"can do." advised Angeline Jennings.

Nodding his acknowledgement the engineer to the command started the raft on a course which he hoped would bring the raft beyond the approaching foe, and also into such a reverse position so that the gunners could bring to bear on the boats and blow them into the air. He was not quick enough however to execute this maneuver and while he was attempting it the boats opened fire. Many of the boys this time were thronged behind every object of protection and they astonished those on the train by suddenly opening a rifle fireupon those in the oncoming boats. The boats replied with an astonishing crash and two shells exploded on the raft, and several overhead, and others on shore but did no harm. Anxiously watching the enemy as the boys continued their fire, the girlscout leaders observed that three of the boats were about to attempt to cross before them once more. One gunner got the range, and to their horror one boat was blown in the air like an eruption with all in it killed or maimed and drowned. However the other boats replied with every weapon on board, and all the defenders of the raft had to keep themselves strictly under cover. The main fear was that if one of the shots or shells would hit right the raft would be torn asunder. Dolores had trained her glasses upon the approach of the leading boats, and from time to time announced to her sister Angeline Jennings the movements of the boats.

"Three of them are almost overhe are almost in front of us now."reportedone of the boys."The man in the foremost boat is training a new sort of cannon at us I believe. Get ready for that boat gunner and fire before he does."

The gunner did so, and the boat was demolished. However the attack of the other boats was growing hotter, and for fear the cabin in which lay the wounded scout leaders would be hit the Engineer determined to execute a daring maneuver to either try and throw the dangerous persuers off of their trail or ram some of the boats at least. Calling to the boys and girls to secure otherpositions as the raft would be changing its movements andright swing around, the engineer gave the levers a touch. With the first impulse of the engine as the raft surged ahead. At that moment there was a frightful outburst of explosions of the water and a great wave was formed in the river which caused the huge raft to suddenly rise at an x angle that threatened to cause everyone behind the barricades to roll over to the other side of the raft, and go into the water. The action of the wave however was one good thing. The raft in tilting down again replaced the wave but surged it into another direction and three of the boats were rammed, even though with a quick movement the engineer threw off the steam power, altering the huge rudders at the same moment. As he did so a shell came across the raft and went clear through the trees on shore exploding and ringing down a shore of branches. The Engineer began to have the engis propell the raft a little back wards tward the other side of the shore. Again the engineer worked his levers and the rudders guidedthe craft into a complete backwards movement that brought some them some distance to the rear of most of the boats. The boat men might have divined this movement and now the firing was directed at the engine rooms. Gasping at the sudden change of the firing and the sudden newmovements of the boats the boys and girls stared about. In the movement six of the boats were passed most violently and the defenders opened fire caused crusing the half wrecked boats to retreat.

A roar as of loud thunder came to their ears in the direction of the bridge. Ingled with antiseptic cloud of smoke they could see nonmisce of timber falling out signs upward at the same time where once had been the railroad bridge. The missle aimed at the cabin of the engine room had passed them and hit the bridge.

"Oh Heavens. The train."Gasped Dolores, with a startled look at her nearest comrades.

"They'll sure go right into that wrecked bridge thanks that confound confounded glandelinian gunner."Gasped Jack with horror."Can't we win the race with the locomotive and head them off!Swing round Engineer and flag them."

"Sure"urged Angeline Jennings excitedly."Hurry.Hurry Engineer get the engine going.Never mind the boats.Let our own gunners take care of them if they persue."

The engineer was already tugging desperately at the levers. He brought the raft about so sharply despite its huge size that the raft careened to a most alarming angle, threatening to execute an upside down down movement. By throwing his weight sharply against the lel levers controling the backward movements however the engineer avoided the completion of this dangerous reverse, and brought the raft again to its normal position. Healthy [illegible] the [illegible] heading back over the course they had sorecently traveled they brought the raft into an onwardmotion and skimmed along at a swift pace only a short distance off from that side of the shore with shore with the enemy boats still on the pursuit.

"That train with that load of soldiers will go right into that bridge whom the Glandelinin gunners wrecked."Gasped Jack with horror."Can't we head them off."Swing around the raft and flag them."

However it seemed as if the train was going much faster this time!Ad And implain view now the onrushing train rushed nearly along with its burden. What soldiers were on the train they didn't know but even if they were enemies they didn't wish to see such a dreadful accident. Revenge on the enemy personally was not their idea at all.

Plainly enough the engine crew were doing their utmost tocover as much ground in as little time as lay within theirpower. An immense cloud of black smoke was issuing with noisy force from the small stack tossed upward like aminature volcanic eruption by the sharp sharp exhaust and it trailed like an ever growing streamer hiding the coaches from the view of our friends on the raft.

"How in the world shall we stop them enemies or friends?"questioned Dolores sharply."We haven't a red gl flag nor anything with which to signal them.."

"Swing them down."Suggested Jane eagerly."They'll stop."

"If they're Glandelinians I don't know whether the Glandelinian engineer and railroad menunderstands the signals used by our own side or not."Ned replied."They're getting closer and we must dos methin g"He added."

"Suppose we risk capture."

"Don't need to go so close."

"Land the raft on the track and then they'll stop."Proposed Jack sarcastically.

"Sure "put in Jean with counter sarcasm."Who's going to put this big raft on the r tracks.?And that'll wreck the train too won't it?"

"What can we do!""Ned cried. "We must stop them whether they're enemies or friends."

"If they're Glandelinians Gosre what signal will they understand?" said Jean."Shall we swing them down, or have you anything to suggest?"

"Oh I don't know"Cried George."I don't understand any railroad signals to know what to do."

"I'll tell you what"Jean ventured"I'll have the raft to be swung off to one side, round to quickly, and run along side the shore as near as we dare without being grounded. As we draw up alongside you sellout to the engineer tostop. Whether Glandelinians or not we've all of the same language. Get your lungs ready for a big whoup, there's lots of noise."

Indeed George did begin drawing in the deepest breaths as he prepared for the effort. The raft was veered alongshore easily enough and then they were moving alongside the shore and a crowd of them were seen on the shoreward part of the raft. Slightlyly miscalculating the speed of the onrushing train, the engineer brought the raft parallel to its course at a point some two car lengths behind the locomotive. A quick touch of the trottle soon carried themout of

the cloud of smoke and cinders nearest of the railroad engineer who leaned from hisposition for he wasinterested in watching th e manoeuvers of the great raf t and all the boy and girlscouts on board.

"It's a train load of Abbiesnaime"cried Violet Daisy.

Scarcely less than a mile separated both the train and the crumbling raft from the wrecked bridge, and this distance was indeed being rapidly lessened by both the swift iron monster and the raft.

"Hurry now George, you got a loud screeching voice"shouted Dolores as the engineer again a plied the muffler to deaden the sound of the engines .Tell the railroad engineer."For Heavens sake hurry."

George's shouts were plainly heard by the engineer of the engine but he evidently mistook them nevertheless for some friendly greeting for he only smiled and waved his hand as if congrati lating all the brave boy and girlscouts on their skill.Doloreswas frantic.She screamed at the top of her voice, and waved her arms, and pointed down the track.But again the engineer responde d with a wave of his hand. Seemingly he thought the boy and girlscouts were inviting him to a race, and was waving his ced acceptance for h they saw the train increasing in sped.

"You big mad turtle with an Ivory Ivory Tusk for a h ad."Yelled George at the top of his lungs."Can't you get anything through that round blockhead of ver s.Shut her off.Shut her off.The bridge.The Bridge.It's BLOWN UP"

This sally of course was not overh ard by the ain engineer, but the boys manner and the frantic action of the girls and boys appeared to convey a meaning different from that of the others.He glanced down the track.

"Shut off your engine.Shut off your Engine."Yelled Dolores again swinging one hand in the well known horizontal sweep known to all railroad men in any country indicating"STOP" Again Dolores repeated the sign .All of the others who were out there by the western edge of the raft catching the inspiration of Dolores Energetic [illegible] joined in making the same signal.This concerted effort on the part of the boys and girls evidently conveyed to the engineer the thought that something was wrong at last.He looked questionly at the lads and the girls, and the pursuing boats and then pointed that way with a nod of his head as if [illegible] in the case of the excitment.

"Shut off your trottles you Nut"Yelled Dolores desperately shaking her fist [illegible]."A [illegible] trying to committ suicide Are you trying to committ suicide and kill everyone on the train."

" Jean herself ceased making the stop sign and frantically pointed ahead.She then suddenly moved her hands as if picking something with her left o from her left with her right in the very familiar "uncouple"movement of railroaders. As if comprehending the "cut off"or uncouple "sign and at the same time comprehending that something was wrong with the track the driver closed the trottle looking down the lines of rails ahead."That he indeed saw caus ed him to make almost desperate efforts to stop the crumbling monster.His efforts were rewarded by a sudden distinct slackening of the engines eightmile an hour speed down to thirty miles an hour, and then to a full stop but he was not a moment too soon and almost half a minute to the danger of being too late.Carried on by the extreme momentum of its flight, the train crowded the locomi tive locomotive forward until it seemed to the anxious boys and girls as if it surely must be plunged into the open bridge.Bravely the driver remained at hispost untill the locomotive rapidly dropped from the spread rails.Not untill his charge had slumped onto the ties and careened drunkingly to one side and come to a grounded stop did the driver and his fireman leap for safty.Their fall on the blasted track came only as the train ground to a standstill.

The engineer of the raft soon brought the raft to a stop close but close alongside the shore nearest the coaches.Hundreds of men were dropping from the cars followed by children and women too as the news was brought to a stand still and all the child scouts crowded on deck.At the appearance of so many soldiers the crew Gasoline launches had beaten a hasty retreat.The troops came running across the intervening space and all the way down to the waters edge to view the raft.They were in Abbiesnaim uniforms rifles carried rifles. Taking in the entire situation at a glance a [illegible] person who appeared to be a general stepped forward and into a boat w and was rowed to the raft and when he came on the raft he greeted Angeline Jennings whom he knew by the uniform she were to be the

chief of them.with outstretched hand he greeted her as she stood a trifle in advance of all the others. Angeline Jennings [illegible] prof[illegible] readily.

"Pardon me"said the officer kindly."I wish to thank you and your followers for the brave and honorable deddd deed you have just done. There are hundreds of refugees on board this train and we were taking them to places of safty.They're forestrfire refugees."

"Your gratitude is certainly appreciated."Angeline Jennings answered, "But we scarcely deserve it."It was partly our own fault that the bridge was wrecked as we were fighting the enemy in its location.If we hand't been so close that shell would not have done that damage.We couldn't do any less than try to stop you...:::::::"

"Nevertheless we are all very grateful for your act in saving the lives especially of the women and children."continued the officer"and I must compliment you and your followers on your skill as boy and girlscouts.and your engineer handled the engine with exceeding ease and adroitness."

"You'll have to give Dolores here credit for the main suggestion." her sister replied with a smile as she proceeded to i t introduce her comrades and chums. Protesting her inability to perform any feats out of the ordinary, Dolores was dragged blushing to the foreground where she was made to listen again to the complimentary remarks concerning her ability as leader second in command out side of those of the higher wounded leaders..::.

"But come with me"invited the high officer presently."I wish you to meet the main leader on this train.You'll be surprised to see who he is.You are indeed fortunatel in finding him here even at the early night as it is.All of you can file off the raft and see the famous"General."

Making their way through the group of soldiers gathered on the shore by means of their landplank all the boy andgirlsc girlscouts soon arived at a car much a better appointed than the others and much longer. Here were grouped a number of generals surrounding a tall strongly built man of six foot in height.His dense dark hair and mustache and beard gave a touch ofunusual dignity to the rounded handsome face while flashing gray eyes betokened the vigor that lurked in his well knit knit frame and indicated the one of the secrets of his power with men and all th nation.All of the child scouts were astonished and wondered how he cotup here and what his purpose was in being here. He was no less a person that Emperor Robert Vivian, pride of the very Abbiesannian nation and all the ar ies.

Approaching to a res e res e respectful distance, the boys and girls stood at attention and gave the boy and girl scout salute.This was at once returned by the Emperor who used the same salute with dignity and gravity.A few words spoken by the general who had conducted the boy and girlscouts from their raft served to explain who they were.

"I wished to thank you boys and gils"said the Emperor."I can sure paise by darling daughters for thin king up the the scheme for raising such reliable brave boy and girlscouts of your tind."and you have indeed averted a dreadful catastrophe, and we are very great grateful."

"Please do not mention it your Gracious Sire."Dolores herself protested."We felt that we could not do otherwise than stopbyour train if possible."

."But how do you all happen to be in the vinicity?I thought you were a troop of boy and girlscouts belonging to general Vivianie's army." In a few wods, Angeline Jennings herself briefly recounted the advan adventures through which they had passed but a short time previously since Violet and her sisters sent them on the route to solve the Great Abbiesann mystery.Leaving out no details whatever, she gave an outline of the other incidents concluding with;"And here we are and this wrecked bridge is the result of the Hutt'spy's latest attempt to itherput us out of the way or to frustrate our mission."

"A most remarkable recital"commented the Emperor after listening with interest to Angeline's story"you may be sure of our assistance in bring aboutthe capture of this person and his yo little Jeff associate if it is at all possible."

"Thank you"returned Angeline heartily"Our leaders Gertrude Angeline and Penrod and Angeline Riches are severely wounded and we have done all we could for them as far as it is possible.Do you wich to see them."

"Just a moment"protested the general himself."Our men have

have already attached telegraph instruments to the wires and have no do
doubt reported this damage to the bridge to general Vivian who we found
out is at Hanger's run.Somethings wrong there as at first we're
not getting any answer.Will you girls and boys wait a short while untill
we learn what measures will be taken to move our train forward!"
To this the c ild scouts reallily consented, and watched with interest
the rapidity with which the men working the telegraph finally secured
results. Shortly an orderly approached,saluted and handed a paper
to the Emprer himself.Reading the message rapidly, he again turned to
the boy and girlscouts.
"It is impossible"he st te stated with a show of slight impatience
in his voice "to secure transportation on some other line because of
the washouts caused by the recent terrible floods and the forest fires
raging,and besides because of so much of the enemy interfering with the
railroadlines elsewhere.And traffic too beyond the bridge is in a
congested condition because of a battle raging close by and a repair
train cannot reach us for a long time.The delay while annoying
is unavoidable.I shall thank you again, and wishyou every success
in your undertaking."
"Extending his hand and showing his regret with real tears of sorrow
in his eyes that Gertrude and her two friends were wounded, the Emprer
indicated that theinterview was at an end."With hearty hand clasps
the boys and girls of the officials departed for their raft,
leaving the soldiers and their generals grouped about the great Emprer
Emprer. Just as the Engineer was about to start the raft going again
Dolores went in and placed a detaining hand on his arm."Don't start
the engine yet she said."I have something tosuggest to my sister."
She wentout side again and coming up to her sister touched her on the
arm. Her sister glanced quickly at Dolores.
Dolores whispered her idea and then Angeline Jennings
called attention to everyone.They obeyed.
"Say comrades"She then suggested."If the Great Emprer is in
an hurry to go anewhere, he can't do better than take a sort of
trip with us.What do yousay to invitin g him to have a little ride
on the raft.And Violet, and her sisters will be tickled pick when
they hear of this."

"We can carry himall right and allhis generals too."responded
Ned Radcliffe"But then the quarters will be rather cramped.We haven't
room to entertain many visitors."
"If we can stand it, he and his generalscount to get along for a
while."
"All right then, you have my permission"declared Radcliffe who was
their main superior of all."Go and ask him yourself Dolores"He grinned.
"It was your suggestion.I overheard your whisper."
In an instant Dolores was racing down the gang plank as fast as
she could run, and was soon on the shore, and racing for the train.
Not many minutes passed, before she was seen returning, accompanied
by the Emperor and only his highest generals, and the general who had
and the general who had first greeted them.To the rousing cheer of
the soldiers and the women and children refugees, the big raft with
its new passengers, swept under the wrecked bridge pushing the float
ing wreckage before it.Headed to the northwestward, the boys and girls
were soon far from the scene.
"Where did you intend to go Sire? "Asked Radcliffe from his seat.
"Here comes those darn Glandelinian boats again and a great number of
them this time."interrupted the boyscout James, who had been seeing
the motion of them in the glare of some big fire on shore which threw
out a great light over the darkened waters."They're coming fast from
the southward."
Then th y Then They're going to get what's coming to them"Gritted
Radcliffe."Every gunner to your pieces."and he himself drew forth
from his compartment in his cabin a magazine rifle.
It was true.The Glandelinian gunboats were rapidly darting toward the
raft in greater numbers as if vindicatively determined to bring disaster
to the raft by a severe cross fire.As they approached they opened a
severe fire.Those at their guns let go a volley of shells, while
those who had remained on deck threw their rifles to their shoulders
and replied with vollet after volley.There was a sudden sharp lurch
of the raft, which told the boys and girls that something had happened
to either the engine or the engineer or that one of the missles
from the nearest boat had found lodgement in a vital place. They
rushed to the spot, and found that the engineer had been killed,

and his two assistants mortally wounded, and a part of the engine
room demolished and the engine not going.
The engineer had succeeded in stopping the engine before he
dropped lead.One of the boy gunners hit a boat and the force of the
explosion sent the boat and crew high into the air and the fragments
dropped straight to the water.
"Get in there George.You know how to run the engine."cried Dolores
as she was looking at the boat boats with glasses in hand."We are
all right now.A christian battery is massing on shore and the boats
are on a retreat.Hurry and right the raft before it runs something
we don't want to run into."
Straight toward the engine room rushed the lad.In fancy the boys and
girls pictured the terrible scene should the boy fail to reach the
demolished engine cabin in time, for if the raft went of its own
accord with the driving engine still running there's be a fatal
disaster for them all.Dolores horrified to think that the boats should
have attacked them and caused this gave orders to the gunners to
aim straight and blow the boatsout of the water,and this was done
the guns on shore also opening fire.Even the Emprer experienced to
scenes of unusual gravesomeness as he was turned his head aside
not caring tiwitness the scene when the expected crash came.All
were startled to activity, and attention by James shout.
"Look,Look" cried the girlscout, who had followed George toward
the engine room."Look George has made it.Oh K'I'm glad we're saved."
"What ?" Dolores asked,, her attention having been directed toward bring
a big gun to blow up two boats at once while they were even now
retreating.She couldn't hardly believe they were escaping the awful
and expected crash.
"Thank God George has succeeded in getting control of the raft just
in time."Good Jack."But [illegible] I [illegible] water, and instead
of ramming full force into the shore we are again floating down
stream as fast as youlooss.That was simply wonderful for a boy of
his age."
"Sighs of relief escaped every one unbeknown arily as this news was
announced.
"I guess those Glandelinians are going to have their own hands
full."Jack suggested musingly."Possibly we'd better get out of this
territory as quickly as we can.And the Emprer will want to arrive at
his destine without delay."
"Sure enough"James suggested or suggested."Where will you go Sire?"
"My intended destination."Replied the Emprer"Is to march general
Constantine Aconburgs army some distance from here in the direction of
Abbieann.There large armies are being concentrated to frustrate some
plan of Izmar Sylstze. If you will be kind enough to show us and
my best generals passage to that point I and they shall be very grate-
ful."
"We certainly will. "Quickly responded Radcliffe."Can you give us the
directions"he continued."We will make up some lost time."
"I think if you steer somewhat about northeast [illegible]
north or go accordingly to the turns of the river"Suggested the
"Emperor" Emperor"We shall soon see the way."
"Sorry Sire"apologized Dolores."But the shape in those boats let
loose a blast upon our raft some while ago, and at the explosion
some of the explosion fragments wrecked our compass.If it was daylight
we could tell the day without it. We don't know for sure which way
this river lies make a turn and there fore we can steer only
on one course.Would you recognize landmarks in the dark with your
field glasses."
"Possibly "replied the emperor. "[illegible] it is now [illegible]
oclock in th the evening.The glare of fire there is about east by
south, so we can get a course from that.If you lookshrply for a
hill which you'll easily see be to morrow for you'll not reach there
even in a day yet or see a forest of high pine trees on the hill and
we also some other prominent point in the landscape we shall know
that we'll shortly move arrive close enough to the destination so
that we can escape or the most famous fighting christian armies
in [illegible]."
"[illegible] a good idea Joyful indeed" Dolores acknowledged.
"I shall do that, and shall hurry the raft along a little.Possibly
we can have the chance to shake offour Glandelinian pursuers."

Of course I suppose they couldn't help it. Bad luck, but never before had those poor unfortunate folk felt the sense of pride in their weapons [illegible] efficient,, raft that they did that day. The enemy fortunately not demagedby the shot as at first believed, and designed by an engineer proved to be all that they had expected. The raft was soon moving at a most terrific pace. Above the distilling of the wind, the hum of the magic engines was not very easily heard, and conversation could be carried on with comparative ease.And without a tremor the great raft moved miles after mile with a speed and speed that excited the admiration of their two great guests and their generals. Indeed it was a ride long to be remembered.

"Our articles that go down rivers need many rafts like ours."Exclaimed Emperor Vivian lost in wonderment at the movement and behavior of the raft."Will you tell me what make it is?The design is one not familiar to me or anyone I'm sure."

"It's a design familiar to nobody now to even ourselves."Dolores smiled"Except Gertrude Angeline and Penrod.It's a raft with the machines and the machines constructed for us by their own plans and designs....."

"I am indeed astonished "Confessed the Emperor."It's wonderful to observe how easily it moves, and how rapid itsmovements despite its size.It could survive an ocean storm easily.Will you be able to tell me me what make of engine as this is?" [illegible] this?"

"It's an engine designed especially for Gertrude Angeline by a big Calverinian manufacturing concern"laughed Angeline Jennings."You see""" she went on"When the big raft had been first made we used to move it by means of longpoles and large paddles, but then afterwards we thought cabins could be formed and that if we could have an engine to drive it it would save a lot of work and it would even go faster. None of the [illegible] manufacturing company for it was not manufactured.Therefore she and engineers just had to makeplans and have it built in the machinery factory.They did a pretty good job for us too...!!!..!"

To this statement the Emperor heartily assented expressing freely his admiration for the entire craft and all its appointments. "Unless I'm mistaken presently declared the Emperor, who had been dividing his attention between admiration of his raft, and the land scape"We are approaching the vinicity of the place I mentioned far ahead of the time than I expected.You're raft would have been going along on magic wings.That range of hills far ahead should be the last before we reach the section where general Consentin ian aAronburgs army is encamped."

"Hurrah"shouted Jack."Now we'll see some real christian armies.I've always wanted to seegeneral Aronburgs great army."Maybe I can get a few pointers by watching their movements when on the advance.I understand his army isone of the very v best fighters and more dreaded by the foe than any other.ttt%

"Yes indeed"admitted the Emperor quietly"I can honestly say that we have many skilful generals and daring ones too in the christian cause, but they all honestly admit it is the [illegible] can be like Angelinia Aronburg. Uncle.You may remember it was that very general who first succeeded in capturing Jarrie Tower city which general Hanson had failed to do even though he besieged it for over two weeks.His exploits elsewhre are also many though not recorded because of so much destroyed communications, and of notiba notiable character."

" It's funny how the Two International Spies who resemble "Mutt and Jeff" did hoodwink so many ofour generals."Mused Dolores." I thought the generals were more shrewd."

"Possibly such thin gs as misrepresentations are made, and besides possibly they're shrewder."suggested Jane."You know too those two interfering fools wouldn't be above telling lies.They're different t than us and our own kind of people.So it's mistaken when it is said that there are no sinners in Abbiesannian armies.We have lots of them but we can't detect the devils."

"That's so""assented Dolores."By the way "she added""where did the "Mutt"fellow go?"e left in such a hurry I never noticed....."

"They r retreated before of the battle as on shore owing to our help."Jane answered."I saw them retreating toward the south,, and then I lost sight of them as we put on speed.We're long alone."

"Well I sincerely hope so." emphatically declared Jack."The next time we see them I hope it will be through a prism or[illegible]."

"You will probably have not the opportunity of seeing your friends for some little time"commented their guest."He is n no doubt by this time well on his way toward the Abbiesannian or A[illegible] territory."

"The territoryof Abbiesann."Mused Jane."I don't recall any such country on that.I'm not very well [illegible] Bengall County though.I only heard of the city."

"Abbiesann Territory is a country surrounding the city proper."Kindly said the Emperor."It's a name used to designate the country called in honor of St Ann, and the first name in honor of Abraham the Great Prp Prophet."

"I know what that is,and where that is?"Declared Jane at once."That is between Calverinia and Abyssinkile isn't it? Early in the war You stopped your traitor son near there."

"Yes"Sadly replied her informant"We did check the Glandolinian advance under my traitorous son but at a fearful cost to my troops.It was done in an endeavor to protect that Holy city and where is it now.Ruined and out of existance.The worst encounter occured at Calverine Hills."

"Another case of demanding the wicked to move on out of Bengall State even at the expense of a bitter and bloody fight."put in Jack. "That's ow own creed too."she added."The enemy massacre children so that means it's a war against everybody.So we have pitched in too."

"Why do they call the country of Abbiesannia, Abbiesannia?"Asked George Zimmerman."I'm a sort of a stranger here, being German and I have not heardmuch about the country or its holy cities and towns and people and so on."

"Abbiesannia?"replied The Emperor"It's a name dew derived from an old Nickname or spellation for the ancient people who inhabitated the nation.For a long time the people who lived there where known as an Intercessionary nation -r men who fought other wicked countries to succor the good ones.They neverlost those wars.The name gradually was turned into the present form of St Abrahammia--Santa Ann and the country is now known as Abbie--Annie."

"Then the people are made up of all kinds of contributions from all other nations?"Inquired George very much interested."They were all mixed up?"

"No indeed"was the answer."But the people of the country did only accept people into its own from foreign powers which were only Catholics and which spoke the Latttttttgue.Latin Tongue.But many many centuries have passed since then, and gradlyy there had grown upa distinct nation.Why everybody in this nation, women and children and men are so good is a mystery but God has had it so.Of course the country because of its peculiar size and its three fold climate, Semi Tropic, Trp Tropic, and winter has long been the scene of great grandeurs..It has n ever been known to havecome international strife, though a part of it called Mormonuia did fall away in the war of 1816 a despi desoute over who should Honor the Pope best and has been since an independent nation of its own but its people never lost their good character, and we hope our trouble with Glandolinia willbring her back to us.It is believed it will as Glandolinia looks with suspicion upon Mormonuia.It is said that general Caesar and his legions had battle north of us,with the enemy under general Norvii.Many a battle has been fought at different times near Abbiesannia which no one but we knew anything of."

"It's the battle of Gerrgroniam Creek where Germania wiv an n t met defeat,located in Bengall State ,West or East?"asked Dolores recalling the news of that first great conflict."

"It was east"Replied their great guest"and also other famous battle grounds.For many months in the early part of this bloody war Bengal State has been the scene ofmuch warfare.I'm afraid there'll be fighting again soon with Concentinian Aronburg and Hyletze close to Abbiesann...""

"Did any people in Abbiesann city talk english there?"questioned George.

"No No.Only Abbiesannian. If there has been anyone there that spoke any foriegn tongue I never heard of it.The people are or were all Abbiesannians and clung tenacicusly to their language, customs and religious spirituality.It is or was in that section"Continued their informant"where so many ofour Abbiesann Saints originated.There were many thousands of them from Abbiesann alone.The inhabitantsof Abbiesann held firm faith in their Holy Religion in the existance of Heaven, loved God more than anything, and were enemies of devils and hobgoblins of all sorts.They loved the good stories of the good Sprites and fairies and their children were so good and lovely that they were called the "Sprites of Abbiesann.with all their other good and lovely idea they also held the cardinal virtues of loviliness

hon est, all the virtues that all good christians should show and in u industry.Their s city was the centre of all rightecusness and a heaven to us all.A ll of us throughout Abbiesnnia are naturally or unnaturally good, as you all know but no where except in Angelinia Agathia, Francis Atlanta, and Abbiesnnia city, e cept possibly in Calverine will you find a more industrious and worthy class of christian people.And"he added sadly"Abbiesnj Abbiesnn is no more."

"It seems too bad to have such a good people with such g od christian folks like these destroyed by a disaster which no one can tell or of its cause."protested Jack Saunders."Believe me I'm suspicious glande linia had something to do with it.Couldn't no one ever locate anything that would give clues as to the disasters cause."?

A faint sad smile greeted this characteristic remark.

" ossibly agreed the Emperor"if there w re were not so many Glande linian armies in that locality. It is regrettable of course but for that matter the whole war is regrettable.It brings good n to no one and yet we have to fight.Glandelinia forced it on us."

"I agree with you."quickly responded the German boy." tIt's no good and Glandelinia is still more wicked for having brought it on.But is t she the agressor.I heard Abbiesnnia was!"

"We are the aggressor, but it was forced upon us to defend the nations good name because of Glandelinia's horrible child slave trades throughout the whole ."

"Camp ho.""Cr ed Cried Jane Wolffort, who had been ied striously using the night fieldglesses, whilelistening to the do conversation. "I see by the glow ofan immense camp fire a great body of cavarly cavarly with hundreds of strange ste stressors or standar s stand ards."

"There away!"asked Angeline Jennings, scanning the glary horizon eagerly.

"Almost dead ahead near a huge bend in the river." replied Jan e. "Just a little to the right, and on the summit of that long hill. It is just on the fringe of that forest that appears like Parsley."

"I see it by the aid of the fire glow"declared Dolores. "I can't make out what army of cavarly it is though , but they're Abysninkilians just the same.It lookslike something of the army belonging to general Concentinian Aronurg. but I'm not sure...."""

"That wht it is."asserted Angeline Jennings."You've got good eyes."

"Maybe we are far from the army yet and it must be a large arty of Abysninkilians out scouting or also breaking in for some night strolling."suggested Jean....

"If that is the case"Jack put in"we are near general Concentinian Aronburgs army camp.And indeed I'm glad of it because I did wish to see that army and tcown can get some do o doctor for Gertrude Penrod, and Angeline Richee.And too I'm interested in the idea of seeing wht general Aronburgs army looks like....."

"Keep your eyes open then"advised Mildred."It looks as if we are going to pass the hill(fill pill) in a minute, and then we'll haveplenty of time to know..."

"I believe I see alot of tents far in the distance a whole city city of them and they're white."shouted Jack in a short time.."I see an immense city of tents.Oh-h-h-h-h"exclaimed the boyscout excitedly""here must be an endless city of them, and there's fifty squadrons the Abbiesnnian cavar cavarly and all swarming forward atonce.There are so many of them itlooks as if the nation itself was an army of army of cavarly."

"Just see all those big tents."was Janes exci ed excited comment."There must be nearly amillion of them."[illegible]

"Not quite a million"laughed the Emperor"But there are quite a goodly hundreds of thousands."More andmore troops from seemingly nowhre nowhere have been and still are arriving daily and nightly, while another army is coming soon.Concentinian Aronburg is commissioned to hold Mylatz Mylatzs fromadvancingupon the Abbiesnn territory, and I know that general Aronburg can do it."

"Admiringly the boys and girls gazed at the inspiring scene and and a ll the camp fires which seemed also by countless thousands of glows indeed so many camp fires along the shore and over the hills and landscapes at one time.Their interest and surprise and ale admirationknew no bounds.Here was an opporti p opportunity or serving another great christian general for a time. All too soon was the big raft in the vinicity of the camp.It's approach was detected by some of the cavarly patrol almost as quickly as the camp had been observed by the child scouts.Several squadrons of them atonce advanced and lined up along the shore in an effort to learn the identity of

those on the raft. Proceeding to a spot indicated by the Emperor George who was now the only one operating the engine brought the raft as close to shore as he dared without causing it to go aground.A large group of general and other officers on horse back rode down into the very shallow water, and the Emperor and the others went off the raft by means of the gangplank first.Then the boy and girlscouts followed. Recognizing the Emperor they sensat upa hearty cheer.Turning to an officer in his imediate vinicity the Emperor spent several minutes in an animated conversation.Evidently he q was questioning that general closely concerning important matters. At length he turned to the child scouts with a broad smile on his face.

"You may rest easy on one score at leas "he said."Your "friends" the Professional International International Spies made their way back to general Vivians army about an hour ago."

"How do you know!"asked the boyscout Radcliffe almost indreduously.

"My information comes from this general here."replied the Emperor with a smile at the boys pertinent query."He states that a patrol near general Vivians army reported by wireless signal telegrph telegraph that twopersons with a party of Glan elinian soldiers resembling those of the "Mutt and Jeff Fellows was seen crossing to the westward only an hour previous tocour arival here.They have persuit but the enemy spies had the swiftest horses and escaped.They had been traveling rapidly and had a very strong escort.

"In that case they have escaped us."

"Nevermind then for a while." urged Jack to Jean.Our first duty to our cause is to secure a good doctor for Gertrude , and our two wounded friends.My head is all right so there is no need of a dotor for me."

"Are we going toremain here for a while and see general Aronbu gs Aronburgs army or go on the trip."Objected a boyscout."Be"

"Yes it wouldn't be poi polite to go away so soon"said Mildred sheepishly."The Emperor himself and the generals with him has not had a chance to ask us to supper."she added with a wink at Jack who was standing near.

"If we get to eat wih the Emperor"said Angeline Jennings"We'd sure be favorites with him then.But you had a lunch only a few hours ago and now you're hungry again. h What is the matter Mildred!"

"I believe hunger seems to be a sort of affliction from which most of us always suffers."laughed Dolores."I'm sure I don't know what to do.For one however count me out.I'm not a bit hungry."

"But that's not an affliction."maintained Mildred, joining in the spirit of the chaffing"That's what I may call a disease."

"It's disasterous whatever you can call it."asserted James.

"Well maybe it's amighty good thing you have me for an alarm clock anyhow"stoutly maintained the girlscout."If it was not for me to remind youonce in a while all of you would have forgotten to eat. Radcliffe had sounded the Mess calltwice and none of us either heard or answered we were sointerested in the Emeror.And we could e at with himand his generals.Oh I'm useful."

"Well you speak to himthen!"declared Angeline Jennings almost severely."If he allowes it your a wonder.It's a dignity none of us could ever expect eating with the Emperor.The idea.And we don't look for dignities."

However she would not be put aside and she went to the Emperor for or with the request. Laughingly giving instructions that all the boy and girlscouts should be well suppled with supper, the Emperor asked to be ex u excused for a shot time. He atonce retired in company with his generals and the generals of Aronburgs army to a large tent somewhat isolated from the others and no doubt set aside for other purposes.The boy and girlscouts walked about under the guidance of a boyscout officer of Concentinian Aronburgs army for he too had droves of child scouts called the "Retainers", this boy having been detailed for thepurpose inspecting the big tents,, and all the magnifidence of the camp. They saw several tents that had through someunknown reason been badly burned and damaged, but the officer said that they were destroyed by spies.Lots of new comers toowere being given day by day practical instruction in cavarly drills by experienced cavarly officers.None of the recruits however were permitted to take charge of cavarly horses untill they knew how to ride the animals as well as the veterans.Then they were given fast horses, and permitted to go with the main bodds.Dolores herself declared that her fingers itched to have some such magnificent horses as these she and her friends saw here.

The other sort of cavarly horse-exand those belonging to the dragoons did not however interest her or her followers, but there was one particular horse that Angeline Jennings said"wouldjust be the "herrie"for Gertrude Angeline..The large tents were built in circus style with considerable space between them.A hurle suddenly attracted their attention. Their guide announced that supper was readyyy.

"I declare it's funny I forgot I was hungry."asserted Mildred Maxwell.

"I did too"said Dolores."Everything in the camp ismightyinteresting, and these new boyscouts here too called the Retainers."

"It certainly ismightyinteresting agreed Jane Hellfort."but I don't believe they have anything better than general Vivians army has in tents but the cavarly horses and the equipment and the batteries are splendid.We however can show any of the enemys clean pail of heels when we would be riding on those horses and they were perusieing us."

"Right you are Mildred."Jimmie returned vigoriously.

"I didn't say that"declared Mildred."It's Jane standing by you."

"Well you agreed with her anyhow"asserted the boyscout."and now none of the Glandelinians have nothing on me toowhen it comes to eating. Advance comrades"he continued with a laugh.Let us make a desperate attack on the supper."

Before all the boy and girlscouts had finished the splendid supper provided before them under the direction of the emperor they were again visited by their recent mess-enger.He had been very busy during the short interval, and as the child scouts later learned had gotten in touch with the entire battle front along general Vivianslines at H ngors run by means of telegraph and telephone.Orders had been issued with whirlwind promptness and re information recieved to be glanced atonly once are it was saftly stored in the master mind of the great emperor.Indeed long after this the boy and discouts learned to value the ability of the man whom all C[illegible] and her [illegible] and even Abbiennia was dependingupon to bring poor Calvarinia out of the terrible crisis in which she had been placed by the dreadful disaster.After inquiring if their wants had been properly supplied, the great Emperor approached Angeline Jennings on a subject that the girlscout leader anticipated would be mentioned. It wasone she had dreaded. Seating himself at her invitation the emperor began;

"What do you think of general Aronburgs army camp by this time?"

"It is great"heartily responded the girlscout leader."I like it. It's more than magnificent."

"And the principal, is it not a very correct one?"

"I thinkso"replied the girl."I believe it is a grand idea to have so splendid an army before us.So all the n s new boy and girlscouts seem to learn readily."!

"Yes "was the answer "But we are in need of one thing.General Aronburg is getting from someplace a new regiment of boy and girlscouts and he is in need of more instructors.There are not enough men and women who can teadh.And many instructors are afraid to be with regiments of boy and girlscouts saying they have the most dangeous adventures of all."

"What An aline Jennings suspected she saw all too plainly was coming.

"Do you not percieve our need of more instructors."Continued the Emp Emperor.

"Yes Sire, I can" Returned Angeline."Then as if determined to meet the issue squarely she went on, looking straight into the others face;

"If it were not for the fact that we were co missioned on a certain mission by your fair daughters, I and my followers would be delighted to remain remain here and officer our services in any way they ight be used.Violet and her sinters, your fair and lovely daughters have sent uscut of amission that requires our time and utmost energy however and it would becut of the question for us to even think of such a possibility unless you can cancel their commission to us, or unless general Aronburg allows the Detainters to accomany accompany our bands and turn into our comsort the "Roving Rangers." For just a moment no answer was made.The two sat gazing silently across the table.At length the Emperor spoke in a lower tone;

"You are right m dear girlscout. Though they're my children I have no surthority to cancel any of their orders without their consent

because they being so unnaturally good always I had faithfully promished them anything they wished, and I cannot go back on my word to them.But if general Aronburg wills it, they may become your band and you can instruct them as they go along with you But loyalty to our country and her needs in these trying imes I know always is your first and only consideration.you always let principal be of far greater moment than any pecuniq ka e pencun lary gain, and therefore you never can go wrong. I'll see what the general says and if he can spare them you may have your own proposition.After that I'm going over with a doctor to see what can be done to your friends and mine Gertrude, Penrod and Angeline.My hearts been feeling heavy since I heard the news and I'm greatly worried."

So saying he rose, and went off.He was gone a considerable time but he returned and said;

"The general says it's up to the leaders of the boy and girlscouts themselves.If they desire to do so they will go.So I went then and consulted them.They said they'd be willing to go anywhere with those who have been so faithful to the Princesses.Will you accept now?"

"Certainly with pleasure"declared Angeline Jennings."And besides it'll be a reinforcement for us."

"I'm glad to hear your decision." said the Emperor .

So saying he arose and extended his hand to Angeline Jennings.Indeed in that firmclasp Angeline detected the emption that swept over this great Ruler of Abbiennia, who carried the full safty and responsibility of his perfectly righteous nation at that moment on his shoulders. Long afterwards she declared that one of the proudest moments of her life was the one in which she and Emprer Vivian clasped hands across the tabl table in general Aronburgs big camp.From that time her efforts i to instillvinto theminds of all her comrades ideas of grand patriotism andloyalty increased.After giving full instructions that the boy and girlscouts should be well calred for during such time as they wished to remain, the Emprer himself prepared to go about his duties especially the duties for which he came up to this camp for and which he sacrified such a long trip from his own city. As he was leaving Angeline Richess asked;;

"We feel that we must continue our persuit of those six accomplices of the two Mutt and Jeffspies whether we have our leaders wounded on board the raft or not, and to try to prevent their selling thevlans they had stolen to one of those famous and most dreaded Glandelin ian generals in the western drama of the war.They are no doubt on their way toward that destination and we ought to follow.Can yougive us some fake pass to go through the Glandelinian camps under Izner Mylotze, and move though by river with this raft."

"That is impossible the Glandelinian generals and officers under Mylotzes will not respect no pass of any kind fake or not."returned the Emprer."No one but the highest Glandelinian generals are permited to do that and then only under orders.If however if you should intend to dare make such a risky move even without my own knowledge or consent, I would not prevent it.Our own men will have orders to permit you through our own caps but if you want to get through the enemy territory you'll all have to disguise as Glandelinian boy and girlscouts and to make matters worse fly the hated Glandelinian flag during the journey.There is plenty of captured Glandelinian battlefields round here where general Aronburgs army men had captured many enemy flags.Use some of those if it is necessary but it'll be a sacrifice for who likes to fly a glandelinian flag even for necessity.I know I would not."

"I wouldn't either"said Angeline"But if there is no other way we'll try it.But it is stillmore perilous perilous.If the Glandel inians found us out and we flew their flag to get through, they'll let loose like deaconsupon us."

"They're nothing else anyway"curtly replied the Emprer.

Expressing their [illegible] thanks, the boy and girlscouts left the great Emprer,and proceeded to their right seeing. Several of them were very anxious to tell the quarter master sergeant to obtain the flags if he had say d claring that they could take a hint easy.This was easily arranged, the two standards were secured, and they decided to move on.

"Don't make a mistake though"warned Angeline Mithes "and fly that Glandelinian flag now.Or we'll haveour own friends up at us with the same fury.They'll be mistaking us for glandelinians...:::""

"You have quite a raft there"politely suggestsuggested, one of the officers/"

"Thank you " r replied Angeline Jennin s Jennings.
"Perhaps your engines are quite swift!"continued the officer.
"Angeline Jennings shrugged her shoulders..she did not wish to boast.
"I believe there is no boat that is able totravel faster."S ated the other."I am a firm believer in the merits of that raft of yours.
"Possibly"replied Angeline Jennings, a little nettled at the fellows insistence."ut we are very much satisfied.Our big raft boat sure can and does carry a heavy load.It is also armedlike a huge gunboat."
"What do you say to taking me i on for a short trip?"Questioned the officer.
"what shall we do girrdeas?" queried Angeline Jennings turning to her companions who were grouped about her."Shall we give him a ride on our raft, or shall we not."
"If he desires so why not." vociferated Jean.
" e have to be carefulwho we take on when they are strangers and unknown to us."Declared Jack."It's all right if he is a true and honest to goodness Angelinian soldier, but even if you let them get away with anything like that they'll take the whole town next..But if you sure we can trust him and he's not a enemy in disguise we can take him on the raft and hand him out a short trip. e can do it, and be secretly watchful too...:::.'.."
"Maybe not"cautioned Jane"These Glandelinian spies are pretty slick and use disguise sowell as Angelinian that they'd fool their own Grand Mother."
"Th y haven't got anything on the boy and girlscouts o fon side when it comes to fooling anybody.We o have often proved that."said Minnie, Jeans sister.
"W-ll I vote we show this gentleman how the raft rides right now." Volunteered Dolores.
"Who will second the motion."
The momention was secondanded.
"Contrary."!
No answer.
It was accordingly agreed that they would give the officer a trial of riding on the raft.Quickly the news went round the camp and by the time preparations had been made everyone was keenly alert.First the boy and girlscouts everyone of them as is their way carefully inspected every part of the raft, engines and so forth policing and examining everything.At last the immense raft was pronounced ready and final instructions were gi given as to the course.It was agreed that as a test of all the qualities that was in the en gines of the raft he at a message should be carried by wireless to an outpost not manymiles to the northward.An officer thereould give a rece ipt to the camp for the message, and thecrturn of the receipt to the camp would determinewhow the ride of the officer turned out.
"Be careful comrades.".Cautioned D oloras."The officer is not so sure as to the outcome of the ride for he is telephoning to some other officer of his to have a strong escort of cavarly to follow after the raft.He declares he may drop his message if something goes wrong for I heard himsay when he telephoned that Mylatzes army is very far extended and he don't know whether we'd go too near or not, and he wishes the strong cavarly escort to prevent any disaster."
"Did you hear himtelephoing "Asked Jean indignantly.
"Just now"Replied George.He has but just left the booth.He sure knows his onions.If he was a enemy in disguise now he wouldn't do that for he even told general Aronburg of his purpose for the ride and Emperor vivian too and warned both to look out for the safty of all on board.He almost feels like changing his mind .How he could the information I do not know. But if he backs out now he feels we'll look upon his as a fraidy cat. "
"Then we'll fix the enemy if they try anything."Declared Radcliffe who was standing near.
The man now came up to the raft.
"Please do not go too fast."he said"And keep a good watch ahead as well as do not go too far from our own territory"he begged."There's danger ahead.A large part of Mylatze's army is on the advance,on d led by gen eral Granier."
"In that case Angeline"said Radcliffe who had been for the time being in the cabin with the wounded girls and Penrod""We've got to beat these Glandelinians by some few minut s minutes.I'll warrant Mylatze is going to try to win the race for Abbieann by a trick."

"Evidently General Aronburg has got himscared."Laughed Jean."He has been able to advance in the face of gen anyother general but Concentin ian Aronburgs is diff different, and heknows it."
"It loks that way surely."agreed Minnie."But we can watch out."
After recieving explicit instructions regarding thelocation of the point where the messages were to be delivered, the boys and girls filed up the gangplank onto their raft the officer following. They had a new engineer now, the dead man having been brought to the camp for decent burial , and this engineer followed the example of seeing to it the engine was in perfect condition before announcing that he was ready.Several of the boy and girlscou had advised the engineer to let off some steam before starting, but to these objections however the engineer returned but one answer.They needed all the steam necessary in case case they accidentally had to run a gauntlet of Glandelinian guns, and he would not now spare any steam.If he had to it would only be to their own sorrow.The raft was soon under way and in a short time the nearest section section of the huge camp had been left far in the rear.They had not gone far when there was the sound of a series ofpistol shots as if it was the startling sign al for something, and two long huge looking craft shot off fromone cove in the shore.One of them had opened themuffler for the start and Jean who had seen this declared afterwards that a stream of fire seemed to burst from the exhaust pipe and go a mile down the stream. The roar of the boats motors completely drowned out the exhaust stack of the rafts engines.The foremost boat which was a long rakish green looking thing and mounted with guns easily took the lead, and steadily gained on the speedy raft, in spite of the engineers best efforts.He new something was wrong and therefore used every trick and device of which he was master.Soon Angeline Jennings who had been using her night binoculars constantly announced that shecould see a large group of gray clothed men o standing at a part of the long boat and that it carried a Glandelinian standard.Not wi h wishing to shoot at the boat Radcliffe shouted to the engineer;
"Run the boat.Do something."
The engineer did start the raft swinging around as fast as the huge thing could do, placing itself in the way of the bo at.Seeing this the driver of the boat prepared to make a quick movement of his own.His action was excellent but he didn't do it quick enough and both the raft and the boat meet with a resounding crash that must have been heard a mile.At once hundreds thronged the railing of the raft with leveledpistols and rifles.
"Those in that boat stay where you are."cried Radcliffe springing into view."Surrender as hundreds have you covered."
Exclamations came from the boat.
"I'll run back to the end of the raft and see what's doing there"said Jean.
"Don't warned Jack."You might be exposed. she took the hin t and remained.
That other confounded boat may have the advantage and rake us while we're overhauling thisone"cried Jean u suddenly."This boatmust have picked this poor spot because theone beyond doesn't have tos op."
"That is some trick of those Glandelinians I must must say"Chimed in Jane."But we'll crash thisone tonieces and drown them all if their assistant fdescon us."
Radcliffe ran rapidly along the deck.The boat wanted to try and make a get away.
"Hault"The voices of a number of boys and girls commanded.
"Yes u surrender"cried Jean. If you make emove we'll sink you and you're badly damaged already. We'll pay you rascals for making war on us children of Abbieannia because we're so good.We'llfight you as we fight the devils."
Startled by the unusual circumstances of being overhauled by so many boy and girlscouts, the Glandelinian boatmen paused in wonderment. They glanced inquiringly about searching for sight of the other boat hoping for it to come to their assistance.But it now was no where in sight.And thinking it a trick or that the boat was working somewhere around in hope of surprising the raft, the driver decided to take the chances and started the boat again u suddenly intending to make a hasty get away. Then already the drooling of the motor told him the e was need of haste if he was to make a get away from these dangerous christian child scouts who were fiercer little soldiers than even the men and bone to even get the help of the other boat before

a direst disaster happened. Impatient at the trick of those on the raft the Glandelinians fired. The motors started.

"Halt I say" again came the command from some where else on the raft this time. "This is the last time we'll warn you."

The driver was plainly puzzled. He saw many of the boy and girls couts small and bigger lining the railing of the raft with weapons leveled at t him and despite the darkness detected a lower row of very determined little eyes peering forth from the gloom of the raft. With a start the driver realized however th that the rifles and pistols leveled at him and his comrades on the boat indicated the presence of the girl and boyscouts all Glandelinian generals dreaded "The Wandering Rangers". His thoughts roiled fro frantically. His impulse still was to turn the boat and hasten from the spot as rapidly as the motors would go by lying low as so the shots wouldn't hit him or his comrades but he realized that they had come alongside the raft too, and those the children on board were of a determined character, and would not hesitate to let go a fire that would destroy the boat and kill every man of them. A volley of questions from George Zimmerman in German issued forth but the language was one unfamiliar to the Glandelinian driver, and he could only shake his head.

"I cannot understand you kid." he at length ventured. "Are you foreigners. Can't you speak our tongue. Perhaps we might understand each other better if you can."

"Abbiccannian" Repeated the German boyscout from his location. "Yes I speak the Abbiccannian language very good." This statement was replied by his assent acent and pronouncation, but the Glandelinian driver accepted it at its face value giving his whole attention to the matter of carying on the halting conversation with the hope of making his escape.

"Why do you boys and girlscouts stop me and wreck my boat?" the driver asked. "How did you get on the river with such a big boat in the fistplace."

"Why did you persue us with your boats?"

"We are supposed to stop all strangers coming from the direction of the christian lines" Replied the Driver.

"I thought so. Well sir, you and your comrades will remain where you are, while your comrades stops on board to be disarmed. Remember we got you all cornered. There's hundreds of us covering you and there's only seven of you in the boat. Seven trying to capture us. You must be nuts."

"That's nice" scorned the Glandelinian driver hotly. "why you are entirely mistaken. I have never been in Glandelinia. I am from general Concentinian Arenburgs army."

"You have had a long journey then." replied another of the boy scouts, with mock sympathy." and will need a rest before proceeding. If you're from general Arenburgs camps then why did you persue us when you know we're christians boys and girls. Therefore since you persued us, and have some excuses to make we will be glad now to accept the hospitality of our quarters on the raft untill we bring to back to the lines. If you can prove your christians and made a mistake in persuading us all right. But you'll have to prove it."

"But I'm from the christian army came to the westward of here. I was not persuing your raft I was in a race in a race with the other boat and you willcause me to lose the race." stormed the driver beginning to see that nothing could make the boy and girlscouts believe him.

"Yes, and you sure came fullspeed toward our raft. Next thing you'll say you couldn't see us in the dark" sarcastically declared the German boyscout. "As I stated before we have very comfortable quarters here."

"Well occupy them then" snapped the driver. "I am going on."

"Listen" commanded the boyscout. "Unless you you obey commands and leave your weapons on board your boat and come on here we shall be oblied obliged to fill you and your comrades full of holes. Don't you see you reckless full three machine guns are trained on the boat and within close range so close that you couldn't escape."

The driver caught the significance of the remark, and decided thats he didn't care to take such on chances when it was suicide. He knew full well the temper of the "little Rangers", and therefore wisely on concluding that nothing would be gained by further efforts to try and convince the boy and girlscouts of his identy, he driver of the boat put put away all thought of immediate escape. Boats from the other side of the raft full of boys in uniforms and girls too suddenly appeared to the left and with such startling suddenness that the driver

and his followers nearly lost their composure. The one in the stern carried a rope as he app the rowboat approached the launch. The driver held up a protesting hand and waved away the bond.

"You don't have to tie me and my comrades up." he said. "We'll go with you and your scouts peaceably. We shall not try to run away from such girl and boy scouts."

"There's no need to tie you fellows up you couldn't escape anyway." retorted the lad. "But we're going to fasten the boat so it'll come along with the raft, and some of us are going to occupy it too. Hurry step into the raft before we lose our patience. You're delaying us long enough. And if possible we'll capture the other boat too."

Believing compliance with their wishes the only way to placate them, the driver and his men followed his captors on board the raft where they were placed in one of the cabins, where the doors was securely locked and guardsplaced so the prisoners couldn't escape from even the windows. A bunk with straw mattresses afforded them sleeping accommodations.

"I do not understand the arrangement." the soldier began, as he surveyed the interior of the cabin. "What's the idea. Why bring us here?"

"And why did you persue us if you're not foes" demanded Dolores. "If we had not captured you and your seven men here, some of our shore comrades might have done worse to you as the shore was lined with troops just as soon as you and your other boat put off after us. Not all of the Glandelinians are considered enough to recieve quarter from us, but I liked your looks, and so you are here noninstead of your bodies riddled with holes and floating away down stream." she added tapping her rifle and smiling significantly, while she still looked out from the cabin window.

"Glandelinian soldiers are not usually welcome in our cabins" Added the girlscout Joy St Claire somewhat severely "but we had no room for you outside so we were good enough to give you a cabin for quarters till we bring you ashore."

"But we're not Glandelinians we're foreigners." protested the driver vigoriously.

"No" inquired Dolores not too impolitely. "Foreigners oh! Well that makes it stillworse for you. Wait a moment I hear an officer approaching. We shall soon learn if you're Glandelinians or not."

The Glandelinian driver was startled to discover a slim rat faced looking boyscout come in, with a very good looking boy called by the other "radcliffe". The latter was evidently the officer. Saluting the boy and girlscout began a report concerning their captive. Evidently full details were being asked and given for the conversation consumed very much time...!!.....

"Come with me only you" the boyscout officer sincerely said to the one who was known as the boat driver at length as he turned toward the door of the v cabin.

"But officer of the boyscouts" protested the driver "My comrades are out there in the other boat waiting for me to return. I cannot leave them. We were in a race."

A few words of command from Radcliffe caused a number of boy and girlscouts to make hasty separation for departure on armoured boats of their own. They were evidently shouthtously forth to capture the crew of the other boat. The driver fumed. He had been very foolish he thought to make sorrish a statement. The officer indicated pretty sharply and severely that the driver himself was to proceed with him and six other boy scouts on to on to the deck. For some distance they passed along the deck. Into another cabin they went.

"I'm to keep you separated from your comrades" the boy said.

And he went back again to Dolores and were Jean and others were standing grouped on the deck. Dolores suddenly called his attention to a clump of trees on the shore some little distance away, which was easily seen by thehelp of the glow of a distant campfire.

"Can you see some strange figures like men moving about!" she questio questioned.

"Yes. I do."

"Well presently you will see one of them throw up his hands and fall. Our sharpshooters will get him. Those Glandelinian gunners are too reckless. They expose themselves too much. I suppose they're preparing a position to aim a gun at our raft. I bet ther're putting into position a gun that big" she formed her arms into a circle. "Then the ranges will be given them and they will start trying to shell this raft. They will hit this raft perhaps."

"I couldn't see how Glandelinions could be popping up everywhere and have a rendezvous in in a a rendezvous so soon." protested Radcliffe. "It might be possible however that a Glandelinion swift horse battery might have been following us because they might know where are, we lie we didn't know they were there. If we haven't stopped and captured that Glandelinion revenue cutter we wouldn't have known Glandelinions were anywhere near."

"Ah" ejaculated Dolores, eyeing the scene closely. "I know you tell the truth."

"But come" he added "We must proceed."

They went toward the cabin where the threeee wounded child scout lad leaders lay in their beds; and which dab cabin was in particular the one Gertrude used, and which was fixed up more luxuriously than any of the others. A in large mirror was on the wall a large stove in the corner and a telephone instrument rested on a stand near one of the bunks. As they approached the cabin shouts of laughter greeted their ears from the shore. Evidently even all the hardships of a war life had not destroyed the soldiers' sense of humor [illegible] they were fighting on. As Radcliffe entered the cabin where watchers were seated he calledout aloud order. Instantly every one was on her or his feet standing at attention and simultaneously their hands were raised in military salute; and remained so until the salute had been returned by both Dolores and Radcliffe. Then picking up the telephone, Radcliffe spoke rapidly for a few moments; then replaced the instrument and directed a question to one of the boyscouts who was watching at the window from the outsidelooking in. That boy replied at length pointing out toward the same clump of trees than Dolores had indicated to Radcliffe. Evidently something unusual was taking place. Thenthere came a sharp exclamation from the boyscout on the watch, which brought the others tothair feet. They could observe;;; that he was pointing most excitedly; toward the trees, and speaking rapidly. Dolores saw a big heavy white cloud of smoke(poke) appear in the grove; and the boat shook from the report as if there was a sudden earth [illegible] earthquake.

Following the glances of the rest she was startled to see streaming through the air a streak of fire as if it was from a sky rocket; and it appeared to be approaching the raft. Dolores clearly followed th e missile until it fell into the water but a short distance away from the raft. And scarcely had it touched the water(all [illegible]) before the raft was shaken and rocked; and the cabin vibrated by a [illegible] explosion that hurled a huge cloud of water and smoke high into the air. [illegible] all stones and rivet had de debris fell on the whole raft in torrens showers drenching all those who were on deck and pelting them with a cloudburst of small stones, wet sand and mud and even a [illegible] of small fishes and a number of water snakes and turtles and even frogs came down. Dolores had clapped her hands to her ears as the object fell into the water expecting an explosion; and thus did not suffer, the painful ; on a painful shock that would otherwise have been felt. Glancing for the window she saw an immense cloud of smoke hovering all about the water and over a portion of the raft and an awful odor crept into the cabin nearly choking every body. The raft now started on the way the officer had a deep desirious to avoid that gun. Again a dry cane from the boy on watch which startled startled Dolores. Another high explosive shell was coming. The concussion of the explosion had burst open the door where the prisoners were. They had gotten out and ran back along the deckway but one of them stumbled on the uneven floor and fell. A shout from Dolores roused him. Looking backwardhe could see her leveling a revolver in his direction, and lost no time in scrambling to his feet. Just in time he dodged around a pile of sandbags for shot after shot came tearing into the bags. Luckily the sandbags were there.

In half a minute the escaped Glandelinion prisoner, speed as fast as he was able down the decks of the huge d raft. His one thought was to gain the waters edge, and find his other comrades who would be frantic at his long delay. He had gone but a few steps until the earth and the raft seemed torock violently. A burst of air from the rear swept the Glandelinion and his six followers off their feet, and their ears were deafening by a most terrific blast that shook the entire surroundings. Before he or his followers could scrambleupward to their feet they found themselves surrounded by a swarm of enemy boys and girls.

A heavy black cloud over or smoke hung over the a scene, where once had been the Glandelinion gun and its gunners. A minute on boardthe raft had fired and struck down the Glandelinion gunners before they could fire again. There seemed to be a yawning pit where they had been before. So suddenly surrounded by the boy ad girlscouts the astonished prisoners were undecided what to do. They saw that after all escape from them was impossible. They were brought back to their cabin.

Some of those on board observed the freak trunk of the explosion on shore even at that distance. Once the railing of the raft fell an object unto the floor of the deck. It was part of a mans and with a gray sleeve with a revolver still clutched in the hand.

Impatiently awaiting the return of the boat and its occupants the Glandelinions in the other boat cruised around in the dark. One of them on know n as Colonel Fredrick James insisting on keeping the other running in order that it would be warm and ready for instant flight should the raft turn and make pursuit of it.

"It seems an awful long time." [illegible] one of them lieutenant Jackson peering down the darkness of the river. "I wonder if the boat and its crew had been raft raced by the raft and all drowned or lost or captured?"

"Lost or captured ; or drowned nothing." exclaimed Colonel James scornfully. "You can't lose captain Nestorius. He's probably lost his hearing in this darkness or may have overpowered those on board the raft and therefore may be having an argument with them in trying to induce them to surrender, for those christian dogs will do anything they can t to delay him so they can make mistakes. They're only a bunch of christian children playing war."

"How do you know they were playing war." said James. "I believe t h they were those child scouts known as vivisniters or Rangers and if he has overhauled them it'll be a miracle for him and his seven men to capture them all sig single handed."

"That wasn't exactly a fair thing to do eyhow make us go out and parade such a strong force." protested Francisco. "I think our commander arranged to have a huge joke on us."

"Joke!" queried Colonel Jimmie bristling. "Joke. If those things are jo as I have no sense of humor then. T at is no joke."

"It's a mighty low sort of trick I say, sending us out to rescue boy and girlscout" Sookeone called Harry Mike. "We might as well drown us, strip us of our clothing, and make us go hun t a flock of tigresses and tigers." "WSX

"That what it is" chimed in Private Jimmie: "Ans say first lieutenant Francisco" he went on, we like you and you're a good friend of ours but please don't try to smooth over this christian dog's dose actions in a passing us. It won't go."

"All right" replied the officer. "I don't approve of it any more than you do, but I wanted to make peace; that's all."

"Well you just remain neutral, and it'll be all right."

A general laugh went up at this [illegible], for they all knew that this Glandelinionofficer whose name was Jimmie loved neutrality [illegible] to get them. Directly the clamor of the be ... a weakenstacks a ceased. The noise had been growing louder and [illegible] but now died away entirely and [illegible] was not even in sight. Jimmie the driver stood up in his place and peered anxiously about, but could not see a thing in the darkness.

"I wonder what's going on!" he questioned. "Are the raft and the other boat stopping or has it been halted by those on board the raft. I wirned Driver Ned to be careful."

"I don't believe so" ventured Francisco. "Maybe the engineer on board that raft won't have shut off his engine for some reason or maybe the boat has lost it and recaptuthe chinese. "Maybe our seconds might have been rescued by the raft as those on board willdo that if attacked. If they're children, play at war or ir" they'll easily be captured but if they're scouts why six be beats like one wouldn't have no chance."

The mans o conjecture as the reader already knows what correct. The seven prisoners on board the raft were again in the cabin under stronger guard.

"There's the raft on its way again." shouted Jimmie disgustedly;

as the puffing roar of the rafts smokestacks reached their ears."Their engines are working as easy as an locomotive, everything's all right, clear track, nothing todo but we owned to wreck the wrecks of our country because of their devilishness against our guns.Great Frozen Hot Boxes this is something fierce.Those christian doggies must work magic."

"Keep your hand on Colonel James"Advised his assistant Colonel Jack consolingly."We've lost that raft, but its better we did for they're child scouts and not so much children out there on that stretch of woodplaying at war.And will return directly with the launch and report to us the discovery."

"Well what's keeping him and his boats"demanded colonel James with a blasphemous expression, and not trying to control him his himself."I wonder if he heard his hearings."

"Those christian dog children are a bunch of iron clawed puppies."declared Lieutenant Harry.

"Of course we know thatyour application of the term to the men in charge of the raft may be unwarranted sir"declared Colonel Jack."But nevertheless Nada delay with the other boat could in no way be charged with their actions at this time.I'll let the boat and its crew was captured."

"I'm going to run the boat along where a little ways toward the raft, under cover, and see what's keeping Nada"declared Colonel James at length."I'm positively superstious in something wrong."

"Better we stay here"[illegible] Lieutenant Harry."And I doubt would notlike it if we wander too close to the raft without support."

"That's right Colonel"added Lieutenant Jack."Delight return here with the boat by some other route than that which he followed, and we would miss him."

"Besides"continued caution menacing"I think there is a big forest fire near clean by."I felt an awful hot blast of wind just now and the weather seems to be getting hotter.....!!!"

Thinking about the Big Bilbo it seemed that a change in the conditions caused by fir forest fire weather measurements.Their previous experiences enabled them to forecast changes because of fires with a fair degree of accuracy.Just now they could not get decide what might be in store.Heavy clouds of smoke were rising above a great glare in the sky a glare as brightly red or yellow as the most beautiful sunset.Sapsuil tang and debris on the smoke of Colonel Nada - Nada delay, the soldiers and their officers passed away several minutes. Presently the suspense became unbearable to Colonel James, who saw to it the guns of the boat were loaded with grape and canister and high explosives, and declared his intention to find the other boat at all costs.

"We'll have to go carefully"said Lieutenant Jack.

"Good I know how to run one of these boats" declared the Colonel "If it is necessary I'm going to clean house on that bunch of strip lines on that raft there oh with our long range machine guns.They haven't any right to hold the boat so long as this.I'm sure.They may but he might have been captured."

Taking the boat move slowly the driver soon drove it under some an overhanging branches of a tree that reached far over the water, and which hid the boat from sight of those on board the Iemuse raft. Every instinct alert, he allowed the boat to slipsilently along in the general direction taken by the other [illegible] from this [illegible].He was [illegible] the course of the raft carefully and [illegible] the number of small figures on board.At one point [illegible]

Alongside he stopped [illegible] attempts at hearing a [illegible] the upper [illegible] of the shore, then whispering something to his companions glanced about without raising his head. He was standing in the very spot in front of the boat when a shot came out from the raft. A bullet sang [illegible] close to his and then he dropped in [illegible]..He followed the direction of the flash with his eyes, and detected that quite a number of children were a [illegible] edge of the raft.One of them might have seen him and fired a shot. A [illegible] the shot rang out.

"Great Frozen Hot Boxes"cried the Glandelinian colonel."They're [illegible] as if I'm a fricasee cake not as sure as sure are [illegible] of those brown christian dog children have come and grazed Nada and his boatmen.Here's their raft close by and they're firing at us. Christian dog children are more dangerous than the soldiers."

The boat was silently softly and quietly over the surface and while it was in inspection Colonel James took great pains not to

get himself and his comrades exposed. ..Directly he glanced ahead and saw the raft coming a little closer.He hoped he had the boat clear out of sight behind the friendly trees.Jack, Harry and Francisque also stood with slackings the strange eyes out of the raft.Her determined to remain at the spot until the huge raft should pass.Then they settled themselves and began a conversation on the topics of christian boy and girlscouts.The red glare of the distant fires did not now attract their attention so much as was the movement of the raft [illegible] they heard the sudden wave out of some other small boats in the water and the sound of oars, and then came a command from a little girl;

"Surrender Glandelinians.The jig is up"

"Surrender nothing."

"Surrender of you will be shot."she again commanded.

Surprised at the [illegible] voice at the childish childish voice which they did not even recognize, those in the boat turned instantly to find their boat surrounded by six long rowboats full of childscouts and to find themselves covered by ten winchester repeating rifles held in the determined grasp of boys and girls in gaudy uniforms of green tricolorings. This were no joke.They knew they must try to trick them for they saw by their hats that they were the "Dreaded Wandering Rangers.

"What do you little boys and girls wants"Blurted Lieutenant Jack indignantly."Put down those air guns children.Don't you know children should nobiley with guns they are liable to go off."

"That so"answered one of the boys."Well we are playing war with you right now, and in a way that these "toy"pistols and rifles have already accounted for some thousands of your countrymen."I'm ready to do a like service for you and your comrades if you do not surrender at once.We have your comrades on board, and the boat in possession.Don's time is short."

"What do we do when we surrender to children like you?"asked Lieutenant Jack."We strive to please when we have to but we your kid scouts were are not well acquainted as to your customs."

"We your customs not not them"answered the boy."I'm George Zbrent on a German boy serving in the ranks of the Abbisanian child scouts and as I'm German you'll find we out.Germans are means. Drive that boat to to rd that raft over yonder?"

"Why?"questioned Lieutenant Jack argumentatively.

"I'm not here to argue."

"That's a good argument boyscout"agreed Lieutenant Jack but we don't like your methods.You are a little too rough in your play at war."

"Pie."stormed the boy fast losing patience."This is not play you at adelinian dog as you and your comrades shallsoon learn. Come I shall not argue."

"Well the nerve of some christian dog children"Exclaimed Lieutenant Harry."Why boyscout"he added"We are not glandelinians though we serve in the Glandelinian ranks.We're from the United States and we don't see how you christian dogs can bore men around like that and get away with it.We haven't harmed you either."

"United States"scorned the boyscout, while murmur came from the other children."Your a dam disgrace to your own country and absolutely lost your air citizenships.You've scorned your own flag the stars and stripes for joining such wicked cause you treasonable Yankees you. Get that boat going."

"Do you mean to call us traitors?"Lieutenant Harry cried rising."Why you'd better look out or I'll smash your head in with my pistol lady!"

"Stay where you are boys and girls"Cried the German boy."And you lieutenant fellows in gray from American drop your guns output on your hands.Do it quick or you'll drop yourselves."

Chagrined at the thought of being captured by christian boy and girlscouts the soldiers attempted a show of resistance.Their opinions underwent a swift change as the boyscout seeing their attentions brought [illegible] the Glandelinian lieutenant Jack down with a mortal wound.Two more boats were advancing, keeping the soldiers well covered.

"Make away their rifles and pistols boys"German directed."Lay em away in your you know re."

Seeing at this affairthe Glandelinian officers and soldiers could do nothing else than meekly permit their arms to be removed.

"Now then "went on German"where did you go with the others.There

there were three of the boats out on this river. "
"The other boat retreated."answeredone.
"Where is it now?" asked the boyscout Ned keeping his automatic rifle ready.

The only reply was a characteristic shrg of the shoulders
At that instant the Glandelinians and the boys and girls heard a dreadful screaming in the air followed by the rolling boom of distant cannon.Instantly they felt the shock of many shells of large proportions bursting with a dreadful thundering roll and crash.

"Look.Look"cried the boyscout James."It's the christian shells firing at some boats on the river.Look at the awful black smoke."
For a moment all eyes were turned in the direction indicated.It was indeed as the boy had said.The dreaded smoke was there.Again they heard the dreaded screams and this time as the shells exploded the tremor of the earth was greater although the detonations were not so loud as in the case case of the former shells though there wasvan awful eruption of water in the air,."

"Those shells hit the boats."declared one of the boys excitedly.
"Where are they coming from?"asked Fred."Who's shooting."
"Those are the dreaded christian shells."replied the Glandelinian Francois.
For amoment all remained silent expecting to hear other shells. None however came and they were about to [illegible] their attention to the captured Glandelinian soldiers, when the boat was pulled to the raft and fastened by ropes.
"Well looked what the boys and girls pulled in."Exclaimed the passenger officer rushing to the gang plank."Where did you get the other boat load George?Are you not doing over business to night.This is the secondone you captured."

In a few words he told the details.
The new prisoners were pushed into the cabin andplacedunder guard.
"There's a big cloud of flame rising from the eastward."cried cried Hanrtu Henry.
"I bet its a forest fire."declared Jimmie."It's a big one too."
"Upon seeing that huge cloud of rolling flame bright yellow below or almost white, to yellow in the middle and blood red above the Glandelinian soldiers .who were prisoners in the cabins were panic stricken.They declared frantically that all were in danger of being enveloped, and begged the child scout leaders to move the raft down the river where only lay safty.

"Keep quiete you cowards" cried the boy Radcliffe."That fire won't come here."Another yelp out of you and you'll yelp no more."
However as they wished to be under way andput the the prisoners ashore in the christian lineshad little was lost in carrying out this sugg e suggestion.Their anxiety was however not lessened for the fire seemed to approach dangerously close accompanied by a wind and a fog of smoke. Their renewed hunger, added to the discomfort of the heat, and the smoke stench compelled the boys and girls to consider a change .Finding repairs to the [illegible]endportion of the first captured boat impossible it was sunk altogether.

"Let's go back for general Aremburgs great camp and get another lot lunch for a time before retirement."Jennproposed."I'm hungry."
In a short time they were on their way.All about them swept a smoke fog and a stiff wind was blowing of the east.Sounds of distant firing came to their ears.Suddenly a great crashing roar of guns startled them and a series ofpiercing screams indicated the passage of many of the giant shells.A terrible roar told that they had landed on shore in and explodeed Beyond them on the opposite shore there came a sudden great long series of flashes of light accompained by a terrible roar. An unknown number of great cannons had been fired.
"Where are we Delcrest"murmured Angeline Jennings.
"I do no' know"said Dolores."Can you tell Jean?"
"We're right betweenthe fires."replied Jean."They seem to be firing and fired at."
"I believe we're lost in this fog of smoke that's what we are."Cried cried Jack."And we stillhave no compass."
"Lo-st!"was Angeline's startled exclamation."Don't say that girls."
"Why not?"Inquired Jean peering into the thickfog of smoke that envelope enveloped them and the raft."Why not say it whenit is not why we are lost."
Gradually the din beyond them increased tremendously as battery after battery of guns was added to the number in action.It seemed that a general bombardment was in progress along the whole line.The engineer

increased the speed of the engines for the sake of safty hoping to be out of range of the shells which might demolishe the raft or sink.
"Suppose we just speed up for a fre few minutes the way the engineer is heading now, and see if we cannoot get away from this racket."Urged the boyscout Jimmie"It'll be bad for our wounded leaders. "
The demand was given to the engineer and with a nod of consent the engineer touched the throttle, sending the raft ahead as if on flee[illegible]ight.The whole rafy dashed through smoke so thick that [illegible] been fog or cloud they would have been soon dripping wet.That they were not suffocated was a wonder.
"On, and on Engineer" cried Dolores."We're into the worst of the smoke."
A quick pull at the levers sent the raft going as fast as the engines couldpull it.A great shoot of flame like a rolling cloud passed the raft but overhead but almost scorching those on board from the terrible he heat.The terrificcloud of flame ever growing bigger was cleared by a narrow margin but inflamaable things on board of the raft caught fire and had to be sous ed.Angeline Jennings glanced about and shook her head.The engineer had barely saved the big craft and its human freight.Slowing the pace now, the engineer located a wide stretch of the stream where heintended to drive the raft.
"I see a highway on shore."announced the boyscout who was throwing a bucket of water on a smouldering canvass."Also I hear the noise made by hens.Guess some of us had better Guess I'll forage and gets eggs and things.I know somebody will leave us.have them."
The boys therefore selected for the forage were sent off in boats. All the rest were surprised at their short absence. They bore all sorts of provisions, a large number of eggs, and were all back withlittle delay.
"We were lucky"announced one of the boys."The house is all shot up the folks are gone, but there were alot of hens .There were three or four big cases of eggs and we brought the whole outfit, but left the hens at the suggestion of the girls who do notlike to see them killed when they egg layers.How will you have them frid, scrambled, boiled, broiled, baked, stewed,poached, omelette or justplain soft boiled eggs or egg on toast or--or whatever way they're cooked."
"We'll need plenty of milk too"directed Angeline Riches"But don't let the fires in the stoves show.No tell there may be more of the [illegible] enemy scouting around here too."
"nighto"as agreed one of the boys in alow tone." Jue willyou getout the bread, the bacon and the milk, and I'll look after the stove fdes.Hank there's still water on board for coffee fo those who like coffee."
The stoves were soon lit.Plenty of eggs were available and as no one cared for coffee the milk was to be used for drinking.There was this time no need for a limit for anyones appetite.Many of them afterwards declared that they never tasted better warm milk or eggs on boreed.During the progress of their meal in this safe spot the sound of cannonading had been very conth continuous.No shells had struck near theirposition, but one of the girlscouts when onshore foraging had ventured to mount a risingpiece of ground not far from the demolished farm house to make a survey of the situation.She had reported that withthepassing of the big fire the smoke was thinning but was stillto thick to permit of navigation the raft to go back to general Aremburgs army.They advised now of getting a little rest for the night, and gladly all of the tired boy and girlscouts availed themselves of this situation and only the numbered guards took their turns of on and off duty by the respective hours.
Thanks to a constitution inured by practiced hardship, and hard work and many trying experiences and so forth of a girlscout life and very healthy living and of the prayers from all during the night till morning Gertrude, Angeline and even Conrad improved rapidly under the nursing of "Bright eyed Mary, and the efforts of the doctor sent by Emperor vivian, aided by Radcliffes skilled treatment of the wounded Gertrude had suffered. Angeline Riches being the least injured improved the fastest.Besides Radcliffeknew the sort of medicine and herbs that draw out inflammation and allay fever, and without the use of Antiseptis he kept Gertrudes wound clean with thepure river water.
Past Midnight Gertrude had recovered consciousness, and on the early morning the doctor whostayed all night pronounced that in another t day the crisis for Gertrude would be passed, andthat she would soon

be sittingup in her bed and demanding solid food.Penrod was not so badly injured as feared, but Angeline Richee was recovering ahead of him.Indeed Radcliffe an d all the rest that morning were the happiest boy and girlscouts probably in the world wo , when at last all the officers were admitted to the beside, he Radclide asked the cause of the pr fray and what had happened and Penrod told him all.

"Now I've got some very good news."he said, when Penrod persisted in asking about the efforts of all on board the raft."We've captured two boats, sunk six, and have twelve prisoners on board the raft under strong guard."Many of our wounded who recieved their injuries in the battle on the Vantura Red are all back on the job, and we have a strong body of reinforcements besides."

"You recieved two thousandmore boys and girls."

"A little over"said Rac Radcliffe triumphantly."They asked to become members ofours and to you ought to see them working. I guess they feel the enemy certainly have dne us alla dity deal o by sending dangerous boy and girlscouts of their sde among us,and Angeline Jennings in this case is instructing them well.Anyway they know now it was the Mutt n and Jeff spies whosent that Darger boyscout intocur lines in order tofrustrate our purpose.They have gone away from ou camp and its a good thing as it is now too hot for them."

"For Good George"?

"Well I couldn't say that of that sort of a boyscout that strikes girls with his fists, "answered Radcliffe, with a look of scorn in his eyes."But he isn't likely to show his face in general Vivians army again in this locality again, I understand, or hop so anyway. However he and his two companions leftout campraging mad, and that Darger boy has gone back to the Glandelinian camps.Well that's the first ofour dangerous enemies far away. And general Vivian has turned out a trump fighting the enemy confronting himat Hangar overtime and making his army move forward victoriously, and it begins to look as if we will win out after all..""OOAZ

This was good news..It was still oily in the month of October and it was hoped that in little more than a mon th snow should be coming to put out the big forest fires thon raging.

"I tell you George (to Radcliffe"D said Angeline nichee herself, "It's too late now I'm afraid to think of intercepting those six spies, but next summer we'll ins introduce modern methods and double our efforts to prevent any spies getting any where in the future. If we have been able to showour country what we have been able to do in the past we're able to do more with god's help in thetfutire the futures. Then we'll have no diffuclty about raising cain with spies and other enemies who try to frustrate us. As to that boyscout Starring he sure struck me good."

"If he hand't struck you with his fists like that we would not have drawn knives on him."said Penrod."But to see any one of those boys or any boys striking a girl why heavens that's maddening.We couldn't think when we did draw knives.We never dra drew knives on a fellow boyscout before. But we had to as he had a bad one with him too and we strove to prevent him from drawing it, and finally did not succeed."

"Well now you're talking the way I like to hear" said Radcliffe enthusiastically."I tell you Penrod and you too Angeline it sure makes me tired to have spies, and Glandelinian boy and girlscouts doing all this when we could find ways to prevent it.I guess with a few improve ments our sutiation wouldn't be so bad after all."

So they discussed their plans, untilll Jean Saunders accompanied with her sister "innie, and several other girls came in.Penrod or Angeline had not however asked much about the Glandelinian boyscout and Radcliffe had been glad to avoid the subject.It was however Jack Saunders who took it up a minute later having come in with little Jean."He hummed and hawed a good deal, n and finally the truth came out.It would be easy nough to get all the Gemini from Angelinia Agathia and also Gingigore or Hendro Darger, but the quartert of Glandelinian boyscouts would have to be laid by the heels before they could be captured.Of the four Darger alone had disapoared entirely."He He might be anywhere among one of the Glandelinian armies, he was always a "ranger" boyscout of the enemy, and wanted by every christian general throughout the war zone . To look for him however would belike looking for a pin in a high grass pasture.General Glance was said to have gone into the woods with a big party of cavarly to tryand run the boy down but of no use.Simeonia Duvallie was running his

his spies everywhere.The chances however of accomplicingmuch by this means were not therefore hopeful when too many enemy patrols could be encountered to ,the boy could have fled to the protection of one of these.Too Gertrude, and the two others well knew that the reput ation of that boyscout would enable the boy to escape because of the protection giving him by the Glandelinians.It would also be very undignified and revengeful and even ridiculous to go into the enemys lines to try to find Darger and thrash him because of Gertrudes stab.On the other hand it was still more ridiculous that Fredrick or Jacqonia Darger should be brazing it out within the Glandelinian armies and doing his boyscout work as if nothing had happened.The situation was certainly amost plexing one. The three child scout leaders had no desire ofpunishing him any furtherjust now, but they meant to deal with him and all the Glandelin ian boy and girlscouts when the opoerun opportunity arose."e They meant to even ifpossible rid the very Glandelinian army of them and Darger, and his two chief,, companions, but they had a strong reluctance to let even such a matter as being frustrated in theirmission because of this by that boy and meant todeal with him accordingly when the proper time came.In the end Radcliffe went away with theunderstanding, that Gertrude and Penrod and Angelinw were gettingmuch better since that fatal morning and therefore that was great satisfaction.

"But what strength, whatpower Gertrude, that boy had, to hold out so successfully and desperately against four of you"He said regrettingly as he realized the fact."Do you know Gertrude"he continued thoughtfully, "I have often thought that we need many such boys in our ranks and girls too.If I had the strength of that Darger boy what I wouldn't do."

To the three child scout officers their recovery was a foretaste of paradize and especially for bashful Penrod.It was wonderful for them to see many of the girlscouts whom they loved with all their hearts about their bedside all that sad suffering night long, waiting on him especially while Gertrude had still been unconscious and Angeline too anticipating his wishes untill he felt ashamed to be so suddenly rendered helpless, his pride gone. All that night Bright eyed Mary had been very quiet when the beauty of reviving life was stirring in the injured boys heart and casting a glamour about everything remourseful and humble, very restrained..When the threelearned of the part Little Glorinia had played also in their rescue, and thanked her gratefully, she could not meet.Penrods eyes.

They wondered however when the first day would come when they could leave the cabin and be on duty again and where they could feel the crisp autum air providing the forest fires did not keep up the unusual record breaking heat for that time of the year.However the birch leaves were already a flaming red,,,, the ators had sprung up profusely everywhere mingled with goldenrod . Yet many spots ever where else everything was in ruin, and yet the three child scout leaders had sometimes the inexplicable sense of having come home.

"Mary Sunshine"he said to Little Glorinia"I hope we are going to have better luck in our campaigns in the future!Nevertheless the good will goes with the kindness of all our comrades and friends, even i we still have to go through risky campgians and the like."

she broke down.

"What must you think of the army now!"she cried.

"I think"began Penrod.

She sprang to her feet facing him.

"That that Starring boyscout and all his followers knew of the plan we were upon toeven learn the details and causes of the Abbieann disaster, and ofour efforts to capture those six spies.Yes they did know but only alittle while before we started.And listen--I was on my way to warn you, and Gertrude, and Angeline , that Starring and his two companions Fredrick and Darger were three of those six spies wh when my hose holted, and the shock of the fall made me forget for the moment afterwards.Then it was too late.An explosion scared the horse."

Her words flung a great burden from the minds of the three.They have not been able to reconcile the thought of anything else but that those three Glandelinian boyscouts had been mainly guilty of the con spiracy, with his knowledge of them and all the ch istian boy and girlscouts.Yet Penod himself realized that his own att tude had been one rather that one who condnes an offense than of acquital.

"I was sure that you, and Gertrude, and Richese could not have known-- at least I knew for sure you did not know,,,. At first

I believed that Starring was incapable of such a crime.But he was one of the spies employed by that Mutt fellow.I then after you were hurt, I couldn't have the chance to tell you, and that is why I was so very unhappy."

She raised her head and met their eyes at last."And I was on my way to ask you not to try and capture Starring because I knew he meant to kill you if you interfered, and he's three times as strong as the three of you..He is an avaricious, greefy Glandelinian boy scout, and he would would have been an accomplice in even the destruction of the Vivian girls if it wasn't that their beauty so fascinat[illegible] them, even though he and they too are the bitterest of enemies."

"I presumed once"began.Angeline Riches,,,,, quietly, though her heartbegan to suddenly hammer,?,?,"To ask you a qu estion about the small spy called the personality of the "Jeff"fellow in the Funnies. Whether he meant more for the Glandelinian generals than the bigger fellow or whether he was the main one.I decided to ask it again."

"He's got all Glandelinian generals doing as he advises" she said ina whisper."The bigger fellow who'resumbles Mutt never meant so much and couldn't do a thing if it wasn't for his leader the smaller fellow.I know it now--and since the day I have learned so much about them, they don't act like Mutt and Jeff in the "funnies, and neither are they any true individuals.They're foriegn, they'll work for any nation to get the money.And they charge enough to get rich too.They're very dangerous of course, but their character thank God in one way is not half so evil.They do it only for the money.Refuse to give them anything and they wouldn't care what happened a to a Glandelinian army."

"Her breath came quickly as she spoke, she was afraid of these two dangerous International spies.

"I have since I ever entered the army"said Penrod loved all of you dear girlscouts as if you were all sisters to me"and as he said this he held her hand fast.she did not try to disengage herself but she was trembling,and he could not see her face.

"Golrinia tell me---"

He was conscious of a stuperious fear, all the fug future hung upon the situation, and still she gave no sign.

"Wh won't you be able to tell me when Gertrude and I and Angeline will be able to be up and around again.?"

"At that"she raised her head,,, and flung it back with a proud gesture, and locked, into his eyes."

"Poor Gertrude will be the longest in the bed, and how we love her and wish her in command Penrod"she answerred with pride and misery com bined that forebade denial or coquetry. And "And you Penrod have always been loved by all of the girlscouts, and Jack told me recently little Jean Gertrude, and Angeline Riches loves you best."

However now Penrod feared no longer.Everything was changed to joy that seemed to blaze about him lighting up the darkness of the smoky day. For a long time the night before nothing had been known.Now she remembered what she had to say, something very important.

"I should have told you."she said;"The waiting will be quite long before either of you are up again.The doctor couldn't never consent of you getting up too soon.You'll be sure to be here for weeks."

"W"ll we will have to stay here."said Penrod lightly.

But she was vaey serious now, and Penrod had to fall into her mood. "What has the Glandelinian boy and girlscouts got against us, we never depredated on them."Said Penrod."And as for that us boy and girlscouts who fights for such a holy cause surely can justifying themselves in defending the right of the children of their own country.Those Glandelinian boy and girlscouts fight more for gain and honor and praise than for country and cause.I know it."

"It is not that Penrod.It is because, well because you yourself are an American that makes the Glandelinians hate you so bitterly.The Glandelinians does not love the foriegners that goes on the side of the christians, and they hate christian foriegners the most.Th at is what drove Glandelinian boyscouts and girls too to break their l pledge and drive war upon us by their own.He believes that foriegners betray Glandelinia to the world, that is Starring does.That Gerald Starring is the main danger to us all."

"I don't know how, but I sure had no hand in it.General Greatheart adopted me when he was on a tour in Canada and brought me over here.But Glandelinia is dreaded by every nature in the world.If you only knew what Candadathinks of Glandelinia you'd open your eyes in wonder.You

see Glorinia after Emperor Vivian took Galverinia Hills from general Hanley ad Germaine Vivian at the battle of Abbieann or Geronian Greek we French and English in Candada cherished the hope that the christians could regain all of Galverinia again.Even there were Glandelinians who held high offices in Canada and they were heaverloyal to us and God and hoped the same thing, saying that.Glandelinia's war was very wixked.Then when the news came of apprentprogress of Glandelinia and of Glandelinia holding Galverinia under her sway, Starring heard of the conduct of many foriegners espcially French , German and English who had come over here at leaset for sight seeing at first, now joiningour ranks.And therefore all Glandelinia generals resents it and broods under it.You were the first foriegn boy to be brought here to be ca become a boyscout, and that made Gerald Starring declare war against us."

"But that is all Tom Foolery"said Penrod."As a key to conduct the antuquarian motives of Gerald Starring appear impossible."

"Not to Gerald Starring"answered answered the girlscout sadly/.

" You don't know how crampedour lives are here sometimes in such dangerous campaigns, and how old things and memories are cherished and preserved at risk of manyl lives and injuries and suffering nd sorrw to many of us.And then my own fathers brooding over these things and worrying as to my own safty arises very often.He is a general also his name is Oliver Warbuvhs , Glorinia and he has g fought a number of bloody battles and always won.Once he was wounded badly and blinded for a time and his life was despaired of, but he was brought back to health and his sight restored. He however , a ha not yet returned to the ranks as his dotor won't let him.For my sake I hope he never will." She then smiled.

"My father is very good, and very just."said said very tenderly/

"But he is violent in tempr against the enemy, and lets the situation of the war take hold of him too much..He wants Glandelinia removed from the map of the world forever, he wants Abbieann back , he loves his land an d God far better than he loves even me-- at least I believe he looks on me as anacessory of it."She hesitated."Penrod"she continued presently"That is how it was arranged that Gerald Starring wasto go forth with his own boys and girls and to try and prevent our own efforts at any costs."

Penrod and Angeline Riches easily noticed her unwillingness to pronounce the Glandelinian boyscouts name.

"It is because he hasxa greatpull in the Glandelin ian ranks, and too if he would ever succeed in frustrate any attempt on our part we'd just die from the shock of it that's all.We got a more dangerous enmy in him than ay man of the spies or the Glandelinian generals. Radcliffe knows Gerald Starring more than any of the enemy generals do.The boyscout Radcliffe became more and more suspicious of that boys efforts, and learned that the Glandelinian rascal schemed often to get hold of the Vivian Girl Princesses and to destroy us all if it was possible.He wanted to be the chief of all boys scouts in the glandelinian army, but he found that high in rank as he had become, he couldnt attain the rank he had desired as some Glandelini Glandelinian girlscout recieved a still higher rank. So he set to work, won the confidence of those twovdangerous "International Spies, and got them to try to do us out of our own too.We seem to be in higpower even though he is a boyscout.We have tried to do every thing to apprehend him ifpossible.But we need more clever boys and girls than he is.We all felt obliged to Radcliffe for he had accomplishedmuch by his long terms of saving work.I knew nothing of met of Radcliffes work because I was at a girlscout school in Angelinia Agathia at the time.But when I came to join the ranks after my mothers death by the hand of a foe my father was in the army and found out the boyscout. He tried to capture the boyscout himself by trying to disguise as a Glandelin ian officer and servivin g forc a time on pretension.He could only bring himself to do this because he knew that some day the Glandelinian boyscout must be captured, and all the rest of his little devils would go ad we all should havesour better times again.But he needed more spies to help him.So he got the Gemini, and they failed too --and---that's all Penrod escept tosay that although it was expected that he would come within our ranks disguised or not to try and do us harm though at first I never expected he could do so.My own father knew the danger all of us were in, and he wanted me to set the day to make a desperate campaign against All Glandelinian child sdouts and try to run them out of the Glandelinian army..But it was all like a dream to me--

a very bad dream, as I know now,--I could scream from it, and without the advice of violet and her sisters I could never bring myself to consent on such a dangerous mission.It used to make my father afraid however for my safty in becoming a Ranger as he said it was more safer in other scout ranks.He that is Gerald Starring hates you so much Penrod, and he is also jealious of you---he seemed to devine--- and he caused or accused Canada and the United States of sending you over here to kill him.That is what made me so angry at all the Glandelinians.And he told me that you entered the christian service by means of a pull and that you wished to only make a gain by writing me an insulting letter.It was not true for I knew you secretly ever since you was brought here by General Waldonia Greatfheart your Foster Father, I knew it could not be true.But the lying words hurt me, and because of that I tried to hate the Glandelinians more-- and all the time when I was away from the ranks on other forced duty I used to think about you, and wondered howyou got along with the Princesses whom you served so nobly----and I was afraid- indeed I was afraid when you went out there to expose yourself for that cowardly Englishman at Delights Junction, for I saw you."

"I think I did a rash thing at the time but I'm here yet."Penrod said."

"I think I did know."she answered softly."And I tried to hate the Glandelinians, before even I knew there was a boyscout called Gerald Starring, because too of the folly of the Glandelinian cause,, and the wickedness of it.It was absurd I thought, and it angered me to think that my heart should be at the mercy of such a wicked cause as Glanielinia's. "

"Does that Gerald Starring know ofour decision?"asked Penrod his brow blackening.

"She nodded.

"I told Radcliffe when I discovered Geralds wicked design against all of us.I had always been hypnotized by my sense of duty to my country.But Penrod remember this--her cheeks glowed and shelooked very earnestly at him"If your love of coury and God is as true as ours and mine, and as unswerving as ours, you can remain happy in the knowledge that we all do love you too.Your love ofour country and its cause has been shown too.Nothing can alter our love of any boyscout whether he be Abbieannina or a citizen unless we find his love is not a true one.And although thin gs may go wrong and perils become greater I will never give up my attempts to cause Geralds capture--never Penrod."

She was now crying softly, her cheek against his shoulder.Penrod took her in his arms as he had done many other friendly lovable girlscouts.Now in the light of Mary's story, which recalled Radcliffes forgotten one he could intrepet the dangerous situation all were facing unknowningly.But with the realization of this he felt an indignation that swept away all other impulses save theone which urged him to go when he could before general Vivian and tell him the truth, defy the enemy to the last.

"I'm going to report this dangerous situation to violet and her sisters as soon as I am able."he said.

She started out of his arms.

"Penrod you must not.It would kill them to know."

"But it is our duty to let them know Mary.Don't you see nothing is to be gained by delay or keeping this awful situation a secret from them.It is our duty that they should know.We can tell Emprer Vivian and he'll tell them."

"And that dangerous Starring boyscout will fight you to the bitter end for it."

"But I shall not be off my guard.What harm can that little devil do me?"

"Listen first" she said as she sat on his bed near the pillow"The other day, before we startedout up here general Vivian himself went down to the Wa Flamingo scouts in his own command..He gave them considerable and good advice.He told them that they owed just as much duty to the ranger scouts as they did to him.It was because we loved us all Penrod and they didn't seem to join or communicate with us in anything we did but from dread kept in the background.General Vivian thinks it is their duty to sacrifice themselves for us too.So we never must give up Penrod dear."

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He laughed andput his arm about her.

"I can't believe Gerald Starring willalways go on like that, just because we want to fight sostrong for the cause.No dear Mary, we must tell emperor Vivian, but not to day perhaps as I'm not in any condition to do so.But you see with less than three mon ths more we can't drift any longer .I feel the war is going to assume terrible proportions and we'll have to keep our eyes open."

she sighed.

"I supose you are right,, Penrod,"she said."But then what will happej happen to us.?"

"Is the sit situation very bad...!!!!!!"

"It is not the situation Penrod."It is the principal.Our situation is not so bad.But the Glandelinian child scouts are twenty to thirty times more numerous and stronger in bodily means and weapons than we are--and if they ever get the upperhand I don't know what will become of us. Few of our own kind of children care to be come scouts and violet and her sisters dreads the idea of drafting any one for the ranks. Penrod, our own whole total number of child scouts throughout the whole country entirely is only a hundred and fifty thousand.And think twenty or thirty times that many of the enemy."

PerPenrod looked glum."Th

"I don't know what we can do he said?"

"Isn't there any chance of raising that many?"asked Angeline Richee .

"There isn't noc ance of raising that many unless violet and her sisters can find means"Put in Gertrude Angeline for the first time.It seems as if it isour turn to despair.If they draft any it would go wrong."

"Yes and there's another thing"said Angeline Richee."If we draft boys and girls for scout work, so would the enemy do the same.Drafting would not help us none."

"Are you sure though?" Penrod asked"That sucha sacrifice is worth ouneffort.?I would feel like a beast to force children to become scouts when we're usually in as much danger as the soldiers are mayby more danger.To force little boys and girls into our service;"

"But it's more dangerous for children outside the ranks, at least so we're a hundred per cent safer."said Gertrude."

"How come?"

"Don't you remember the frightful massacres of children of the past and while still occur sometimes right now?"

It was Mary's turn to be surprised .

"I am sure we all love every one ofour child friends and comrades"she finally answered"and from that fact, to makeour small r brethren to sacrifice themselves into the scout force against their will, and when many of them [illegible] moveand mayby sinful and we wouldn't do wrong horeunder any conditions even if we had to all die.A[illegible] there is such work to break them in, to educate them into the drills of the scout force, and the army too would permit them [illegible] they are too little.You know eight is the younges youngest accepted and [illegible] get in at that age and those who do have a pull."

So they resolved [illegible] it, to tell Emprer Vivian of the situation as soon as o portunity presented itself, and to wait, though the waiting for something to eventuate which would resolve the unusual difficulty seemed useless.Only a miracle could save all christian boy and girlscouts from being frustrate[illegible] dangerous glandelinian boy and girlscouts and their grasping hands. There too had been one thing that puzzled Penrod for a long, long, long, time and now it stayed [illegible] and would not leave him...!!!..... Why [illegible] Wanley was using a G Irish man called James Clancy to organize a Gemini of his own to try and oust the Vivian [illegible] A[illegible] territory and the Reg Bengall State, and why [illegible] it a big army under Mylet[illegible] near what was left of Abbieann?Why did not either one of them balk at murder of all armies if possible?"e finally broached this subject with Mary Florinia who looked at him in wonder.

"I never thought of it it in that way"she answered slowly."I thought it wasjust that "[illegible], just sensed that we christian boy and girlscouts were going to be getting the best of him too far to suit his fancy, and he'd give anything to have us all destroyed.He calls us the "Human plague."

"So we are a human plague."Tell we'll make him think we're worse."'used Penrod."We 're not as m ch a plague as he is to us."But I don't credit him nor any of hu his generals with quite so much unusual things as that and somehow I fancy there must be a deeper reason"

As he concluded Mary stopped suddenly and clutched his arm in agatition.Outside in front of the cabin stood a tall general and he was talking to the boy and girlscout officers on the out side.Then he suddenly wheeled and came in.His rage and concern over something which he made litt,e effort to hide was patent. It was pitfully clear that he was the depended man in the christian army.

Jack and Jean were about to enter but when they saw the general inside the cabin they hesitated.

"Come in Jack and Jean"said Mary turning to them.You will excuse me I am sure"she added to Gertrude and the others.

"No declared the general"It will be just as well that we all understand the situation.Everybody knows me as a great general, and therefore I speak without concealment to any one who cares to listen to me.So Glandelinian boyscouts have been giving you and your comrades trouble eh Gertrude, and your two friends?Because you try to capture one of the sneaking little spies and pledge breakers he alleges a plot to murder you?"

Without answering him for the moment Gertrude turned to Mary, and Jack and Jean.

"If My Uncles business is with me alone no doubt you three will excuse us for the present."she said.

"It ain't with you alone."said General Aronburg. "I was just telling my opinion of that Glandelinian boyscout the same as I'd tell any Glandelinian general no matter who or what he was."It is with you Penrod"he continued addressing the boy himself.And it ain't private. Private? pinble, it's too public.What has happened here i has made all of us the laughing stock of every Glandelinian general in the war for I found this out.Every one has heard that you Gertrude, you too Penrod, and even you Jean, and Angeline Richee have been killed by Starring.Now Starring will get a commission for a murder a two doublemurder he never committed."Why?I have kept it quiet as long as I thought it was just a whim but it seems it ain't!Why? Have all of you boy and girlscouts changed. Are there too many dangerous Glandelinian boy and girlscouts.When you make a bargain with the Vivian Girls stick to it. You four should now disguise yourselves as some body else and let the scoundrels believe you're dead and you'll have less molestation."

"Your Excellency"protested Jack"We boy and girls do not break our pledges.What ever b we boy and girlscouts have con tracted to do will be and has been done. Why did the Glandelinian child scouts break their pledges.But this is hardly the occasion, or the manner---."

"I know it ain't said general Aronburg subsiding slightly,, ad and Penrod felt Mary's hand which had gripped his arm tightly to hold his attention relax its tension."'aybe I forgot myself.I don't want to be anything but a gentleman to anybody who are good and friends of ours and in the presence of little ladies especially, but its hard Gertrude my dear neice, when everything is as good as settled to have it again put back into the melting pot."Meaning Gerald Starring and his Glandelinian boy and girlscouts.I don't see where they should come into this interfering business. When you Gertrude were brought here and said to be dying, which I hoped would be a mistake I was almost frantic as you are all I have besides your disguised sister.And when all my officers began to talk excitedly about a glandelinian boy scout whipping four of you, and striking little girls in the face with his fists and then using knives on little girls it is more than flesh and blood could stand."

The general lookedpitifully distressed."His face flushed with resern resentment ngs was also moulded into impotre impotence by conflicting impulses."The general stepped foward.

"I am sure general"said Penrod trying tosit up in bed that the Glandelinian spiesput those Glandelinians child scouts upto this. Those two International spies are more guilty than others and you know too sir those secrets those rascals know about Abbieann. Mary I suggest that you and the general have a quiet talk together. I know that you hold yor word as sacred as we girlscouts always do and us boys too have always held our word."

Mary was a pale as death but she stood foward bravely.

"I'm sure the Glandelinian juvinile scouts never pledged anything with us though it had been rumoredthey did."she said in a low tone.

"Are you sure you know what you're saying?" the gearal asked.

"I sure do. We girl and boyscouts have been misled, and have to en too much for granted.We all made mmistake.I remember when the Starring boy and his two main companions treacheriously conspired to cause general Clancy to cut up gearal Hansons army at the battle of Lebanon, when the they planned the assassination of the general and Violet, and her sisters, they lost whatever chance they had to even get within Hansons lines.We are frustrated, hoodwinked.He knows all our plans and intentions.He knows a good deal about the disaster at Abbieann too."

General Aronburg staggered backward, came up against the table, and stood staring at her in incredulity, in fear, and then in fury his own face whiter than her's.Jack sat down in the chair heavily, seeming to collaspe there.He looked about him in bewilderment,as if he did not trust his hearing. Then general Aronburg flung his fear aside and laughed, and it was the most terrific b lagh that anyone had ever heard. He addressed Penrod.

"I understand now"he sneered."That fine Glandelin ian boyscout has been at work in this matter.Ithis he who had been or isone of those six spy accomplices of the "utt fellow whom the Princesses wished to have captured.I don't blame my neice then for drawing a knife when he strake Angeline Richee.Indeed I don't blame you Penrod nor Jean either. And I expect my little neice to be true to her country asxshe is to God and me no more or no less.I'll take care of all the love.I ain't a hard man.I can make all sorts of efforts for human nature.I expect to bring you another troop by and by as I know you'd do the same to me.But this is different Penrod"he shouted furiously brandishing his fist into the air."He's been trying to break down my armies too. That little Glandelinian camp and also the Professionals had been the case of Myletzes army coming up here for the purpose to try to crush my army and ruin me.He wants Myletze to drive mount of the Abbieann territory.However I'm not the man to allow that. I hope every one of you know what I mean.I'll deal with Myletze and all his generals as soon as I can get my army up there.I'll make him see an adversary that with the help of God he cannot beat if he has whipped others. But are you girls and boys going to continue your dangerous campaign toward Abbieann, or are you not?Better follow my army in its advance if you intend to do so.You know what's it going to cost you all if you take a chance without a protecting army near you."

"We'll go along with the infantry of your army"put in Penrod.

"We'll all go "shouted Jack."We will have a chance."We'll make German Scarring see as in our side right."We have always kept our pledges my dadd'n ne."

"And I'll get at Myletze ad clear Abbieann terri territory of the enemy for good"said the general as hemoved too the door "You have always [illegible] and girls, you're better than even [illegible] soldiers. We'll show the enemy that we can be all"Good devils". The malignant smile upon his face seemed frozen there giving him the aspect of a satyrs mask.The lieutenant whom they had taken aboard to give a ride on the raft had a look of agony and shame that was the most vivid of the pc picture. Jack and Mary and also Jean stood like st statues beside the door watching the general made his way down the rafts decks.Jack put his arm about Jean supporting her.Her [illegible] rage was gone, and she was weeping uncontrollably.Penod watched the three with an inscrutable face. He waitied untill Jean had released herself and stood facing him by his bed.Then he burst out in passionate words.

"Unless we do something everything fo us will be all gone."he cried."And we yone of us will be out of existence."The countrys cause is nearly everything to us but we need more help Jean and Mary.Our Boy Scout Regiments name means little enough now, but it never shall be hoodwinked by any of the Glandelinians."He raised his clenched fist and shook it in the air with a passionately dramatic gestwe as if to register his vow.His face was strangely dotted with red and white.

"I offer you my humble s humblest regrets for what has occured because of those Glandelinians Penrod"said Jack."There was a time when I should have exacted personal requital."No alas we can only do out best to bear the cross, and the h r burden."

"But as for you Jack, you who fortunately came here in an evil day to help us cut down the enemyspurposes of the just you who are one of the best boys, what have you to say at it Gerald Starring

who has almost bought this ruin upon us all."!

Jean started forward as if to protest to such a question but he silenced her with a gesture of his open hand.

"I ask you what you have to say over the situation we're in Jack"he repa repeated."I ask you how we can justifyourselves and form a better movement,, you who are one of the best boyscouts in our ranks(spanks'(and have often presumedupon the fact that you know lots about those Glandelinian boyscouts ."

"Starring knows about ourplans of the Abbi ann so x searches."answered Jack simply.

The words seemed to sting Penrod to the quick.

"That Glandelinian boyscout is presumt presumptious Jack"he crdd, "Perhaps he too thinks that we are already beaten in our work--or that after we three have been so badly wounded willgiveupthe campaign and all go home ."

Jean cried out, and laid her hand appealingly upon Penrod's arm, he however did not repulse her, and continued speaking as if he were not conscious of her presence.

"We shall never give up any campaign.Of course the Glandd inians have one enough harm to us, Jack.When I am well again I will put the raft at my own disposition, and go forth for Abbiean and dis cover the cause of the destruction there, or die. And henceforward unless we can claim our own efforts to a success---we hope to see no more of those Glandelinian boyscouts ."

"Every thing that has happened to our country and its good righteous people is very unjust."cried Mary Glorinia."Every body in this Country loves God as much as the Saints throughout the world does, and do. There There exist no reason why Glandelinia cannot be proven of the guilt for we know she destroyed Abbieann.We know that the Butt and Jeff Spies were at main conspirators of it all. Abbieann was as good ax city as any other and yet it is no more."

"They are the con spirators even though it cannot beproven."crdd Penrod."That business have they here.!Glandelinia is not their country. They're foriegners ad have nobusiness serving a cause they don't even know about just for the sake to gain money and secure their own selfish ends."

"They are responsible for the destruction of Abbieann."cried Gertrude."Uncle told me that long ago."

"And they're not Glandelinians either."retorted Jack hotly."That's why they're wanted worst than anyone."

"You and he and his companion were not too proud to pledge the christian countrds to the mercy of Glandelinia and her whims, who is a nation whom now the whole world fears and hates because of what she had done and is stilllll doing. Everythinghapponed without our knowledge."

"They have done enough so there."cried Penrod hotly."And it'll never be a past."

"Yes andthe memory is not past.These crazy Internationalspledged us to Glandelinia andplaced the firstlinks of chain about the necks of our country of Calverinia hoping that the understanding, to which she was no party would gradually ons omash Calverinia, cause her a capture and psession, that the country should be one a part of Glandelinia and menance us still more, and save Glandelinia so she could dominate the whole world."

Penrod turned on her a look in which humilation struggled with anger. He seemed stupified by her statement that is Jeans.Jack interposed.

"Penrod we all lovour Native Country, and we all intend to stay and stick to our work through thick and thin."he saidcalm calmly. But "But I realize your feelings Penrod,and I realize how great a shock it has been though I didn't think you'd feel it this way being of foriegnbirth.That proves your love for the country that has adopted you. You decide to go through with it when you're well.Believe me we all wish you were well enough now, and Gertrude, and Angeline too. But we shall return soon day and see general Vivian, [illegible] again I hope.There exists now no reason, no valid reason; for Gerald Starring and his accomplices;;;?;?;?;

"The [illegible] Penrod, losing all self control."The day when he and his companions showed their treacherous cowardly methods to the Vivian Girls and caused them to be reperanded and taken far away andone of them to be under that counded confounded Augustine St Clare was even the most evil day of my own life.We could be [illegible] with the trip even if I'm not well enough to sit up.We'll see to it he'll trouble us no longer."

Penrod then raised his voice, and shouted;

"Oh Angeline Jennings.Oh Angeline Jennings..:::.""

From outside on the raft but from the far rear of it a quivering cry answered him..and soon through the doorway of the cabin Angeline Biennings entered and stooed at the salute. Jean herself came up to Jack softly, andplaced her fingers on his arm, [illegible] looking into his face wistfully.

"We will go ahead with the campaign"she said.The "The whole situation had been a terrible terrible blow to him.Sometimes I'm afraid for everything.I shall tell you later on;---"

"Angeline"said Penrod"Jack has decided much to my satisfaction to sum assume command of the boyscouts in my stead untill I'm well enough to take itup again.You will have the goodness to prepare everythingpossible for him so he will know how to take the full responsibility.You too will see to it that the endineer moors the raft here untill general Aronburgs army moves northward.We are going to follow him tward Abbieann."

The leader of girlscouts muttered acquiescence and walked away.Jack turned tward Penrod.Frankly he heldout his hand.But Penrod did not seem to see the gesture.He lay staring at the open doorway, and Jack saw a small man brought in, one hand clutching his spreading collar and his face was purple as if hewas strangling.The girls cried out in fear and the man would have fallen heavily to a chair had not the boys who we brought him held him.His eyes closed his arms dropped over his sides, his head fell on his breast.Jack ran to him.

"He's shot by a Glandelinian sniper on on shore"said one ofthe boys who had brought him in."Shot in the lung."

The man was an officer.He was unconscious.The three boys tried to raise him to carry him to an empty sofa, but the man seemed made of iron as he lay, a dead weight in their arms.At the cry of the girls the sl soldier guard had come in.As he percieved the soldier lying in the chair he began to utter wild whimpering cries.He panted up to him, ben over bent over him, kne kneeled took his hands in his.

"He's badly wounded by a shot " hemumbled."I'm sure;"

"Help me get him into the next room, into a bed"said Jack.

The guard did not seem to understand, but he aided the boys to raise the wounded officer, and the four of them half dragged half carried him into the next cabin room, and laid him on the cot."Mary and Jean knelt on each side of him, their hands clasped, their eyes strained on his face.Jack was loosening his collar and the upper part of his clothing to find the wound.The guard had gon out to call for help.

"Oh he's our best man, a good guide.They've killed him. Those snipers havekilled him"cried Jean in pathetid pathetic grief."They have killed him!"

Jack could do nothing.She seemed distraught, and the soldier lay like a fallen tree, and his rattling breaths blended with the little girls sobs, and there was no other sound in the room..George hearing the sound came in saw, and explained where the sniping had done.

"Locate the sniper, and for heavens sake GET him"whispered Jack."You have keen sharp eyes.Go some fake movement to draw his fire, and get him with a grapeshot."

"I will." and the boy was out.

The guard came in with the doctor.Mary herself had brought up a basin and a little sharp knife.A towel was on his arm.She muttered somethin' something to Jean , who rose from herkness andlooked at Jack with a brave effort at self composure.

"She is going to bleed him."she said."We always bleed much wounded comrades as you know yourself for that's the only hope.It's the only chance while the doctor works over the wounded to see what nature it is."

Jack feeling helpless and forlorn took the lancet from Marys hands and looked at the edge as she said "Boil the instrument first Jack.You know how to do it well."

"Can you get some hot water!"asked Jack on of a boyscout coming in.

"Boiling water! Why yes.There's some at hand right near.I'll get it." And he hurried to obey. He came back with a pan of steaming hot water.Jack watched the two little girls in great lve and admiration at their courage and selfpossession as sh they went to and fro intent upon their task.While the water was boiling over a stove two men had been summoned by the doctor and they put the wounded officer into a cabin bed...!!..!!

When the water was boiled sufficiently enough Jean sterilized the lancet, and then handed it to Mary, whose little fingers which were shaky before grew fim as she performed theoperation.When it was over and the arm and the wounded which was near the shoulder bad daged .Then as the dotor tookrose a slight improvement in the wounded mans cons condition seemed already manifest. But the doctor shook his head.

"Mortal wound."he said regretfully."Only a miracle will save him. The bullet went through near the heart."

."I shouldlike tostay if I can be of help"said Jean.

She spoke doubtfully for she felt that if the man was mortally wounded she could do little.,nd in view i of the wounding of three child scout leaders, and this added burden the situation seemed worse. George yet too had not succeeded in locating the sniper.

"I think we'd better go back into the other room with Gertrude and the others"said Angeline Jennings."We all must be very careful of ourselves.We'll have some one take care of him and have Masses said for his Recovery."

She put an arm around Jean and Jaci,(Mary Stayed with the man) and said"This incident makes us love each other and the countrys cause all the more"and she kissed them both.

It was evident as Angeline Jennings paced the length of the rafts decks that she was greatly disturbed, in deed she was angry..At length exhausted, she returned to her cabin w earily sank into her chair, and then a boyscout entered and announced her sister. Dolores addressed her;

"I see your wearied Angeline.It's a real treat indeed to find you here alone.There are so many things wi which I wish to speak to you about.We are going to hold a meetin g right after breakfast all of us officers and we are so anxious to have you head it and Jack will be president.Can we count on you sister dear .We feel there is so much you can do to help us.Your experience too has been so great. The demands of the whole Calverinia for help during the past sixmonths have increased soraprdly that we ourselves facing so many perils.are a scarcely able to cope with conditions as they exist to day.Will you attend the meeting.?"

"Yes I will be glad to go."

The meeting started with the Lords Prayer and several others was a very animated one.Brilliant girl and boyscout leaders and all the privates, all attended, and all advanced their theories for handling the situation, hoodwinking the enemy and soforth, in deed of handling a situation of the whole war which had become terrbly colossal in in its proportions.Angeline Jenningslistened attentively to the speakers.Their arguments appealed to her, and yet at time it seemed to her and others too, she could detect a tone of sorrow, of discouragement of want of lack of despair.shewas aroused from her absorption by a clapping of hands, for her name had been called. Graciously, and dignifiedly she took her place on the speakers stand and after they all saluted her she looked about her.

"First"she said "I want to thank all of you my best friends and comrades for asking me to lead the meeting today.I deem it both a pleasure and a privilige. There islittle I can add to what has already been said.But our management of the expedition wh we have planned is worthy of the highest recommendation. There isjustone suggestion I would like to make and I hope no one will feel I am over stepping my efforts in making it .It is this;"The situation is unusual. We are facing conditions procured by the war to day that would have staggered all historians of the past.It is theold age horor.Glandelinia's war had become a business of destruction of all children .It is for this I plead that we all go through with our campign for the discovery of the causd cause of the disaster at Albiesnn no matter wht obstructions are confronting us.We know Glandelin is is guilty, but we want proofs to expose her."

There was a clapping of hands and a most hearth heart felt applause as she took herplace.

In the meantime most of the boy and girlscouts had heard more firing far away in the distance. They wondered if it was any con tinuat ion of a or the same battle, or whether it was a new one starting somewhere else as they believed they were too far away to hear the battle raging along general Vivians lines.

"I hear more firing"said the boy scout,, Ned.

"I'll bet it's a new battle starting."replied Jack."

"My goodness see that big long line of wagons and autos and men and guns out there on shore.They're headed southward but opposite

general Aronburgs shore..Maybe we'd better move on a little.They're Glandelinians.I don't believe this cove is big enough to hide us from them."

"They're going past prety fast."put in the boy scout Jimmie.

"Yes those fellows with the College Student hats are headed N orthcand not south."put in Henry.I believe they're zimmermannians."aded the boy in astonishment.

"I guesx guess you're right Henry."Jane Hollfort agreed. "How does it happen. Whose army is it?"

"I know"spoke up Harry Andrews."I'm pretty sure they are

In making our trip we came close to where Mylatze must have his army on the opposite shore.We are probably therefore close to his army.And what I've heard of his army we'd better look out.They're not like the Manleys. Manley is nothing compared to Mylatze."

"I wish it was bres kfast time"said Mildred."I'm hungry."I wonder when it is ready.?"

"We got an hour yet.We're up earlier than usual this morning. But why don't you get a small lunch"advised Jane.

"If we have a chance we ought tochange clothes and wash our old ones before the christian army advances, and hang them uptodry.That adventure we had made us all -- oh ---so dirty."

"There's be a nice close line handy if it wasn't so far on shore on the enemy side."announced Mildred."See it?"

She pointed to a long brass wire suspended,, over on the shore not very far from the ground.

"What's that?"demanded Jane looking astonished."I've never seen that kind of wire before. "

"It looks brand new"said Mary Stanck also looking at it with her field glasses."I wonder what in the world it can be and what it is doing there.Oh I know "she cried. "It's an enemymilitary phone line.I've a mind to bring it down with a good shot of grape and canister."

"That would be a nice idea."Jimmie laughed."Hello Centrail Catach a big bunch of little"christian doggies"here Hello.Hello Wrong number oh all right-----Oh looke girls see the nice big wagon coming along, and no officer near.It's full of soldiers too."

All of those on deck turned to lok look shoreward, at a wagon whose horses were tearing along at a rapid pace.However one of the front wheels struck a hole, wrenched an axle lurched heavily to one side and then stopped before topsling over as the driver had shouted frantically to the horses(three) to halt.

Several men in the uniform of officers, supprently so e high generals jumped quickly from the machine.A number of men also came out of the wagon.One of them a sergeant produced from the wagon a case from which he took a set of telephones.So stepping to the side of the road and attatching a clamp to the wire, Mildred had discovered, he pushed a long brass pin into the ground and began a conversation. Mildred touched Joy St Claires arm.

"Get ons out joy"she exclaimed."Maybe we can get some information. It must be of importance to us."

"I'll try but I don't know though, whether our phone would work here"she answered.However though they did find their phone worked all right, they could not makeout much information becuse the officers spoke in a code language that sounded foriegn.

"It is in German"said Mildred"Go Joy call George.He'll understand." George was summoned and he listened.

"They're going to play a trick on general Aronburg"he said."The fellow said somthing abou us too, and I know Mylatze is making a long detour around Aronburgs army to try and flunk him out of his position.Possibly he is telling Mylatze of the ruse."

"Must be some dignatary if he can also get a troop of cavarly whenever his wagon breaks down"continued George."Say "he contin ued "Supose we capture the wholecutfit.They look easy.There's no n one near."

"Go as far as you like George."Mildred agreed."There's is a good chance.We'll have guns ready toward shore if there's any help at hand for them."

In a moment George was leading an expedition of boyscouts and girls too.Nothing was sa seen after that but twenty minutes later, the child scouts were coming back in the boats in a roundabout way an d they had the officers and men with them. They were soon on board.

"Onto the raft, and helpyourselves to the cabin where we have sure of your comrades"George cried."So you were going to hang us! Well we have you hanged.Good thin g we overheard your conversation.

General Archburg knows the movement already for he's been signalled a warning."

The prisoners looked sullenly as they were placed into the other cabin. nd and a stronger guard placed.However before breakfast, the soldiers were first given something to eat, and then under guard of soldiers transfa transfered to the christian side of the shore to be brought to camp.

Breakfast time soon came for the boys and girls and accordingly they fall too with vigor. It was noticed that the officer whom they had given the ride on the raft was a tall man of commanding appearance for they had not recognized him during the night, and whose well knit figure showed years and years of hard training,,, and he did not seat himself as all the rest did upon the floor of the raft,,, but remained standing.His stern yet kindly face be bore evidence of nights and days of great anxiety.And the keen eyes seemed to tak take in every detail.The boys and girls at once felt a liking to this general.After all had been supplied, with a plateful of bacon and eggs, n and stewed chicken,with glasses of milk and coffee for those who used it, Angeline Riches addressed the leader in an effort to be of assistance to hinas he did lokw rried about something.

"you have had had some experiences during your many trips on this long raft."he said to Angeline Jennings.

"Yes indeed"was the reply"Even now while waiting for general Aronburg to advance we shall be delayed for some time."

"you sure have a good raft boat here" olunteered the officer"and if you care to accept I can have a goodly supply of long range ,achine guns placed on board which could sweep any shore on which the enemy may be on."

"Thank you for your courtsey"replied Angeline Jennings"but we have desired traveling more than fighting and besides we arenore amply supplied with guns than you see here.By the way!"she continued do you know why we are always making these trips!"

"No.Why!"

Feeling sure that she could trust the kindly face befor her, Angeline Jennings reccunted as short in detail as possible the main i c incidents leadingupto their present position.

"What is yourpleasant plan!"asked the offder.

"We wish to go forward tward Abbiceann as quickly as p ss possible!"Angeline Jennings replied eagerly."We will try to find some clues as to the cause of the disaster there, findout who were the real guiltyones, and cause their capture or even destruction ifpossible."

"And what persons do you really suspect if you say the Glandelinian surthorities are really responsible, and yet there is no proof against them!"

"The two Mutt andJeff Spies.They have also stolen many great and importantplans sometimes ofour fortifications and other things."

"Ah and they have disposed of them to Glandelinia!"

"They have done that often.I and all my followers and even Violet and her sisters are at a loss to know how to prevent their doing so in the future.Perhaps I can get in to the enemy lines sometimes and I may try Myletzes someday.I understand however that that glandelinian general is verypowerful."

"Yes and he's very dangerous too"said the officer.why not try to get the assistance of general Aronburg.He is very much delighted to assist you in all your worthy endeavors, and if I see the general I shall speak to him about the matter.We appreciate all you boy and girlscouts have done for the cause and shallhope toreward you all.The morning is very hot and smoky again"he concluded as if the subject were closed.Turning away he removed his outer coat.

"Here comes a party of christian troopers."announced Minnie,who had been scanning the christian sde of the shore, as well as keeping a sharplook out all around."

"And what's moreimportant here comes a troop of the Concentinian cavarly"Jean rejoined looking across the river."They've also got a lot of empty sadd saddles.I wonder if they have been in an engagement."

"They must have I believe"the officer said preparing todepart for he had his duties to fullfill.

At this moment a sudden roar far off to the north far behind the woods on the enemy shore told of the planting of one of the far distant Glandelinian batteries which had so recently passed..Another and another, and still another caused the earth totremble.At regular intervals the cannon were fired almost as rapidly as they could be loaded, and shells exploded in the river dangerously close to the raft.

"We're under fire"gasped one of the boys/

Admit the frightful din, the boys and girls saw the cavarly force desc stop not far from where the shore met even with the raft but seperated by a strip of woods.Their attention was diverted for the moment by the arival of another wave of hosemen.Shaking hands with all of them whowere assembled before them the officer turned.A quick salute was exchanged, and he was rowed ashore to where he was assisted to mount . The horse was a magnificent animal.

"Look there"whispered Bob into Jeans ear."See there's a whole throng of Glandelinians on shore over there.They're getting into boats.See the hoooh who happens to be their leader getting into the boat.The way he's dressed he surely isn't much of an army officer."

Jean smiled as she turned back tward H Gertrudes cabin, and she begzn to explain to her friends how the man had gotten into the boat wrong and the joke was hugely enjoyed untill Violet also explained that she understood that to be the only way a certain man can enter a boat.

"And who is the officer if you please."one of the boys asked.

"I do not know. But they're heading for the raft."

"Well good night.In the face of generals Aronburg's army.Well good night.Some nerve I'll say"shouted Radcliffe who stood near by. "Now that you mention it I can see what dare devils they are.Well what do you know about trainingour loudest guns on them.That'll arouse the army and it'll bring a hot fire down upon them."!

The guns were trained and opened upon the boats with a loud thunderous roar.Instantly all was confusion, ten boats were demolished and sunk, and while the Glandelinians by the scores were desperately swimming for the shore, al all of the boys and girls began talking and shouting at once, the Glandelinians were cursing, swearing and blaspheming, and all on the raft seemed unmindful of the fact that somewhere else Glandelinian cannon were booming but a short distance away, and one shell had almost hit the raft, and that the enemy was replying with a rifle fire from the surviving boats at once.

The other men on board the raft had brought more guns to the railing, and now Angeline Jennings seemed to be aware of their danger. Breaking into the din she said;;;

"Comrades we'd better be getting out of here.These Glandelinians are shelling us, and sending many men to try and capture us and if they come closer in the face of even general Aronburgs army we'd be in a mighty badplace."

"Miss Jennings your right"said Jack."This locality is getting rather warm for boys and girls about our size.We'll have to get closer to the christian lines.I'm ready to go."

As Jack turned to give an order to the Engineer by his megaphone a big shell come screaming through the air.Evidently the enemy was getting the range, for the shell landed near the edge of the raft and in exploding threw a huge geyser and a wave of water upon it swamping scores of the boys and girls, and drenching many others with a blinding spray, killing six gunners, destroying two guns and tearing a rift in that portion of the raft and sending fragments in all directions but fortunately none of the children were hurt.All of those also on deck were covered with debris andmud from the river bottom And in all the excitement Jack suddenly cried

"Oh look"and hepointed tward the engine room cabin."See that fellow by the cabin.Hold on there you or I'll fire."

A tall man beside the wall of the cabin, seemed to bellighting a fuse.He had laid a huge package by the wall of the cabin, glanced at Jack and a score of others running with drawn automatics,then bounded away, but they all opened fire and he fell dead riddled with bullets.suddenly two other fellows, one resembling the "Mutt"ran from another part of the raft and before anyone could fire at them had leaped into the water and disappeared.....

"That's the mutt "fellow."shrilled Jack."He's been on the raft and hir ed these fellows to blow up the engine room.Harry.Jury.Don't let him get away."

At once the boys and girls dashed to the western railing. Without stopping to reckon the consequences Jack darted for the package, seized it with its still sputtering fuse, and started to carry it away from the cabin.Jean who had been close behind her boy co chum reached Jacks side in an instant with her drawn knife in hand.It required only a moments time to cut the fuse close to the bundle. A last spurt of flame showed indeed that the effort had been successful . Both Jack And Jean then realized their very

narrow escape indeed(you are in need)

"What shall we do with than this stuff, Jean Jack asked somewhat shakily.

"Throw it overboard into the water as far as you can."she an swered. "But I'm worrying about George the German boy and some others.They dived into the water after those escaping men and are out there all alone.Can you learn and follow where they have gone.Fortunately for us the shelling has stopped and the boats have retreated.A mass ofour own comrades teams the shore."

"I sure don't know about that!"Jack hesitated."It would be hard work for even all those boys to battle those three men, but they'll come back all right.They won't stay out there long."

"He won't be back right away if the "Butt"spy gives th him the worst of it."decided Mildred anxiously."I'll swim into the water with a party of men and find him"

"Thank you Mildred"said Jean gratefully."We can 't afford to lose the German boy,and I'm afraid the "Butt"fellow is getting desperate."

Mildred broad a boat and men getting in she started to row for the spot where George and the others had disappeared in the water.She had not rowed far, when they heard the roar of a huge Gasoline launch. In an instant one shot across the water.

"There he is"Mildred cried."There's George on the boat with his companions fighting some man."

"It was indeed true.George and three other boys appeared clenging to the bow of the boat and seemed to attempting to climb into the body of the craft even while it was running full speed.The boys and girls on the raft also saw him and saw him lean far out to peer round the curve of the boat.As the boat proceeded onward the piolet described an immense circle evidently trying to confused those on the raft in case they intended to fire on the boat.With the added burden of the four strong boyscouts shifting weight, and the strong counter current in the river he seemed to have trouble in keeping the launch steadied/. "Two shots then three at once in quick succession were heard.The boys and the spy were exchanging compliments.Neither however had scored. The boat was now swinging back tward the wider stretch of water, where only all on deck were amazed at the sudden predicament of their friends for out from shore shot half a dozen boats loaded with men in gray.

Mildred who was nearest the gun, unlimbered it, aimed it carefull and brought two of the persuing bowms down and hurled all in them to eternity.Again she loaded and fired, again and again she did it, and nearly fifty surviving men floudered in the water.However she finally ran out of ammunition for the gun and couldn't get no opportunity to shoot the others out of the water.Jean had a magazine rifle and she aimed at some boats when a shot came from one of them and hurled the gun from her hurting her wrist badly.

"Somethings the matter with the po pilotof the other boat"said Jack."He's coming right tward us."

"Sure he's trying to circle round, to try and clear us."Answered Jean nursing her sore wrist."But how can we help George."

"T Take a shot at the pilot"Fred"advised Mildred eagerly.

"Don't shoot, Fred"cautioned Jean."You might hit one of the boys."

Nearer swept the boat, and its four warring passengers, and nearer came the persuing Glandelinian boats.The boys and the man insidethe boat, (not the pilot) continued toexchange shots, but the condition was unfavorable to accurate marksmanship.Suddenly one of the shots from a gun fired by Radcliffe caused a terrific splash in the water near the boat and almost upset it.Horrified the boys and girls on deck stood in theirplaces as the persuing boats drew closer unable to move.The Glandelinians were firing shot after shot and finally the three boys were killed, and George seemed to lose his grip on the framwork. He dropped from the edge of the boat into the water.

To prevent the other boats fromeing gaining too close some of the others on board the raft opened with a roar of pistol and rifle fire, and a machine gun was turned upon them and the Glandelinians terrified at their loss began to make a hasty retreat..One of the boats in its haste struck the roots of a floating tree and Jack aimed a pivot gun at it and blew the boat, the tree, and the rascals into the air..Ex t ex cating to find George badly rattled Mildred urged her boat which too had been under fire without results away in the direction of where the boy went into the water.Jack followed in another boat at a rapid pace pace.He raised his own magazine rifle and sent shot after shot in the direction of the retreating craft with vindictiveness.The clamor of the motor suddenly ce

Evidently several bullets had reached a vital part of the machinery.Realizing his danger.The po pilot stopped the boat.Jack and Mildred rowed their boats in the direction of the boy intending to lend their aid in rendering what assistance they might to George.A shell from some distant rur fel into the water a short distance in front of Mildreds boat and burst sending into the air a huge column of water and smoke and almost swamping boat boats.Staggered and stunned, the two, determined to do their best or die blundered ahead.A score of bullets whizzed past from shore, but they pressed on.Another water eruption occured bbddnochharm.A was not overhead enough.

But did no harm. A shrapnell banged in the sky but was not overhead enough and the fragments hit no one.Another attacking party, sent foward by boats under protection of the Glandelinian guns, was evidently trying to frustratethe rescue of the boy, and also to kill boy and capture the raft.Other bullets came of across the water.Frantic with fear for the safty of themselves and George, but determined to rescue George ifpossible before he was drowned, the two boats went on, those of the boys fighting upon the persuing boats that were closest.Directly both Milnes and Jack and all the rest were overjoyed to see them in the boats returning though still persued by the Glandelinians.

Radcliffes heart, indeed the hearts of many sank low for when they observed that Mildreds boat was bringing in George's inanimate eyes were closed and his head rolled side to side with them movement of the boat.

"Is he-----!" Radcliffe did not dare to say the dreaded word.

"Don't know yet!"gased Mildred, as they were bring his onnboard board. "Where did you find him?What is the blood"asked. Violet.

"He is bleeding at the nose and from a wound in the arm"replied Jack replied Jack answering the latter question first.A"as the Glandelinians opened fire two bullets hit him glancing boys.We pulled him out of a mass of debris floting in the water from the other boats and from among the bodies of dead Glandelinian soldiers.The boats are charging upon us, and trying to shoot us and so we did not dare to stop out there toexamine the poor boy.Open the medicine chest. and And get some water."

Two of the boys staggered with George across thedeck and into the cabin and laid the boys limp form on the nearest cot.One of the boys had dashd ahead and now ran up with the medicine chest and a bucket of water.Nearly exhausted with his violent exertions and the experience he had gone through Jack at once set about measues to revive the boy ifpossible and see where his wounds were.The others contri u contributed their efforts to the same ends,and in a very short time they were rewarded by seeing their comrades eyes lids twitch a little.A gasp and a shake of the head told them that George still lived.Jack threw his head high upon into the air.

"Glory to God"he shouted."Can't kill a German so easy as that."

"George.George."called Jean"are you hurt.?Can you speak!"

To both questions asked frantically George only nodded his head.

"Where are you hurt most , George.'Speak to me if you can!"

"I was hit twice"was the scarcely audible reply.

In a few minutes or a little longer two of the boys were finished with treating the two bullet wounds which proved to be a trifle.

"Just two bullet scratches."announced Jack gleefully, as they finished finished the dressing of the wound.

"I'm going to sign apledge."came George's faint voice."That was a lash too much."he added with a forced grin at his friends.

"Stop it Georgeplease "commanded Jean."That was too serious."

"Did you get him?"inquired the prostrate lad.

With a start the boys and girls remembered the "Butt"fellow and his boat.They had seen the boat stepping in the water,but in the excitement had forgoten him, and they had forgotten too, the danger in which they still were in.With one accord, they scrambled to their feet and began to look about.

"I move we get out h of here as quickly as possible"Voted James.

"You're right Indeed."Jack assented eagerly."Let's carry George into his own cabin, and then be on our way to the shore of the christian lines.He will need a little help I guess."

Supported between Jack and Fred, George was helped back to his own cabin.The engineer began the engine of the raft.Just as the raft started a terrific roar in the water greeted all of the boys and girls.A terrific blast reverberated through the air right on board the raft, and through the smoke they saw a number of men climbing

docking for the edge of the raft.Jack shouted an order to his co
pa companions further down as hop intol heard the four men.Just atly
they and a number of others with rifles at the ready leaped for ward
across the deck.The men were very qudk, quicker than they ever
were before, but were not quick enough for the scouts, and they were
quickly surrounded by the boys and even many of the girls,who threatened
them with rifles and long knives and pistols.Jack ran up andone of
the men said something in German.

"I cannot understand you"he said sneeringly."Can any of you christian
dogs speak German."

"I can"answered George Zimmerman"but we tell you to surrender.Escape
is impossible.You must come to Cabin IO with us."

"What is the charge!"queried the one who was a German siding with
Glandelinians."What have we done!"

"G orge laughed lo d loudly.Apparently the joke was a hure one.

"Charge"he repeated incredulously."Do you know that we have as much
a right tocapture you when your on our raft, as much as you would have
to capture us if we were in your lines.You are prisoners because
you were caught on our raft settingoff an explosive that after all
made more noise than it did dmmage,and it is not necessary for us kids
to have a charge of a warrant.You are prisoners because we carry our
warrants in these!" indicating his revolver."You must either come
with us or be knifed or shot.Which shall it be!"

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"We surrender"stated the Glandelinian captian hopelessly"Where do
we go!"

"March along tward Cabin No IO with us.We shall go slowly.
disarm them fist boys."

"This was done.

"Butour comrade here has just suffered a bad fall in trying to
escape"the captian protested."He cannot walk far in his present
condition."

"So" c qmented George, with a quick suspicious glance at the
soldier indicated."Yes he is evidently weakened, and is but nearly
a young man.We'll see that he is carried in cabin noIO.The other
five men can walk however as the cabin is but a short distance."

An order was spoken in a low tone to two Abyssinkilian soldiers on
board the raft, who at once set off at a shrp walk.The others still
surrounded the Glandelinians to prevent their escape,.Refusing
to answer any further questions,and laughing at no explanation
in regard as to who controlled the raft, the boys slowly [illegible]
prisoners tward the cabin where they recently had placed the other
prisonerd earlier in the morning. They were placed in, and the door
locked and the cabin strictly guarded.The raft was now going at a
rapid pace and they soon left the whizzing of bullets and the occasional
of shells a goodly distance in the rear.

"I see general Aronburrs camps some distance ahead."cried
on of the boys.

"Yes there is where we are going."replied Jack."There is he adquarters
too where we'll also sent these prisoners, especially relatives
of the Nylotzs.And others who have red hair like that German one here"
he added with a chuckle. They soon were back to their former spot
where they had reached the camps on shore before, and the party of
men who were assigned to take over the prisoner wentoff with them.Then
a party of other christian soldiers wished to come aboard the raft and at
the gang plank w they were halted by a sentry who however permitted
them to pass on after recieving the proper answer to his challenge.

All who remained on deck, it being daylight now gazed with
frank curiousity at the scenes about them.It seemed like a hure
page clipped from a big story book.There they recognized the many
features about which they had heard of general Aronburrs
army camps but scarcely believed existed.It was considered best
by the doctor fowhave the wounded child scouts under care [illegible]
Aroburrs camp until they were well enough to be on duty.Therefore
they were sent down on stretchers.

For a few moments while they carried the three, they found walking over
the rough road very difficult.

"I wish we had some wagons handy."announced Gertrude."I feel rather
tired somehow.This has been a hard day for all of us."

Redcliff Redcliffe was at once overtaken wi with remorseat her
almost forgetfulness of her sisters shaken condition.The diminiat girl
was however quickly busy with arrangements for the comfort of the whole
three.Other lodgathered about eager to help."

"I saw officer"Redcliffe calledout to one of them riding up"Our
wounded comrades are to be transferred to general Aronburrs
headquarters."

"Headquarters.Why that's the house right there."O Pointing to a small
swell red Schoolhouse not half a hundred feet away.

They were astonished to recognize the officer as Ned Perking.

"How do you do sir."greeted Redcliffe, pleased to recognize
their friend. The officer dismounted, stepped forward and extended
his hand, which the other grasped firmly.

"You're thee little leaders!"queried the general."Are they hurt
badly.!"

"In a few words Jean herself out lined the circumstances of the day
before.She told of the enforced fight in the barn after they got
Gerald Starring s trapped, and how unfortunately the four of them
were worse wersted as the boy was too strong, and how he ended
by stabbing them or the three.She showed by her a bandage around
her head where Starring struck her with the butt of hismistol.The
rest of the story was supplied by Gertrude and Penrod.

"Bring them into general Aronburrs headquarters." commanded the
officer."We will provide comforts for them without delay, although
this is far from being a hospital.

"Jean walk "protested George Zimmerman."I'm more shaken and tied
up than from my wounds. "is a Jennings setting or system of setting
up exercises has kept us as hard as nails, and fr m aside from
being sho en toniens, I'm all right."

Smiling at the exhibition of grit the general helped George
to his feet, and then guided him into the door of the building.The
little party was conducted to what had evidently been a luxurious
bed chamber in the building which was a old time Little Country Red
Catholic School House, and half Convent. Here stood a great four
poster bed with a great canopy and into this Gertrude wasplaced,
and Angeline too, while Penrod was put into another room.

"Now you must lie there and sleep as long asyou like."announced
the general."I will have so e food brought to you directly as food
will help your wounds to hee heal.Then turning to Redcliffe he con
tun continued"It is necessary under the circumstances to detain your
raft and your whole re-gment for a time as general Aron burr is
not coiuto advance until he forses Nylatzes intention.We are
informed that you are acting as spies for general Vivienne in the
interest of the christian cause, and therefore we too may need your
service.But for the sake of your Companions,all of you need to require
to maintain a strict surveillance.You will make it easy to under
stand.Unless of course you wish to go ahead alone and leave
your f wounded co rades here, it'll be all the same.

"We will rather remain and rest mthe regiment of scouts a bit sir"
replied the girlscout Angeline Jennings, while Redcliffe nodded his
a ssent, and grateful for the assistance to the leaders."We are
only anxious to make sure that the two men about whom we spoke
thismorning is not allowed to carry out h their intentions."

A smile greeted this remark.General Ned Perking then went on;;

"Don't trouble your mind in that direction.I think I I am safe to
say that none of the Glandelinian gods or boy and girlscouts desires
to risk coming to general Aronburrs army, and certainly does not care
to run into Camp girls pi Girls of the standing we have here."

"Thank you again."Redcliffe exclaimed."You are very kind sir.....

"I will leave you now for a time."stated general Perking."Should
you need an ything, you may communicate your wishes to the guard on duty
just outside the door.I have much work to do, and the time passes
rapidly. It is already past breakfast time.I will see you again
presently, and if you wish I will wire a message to general Vivien
stating where you and your regiment is."

"Thank you sir..""SAASSXZ

As soon as the general had departed Redcliffe glanced out into the
passage-way.Several soldiers in bright reddish purple uniforms
stood on guard not far away.At Redcliffes appearance he dipt
brought his rifle into position that some of them did, then stepped
forward inquiringly.But as he didn't think there was anything needed
Redcliffe gave the scout salute, and withdrew again into the apartment.
Gertrude and Angeline Riches had dropped off to sleepp.

"Gritty little girlscouts."commented one of the guards indicat
ing with a nod the two slender figures."They [illegible] injured
[illegible] tell he, but won't admit it and says its nothing."

"Our leaders are chock full of grit and good sense and loyalty to their cause and lots of time a soldiers more than we can say" declared Radcliffe tenderly watching the cleaning girlscouts.

"Don't know what's we do without them"Jean almost choked."I put in there were lot more of them or girls and boys like them"she ended with a laugh that spoke also the of her affection for her leaders.

Truth indeed to tell(pussy in the well), all of the boy and girlscout followers had been far more alarmed at the recent danger of the two girls, and Proved than any of them were willing to admit."

"Here comes a little morning lunch."announced Jack in a tone of mild relief.Of course we've had breakfast some time ago but still I'm hungry.

"Quench for the piman."cried Radcliffe advancing to meet a man bearing a huge tray piled high with dishes."I'm hungry enough to eat a lion."

"What's that about an escaped lion?"asked George attempting to rise.

"Go to sleep George dear."advised Jean."nothing is going on that you might be interested in at all"she added with a wink at the others. "We're only going to have a little lunch."

"All right Jean dear-I'll go to sleep for a long long time--- after lunch."

Indeed no time was thereby lost by all the hungry ones in the building in attacking the food, which though simple as army rations are was plentiful, wholesome, just what they liked to eat and well cooked. There was even " beans" which they attacked as heartily as the rest. As they ate they discussed the situation [illegible]

"[illegible] pretty [illegible]

This looks like it has been a prety good schoolhouse before it was deserted because of the war"said George glancing about the apartment. "It would be just the place to play school in general and teach all our new recruits while we remain here."

Hanson Francois"asked Radcliffe"Do you know the coun try hereabouts well enough to tell me what town may be near this schoolhouse district! It looks like a very n ew establishment."

"No I do not know the territory at all" replied the boy."But I do know we are in Bengal Coun tty, and therefore I have not yet learned of it.I have not seen all of the Abbisann territory yet" the boy ended,, with a smile ."and to me this is just a schoolhouse."

"Whose headquarters would it have been if the enemy were here instead of general Avenburg?"asked Jean.

"Why it would have been the headquarters of general Limber Cheese and his staff would have been generals, Skunk, Choke-meat-odneth, [illegible] Rancid oil, Olive Oil, [illegible] Big dish in a dish, and general Swell De Elegant upper crust hard as iron ."

"[illegible]" answered Jack promptly.His interest for titles of glandeliniaus was sometimes unusually comical if not also insulting and inclent. General Limber cheese is also a half brother to general [illegible] Bill Porter Pirts[illegible] Dirk De Gook into the ghost one day."

Loudly the boys and girls greeted this sally.Radcliffe asked; asked;

"And where are those kind of generals now, that we little Christian "Georgies"are here."

"They are down under the barn bird [illegible] and kittens do."declared Jack gravely."Kittens and cats always run away from us."

"Hark I hear singing somewhere in the place."said Jean."I do not know the song."

"That's not strange."returned Jack."That's the Star spangled S n Spangled Banner or Oh Can you See By the Dawn Early Light.I Can recognize that song out of a million."

"How inspiring, [illegible] Quillins.It is."whispered George."It makes me feel as if I wanted to go out and do something real big."

"Where does it come from?"

"From where there is the neatest school class room."

"Let's go out and listen to it."suggested Angeline Jennings."Oh one singing they guys have good voices.I like that kind of singing."

Opening the door into the schoolroom they saw nothing in there. Yet from their right further in the condition [illegible]

came the sound of music and laughter.Stepping closer the boys and girls passed through an open doorway, and saw a great room full of soldiers and officers. Stepping slow as they passed into and her closer room and it was empty.Most of the soldiers were seated on the school desks the [illegible] in a game playing a game other others lay stretched on the floor at full length in a row, while others walked about watching the card playing, and others still played school for the fun of it, with a private acting as a teacher.All seemed at ease after hard work for here and there one had removed the heavy hobnailed shoes, while helmets and service caps were dep sited on a convenient rack.A number of stacks of rifles in two corners s o spoke erimly of the business which had been temporarily laid aside while the soldiers rested.At a piano, a tall officer was seated.

He played with a great deal of skill,and a group of soldiers was gathered about him and sang with Excellent voices."As the "Star Spangled Banner"was finished, a grand tenor voice started an encore"Silent Night"and then finished with the "March of "All Abbisannia Forever"burst of great applause greeted the last peice, and forced him to repeated it.The music of the "All Forever Abbisannia" sounded strangely sweet to the listening boy and girl scout leaders, and the privates who also were listening in.

As the March ended, the pianist struck a few chords of a livlier tune, and Jean unconsciously sang"Oh where is my Wandering boy to night."So interested where were her companions that they too lifted their voices and sang unmindful of the schoolroom full of soldiers.Quickly the man at the piano ade accompanied the m.On by one the soldiers joined untill the entire company were singing out the words and tunes of the song . Inevitably the boys and girls were seized, and thrust into the room(the room) Greeted by cheers and exclamations from all the soldiers and the officers,,, they became slightly embrased, and begged to be excused, but the soldiers and others having found some new object of interest, and almost being fre fascinated when hearing many children singing, would not let them go.They insisted on having them sing some more songs.

"We can't sing very many songs really we can't protested Betty Jean.

"Ah.But one of you looks fordem.Do you speak English!"asked the pian ist addressing George."If so sing us an English Song, if you please.We would like to hear one."

"I'm a German boy"George said unconsciously shrugging his shoulders. "None of us know any real English songs at all.""I know alot of German songs though and they're excellent too."

"So!"inquiringly the officer commented,,,,,,, drawing out the word word very long.""Then perhaps you will sing us one of the songs of that Country.I have on to touring trips traveled your country a bit, and The United States too and have heard many songs in both c u countries.Tell "ry this!"

He struck few chords of Die Tacht Am Rhine, and at once the boy began. As the boys voice filled the room with the tunes tune so familiar to all the world, their audie nud lengo listened attentively and with appreciation bursting into applause at its conclusion..Others followed but all the boys and girls with great delight joined in when theplayer again started the "Star Spangled Banner for all Abbisanniana love that song more than any National Hymn hymn even though its not a song of their country .All of the soldiers were familiar with the tune and while none of them did know the world in the English language they sang it in their own.

"Thank you appreciatively"the pianist said as the child accents concluded."We have enjoyed your effort very much."Will you not remain here.""I believe we would honors model boy and girlscouts is we stayed in our room, thank you"answered Angeline " Jennin as herself. "We are t here with three ofou wonded wounded comrades you know."

Laughingly the officer agreed to excuse them under the circumstances and in appreciating them on their vocal efforts and on their model conduct as boy and girlscouts, he permitted them to remain to their [illegible]. George hi self again sought the comfort of his "great Sled dog" saying that he had not slept in a real bed for weeks, and that was so good he was afraid it would not last.The others began an inspection of the place to see how extensive was the schoolhouse.

"Hello"cried Jack presently."I [illegible] that's this place of wire do ing here. I wonder what general

general Gronburg was f doing with such a thing in a place like this"

"Have this [illegible] for [illegible]," [illegible] said.

"Let me have it please"requested Francis.

"Hey comrades!I have found a hold in the wall as if it was dig there or as if someone had been picking into it. It looks very very inviting."

George brought the piece of wire to Jack and watched him as he investigated the interior of the very curious hole, and wondered how it came to be in the wall.

"Well what what do you think of this!"he shouted in a moment. "Here's the mate to an improvised keyhole Jack.It looks lustlike one of the door of a Dungeon room."

"Maybe it is a keyhole to a dungeon room ."chuckled Jack."Try to pick it ."

The two strange holes were a short two feet apart, and the wire was more than three feet long.Jack himself seized the frame and and without disturbing the others began prodding about in one of the holes he discovered.Suddenly he was surprised by a strange rumbling sound, and it seemed to come from the wall.The whole assembly looked up startled.As Jack withdrew the end of the wire suddenly he noticed a flash of strange fire from the interior of the key hole,,, at which he had worked.

"Hello comrades"he cried."I made fire flash just a moment ago."

"What are you two boys and Jean trying to do?"inquired Radcliffe approaching.

"Just getting some electric treatment here that's all "replied Jack.

"Try it again."Radcliffe suggested suspiciously."Let me see it too."

"You do it like this"directed Jack"Jean had the end of the wire in that hole over there and I had the other end in this hole.As we had it connected we both almost let go in an instant as we received a slight electric shock.Then just as I pulled the wire of out of this hole we heard a noise, I saw a flash as of an electric spark, and heard a little crappling or crackling sound."

"Try it again please"urged Radcliffe."Keep the wires in both holes.If there's to be any shock wear your small rubber gloves."

In a moment Jack and Jean(not been) had followed out Radcliffes instructions, and all were startled to hear again a strange rumbling noise changing to a loud snapping, clicking, and a grinding sound.

"Keep your wires in place."Radcliffe whispered."Something is going going off here in that isn't on the programme.Oh look there.Oh look there."

As he spoke the boyscout leader pointed to a set section of the wall.It was slowly swinging out from the room revealing a sort of wall revolving on a pivot.A damp musty odor odor came from the dark opening//, and beyond all was pitch darkness. The turning section or section traveled easily backward until the wall stood wide open.A snap was heard.For a moment the slight noise continued, then the wall like door slowly swung into place again..:::

"Well of all things"gasped George and Pauroa sitting up in bed.

"I see the guesswork of it"cried Angeline Jennings herself."When that wall door is opened, and that strange snap comes, the wire should be taken away for you see it forms a sort of strong circuit to a concealed motor which swings open the wall.I believe it will stay open if you take the wire away when it makes the snapping noise.Try it again Jack and Jean"she urged.

Again they obeyed again the door was open, and again they held the snap.Quickly actuating the wire and boy to break the circuit, Angeline, and Radcliffe and George who had arisen out of the bed was delight ed to notice that the whirling noise stopped...:::!

"Here are your search lights comrades!"Radcliffe asked."Mildred have you stillcot your automatic handy."You didn't lose it [illegible]."

"I dropped it when I fell from the boat and it sank down to the water "confessed George as Mildred Orosua produced here.

"Have the rest of you got a small hand mirror and a searchlight."

"I all have some the rest cried, while Pauroa handed George his.

"Come on then all who wishes to."Angeline Jennings held [illegible] "[illegible] slow and keep quiet." do not know that[illegible] wish to be that dark place.It's a good thing we're not afraid of the dark."

"Wait a minute let me get my shoes on"protested George.

"Aw never mind your shoes. "urged Jack."We can't wait."

"Better let the German boy put on his shoes."agreed Radcliffe.

"We won't want to leave anything here in this room.Let's take all our belongings."

"Why where are we supposed to go now Radcliffe"asked George busy with the lacing of his shoes."Are we not coming back here."

"Not today if my susi suspicions are right."replied Radcliffe. "We want toexplore and see where this leads too."

"Just going to get out by this route just as if we were ex sampling prisoners and make for the "Mary Ann"some Raft is called and ridout for more adventure!"questioned the lad incredulously.

"No not exactly.Let you see its like this."explained Radcliffe."As we came up here I noticed that this schoolhouse seemed to have been under valued by some reason.I'm going to investigate and see if the enemy had not done anything under the building before it was taken possession of by our own friends."

"I see interrupted George."And when this secret door suddenly opened up and figured we could go down into the basement of this [illegible] [illegible] a secret cupboard for underground, and also to try and find [illegible] there is a secret passageway leading outside.Th If there is such an opening we may be able to crawl out into daylight [illegible] it again from another room and make those inside wonder how we got out without them seeing us. We'll play a joke on our friends and they'll never get wise to the ways.Then if there ever breaks a battle, and we're here still and theplace is attacked and surrounded we can be on our way out without any of these Glandalinians being the wiser.See the point ...:!!"

"Exactly "Agreed Angeline Jennings."Now listen carefully and keep quiet.There is no telling whether we shall succeed in getting out or not,but there's no need of disturbing these soldiers [illegible] in other case when we want to play a joke on them and they think this is the only way in the way we came. Get your searchlights ready."

"But Angeline"protested Jack"Didn't general Parkins say that we're safe here and that he'd do all he could for us!Don't you think he'll be able to keep his word."

"It is not that dimonition I question."she replied"so much as the unknown ability of the enemy beyond.I don't know what the enemy would beup to any moment you know.If an attackcame suddenly hre here we'd be having a "Swell" time."

"Guess your right"put in George."Let's be on our way, and see if we can get out."

Carefully throwing the rays of their searchlights on the floooor of the passageway, the boys and girlscout officers silently stepped through the lare opening inthe wall which had been found by such a peculiar accident. After entering the passage Angeline Jennings turned to lok look over the mechanism that operation that strange section of the wall, and after some difficulty she discovered finally what she sought.After a moments careful scrunty the girlscout leader touched a a part of the apparatus and was highly pleased to notice the wall swing back into place."There was not even a sound except the slight humming of the motor, accompanied by the operation. Indeed the device worked perfectly.

"Now how in the world can we getout again if we find to outlet and we have to come back!"questioned Dolores with a slight nervousness in her voice."I'm afraid,sister you've got us in here for life."

"Not that long at least."said Angeline."It's easy to getout. All that is necessary is to touch the lever completing the circuit and the motor operates/ easily and without making, the slightest noise. "It doesn't make any difference whether the circuit is completed, from the room or from this passageway.The motor operates when the [illegible] is closed."

"Where in the world does the electricity come from!"asked Jean she was somewhatpuzzled."They can't run [illegible] and run a [illegible] machinery without electricity."

"Maybe the school had some other building connected with it somewhere where there must be an engine room."said Jack.

"Maybe that was possible but what keeps it running nowthat they're gone...."?:::"

"No one knows I'm sure.Let's not worry about that."

They proceeded along the passageway very very slowly and cautiously, and they had only gone a very short distance when they came to a flight of rickety wooden stairs running up alongside the wallllll.There was very little room on the narrow steps, and if they had not been guided by the flame from their eletric torches, they would have suffered a fall. And they had to go upsingle file as it was nathere was noroom for two. They then came to a black opening beyond the top ste p from which came a damp musty orar odor.George began to sniff surpiniously and shook his head.

"Come back girls"he urged."You're going to the botom camp where the Old Duke The Gook de pook slook slaughtered little children when he didn't love dem any moare."

"No we ain't going back yet"declared Jack.

"Let uspush on and see wht there is ahead."said Jean.Maybe Angelines conjecture is correct."

Without further parley Angeline Jennings took a few steps along the passage untill she finally came to a turn.Here she paused to wait for her companions.

"Look here comrades"she announced."This passage splits.One goes straight ahead, and the other turns to the right.I fancy that one runs back tward the entrance at the rear of the schoolhouse."

"Then we don't want to take that.The guards might dic discover us andmistake us for Glandelinian scouts having been prisoners and trying to escape."

"If we go straight ahead."Angeline Jennings continued"I believe it is possible that we shall come out at some other end of the building itself."

"We'll go straight on then for sure."spoke up Jack, and as this seemed to be the decision of all, Angeline turned to proceed.There came a tremendous splash mingled with a choking cry from her.she found herself floundering about in almost ice cold water, throwing showers of spay all over her companions, who come crowding forward all excited.

"What'o the matter sister?"cried Dolores."Do you need help."Ash as she sp ke spoke she turned the shaft of light from her flashlight tward her sister, revealing the girlscout dripping wet, stand ing in water a littlemore than waist deep.Her hat and torn were gone.

"Come out of that."commanded George laughing.

"Guess I will thank you George."replied the girl."I failed to see that water untill I was lying down in it.The stones of this tun nel is so black and the water runs so smoothly I neither saw nor heard it."

Examination revealed a broad stream of water pure and clear issue ing from the tunnel to the right and flowing along the one in which they now found themselves.At one side a narrow shelf afforded foothold.After securing Angelines flashlight by searching around in the water, which owing to its water proof covering, was not wt wet or damaged, they all proceeded along more cout cuoly. In a short time they found the passage going in a sort of downward grade, and then they were blocked blocked by a huge lake of water and found themselfes themselves in an underground sort of cave with no outlet except for the water.A faint odor of musk clung to the place and the ceiling of the cave was dripping water.

"Here's where our trip in this location ends or I'm no good guesser." ventured George.Although a careful search was made for an opening by encircling the lake none was discovered, and their they only found at the further end of the cave that the tunnel like place continued and through this they continued.Directly Angeline Jennings paused and held out a warning h n hand, stp at stopping the advance.

"I heard a strange noise"she exclaimed"And could not make out what it could have been.Can any of you tell what that sound is?"

Every one of them listened carefully, and distinctly heard a sort of rumbling sound as if some machine was working by the power of water but for the moment could not determined what cause it or what it even indicated, or even what direction it came from.....

"Oh I believe I know what itis it is."announced George ."Maybe a d certain powerplant has been installed in the undergroundportion of the school .This stream of water must be coming from a sort of spring or stream in the hill far back of the battle line near general general Vivians army and the trustees of the schoolhouse no doubt just led it along here. The streammust be running through a water wheel and the waste water therefore runs out a nice big hole in the cellar wall.I'll bet its a ram and it cause them to have water in the

schoolhouse(mouse de grains) "

"I believe you're right George."agreed Angeline Riches."Let all go that way and see...!!!""

THey followed the passage for a short distance, and they discovered that what George said had been right.A complete apparatus was found, oper ated by the power of the stream(don't scream) flowing through the broad,, tunnle.

"Nevertheless discovering this doesn't help us anyone bit."James protested."There's no opening for the or to theoaside world except for the water."

"Well all we can do is go back and look over the wallls more carefully and see,,,"Offered Jack. "Maybe we overlooked sonopening in our hury." hurry."

Accordingly they alll slowly retraced their steps examining every inch of the walls on either side.Shortly after they passed thepiace where Angeline had fallen into the water, Jean w o had been t in the lead, turned back with a muffled hiss and one finger across her mouth . she snapped the switch on her searchlight.

"What in the world is it Jean?"queried Jack, following close behind her.

"I believed I saw the flicker of a sort of glare orright in the passage."replied Jean."It flickered like a candle light,and seems to be always dodging about."

"Maybe the place isponsessed by his Majesty the Deavel."whs whispered Jack with a grin.

"Hush"hissed Jean."cut out that nonsense."

They proceeded cautiously, and reaching the spot the three boyscouts, and the girls,, saw a faint reflection on the wall.In a moment they heard voices.They observed that the light came from a small open ing about three feet below them in the wall, and through this open ing also came the sound of conversation. Jea In an instan instant Jean, stooped and was peering through the hole. She then arose shaking with excitement.

"Guess who are the demonspossessing this place."she gritted in a whisper."You'd never believe it.Two Glandelinian officers whom Inrecog nicse as accomplices of the mutt and Jeff spies are prisoners in there. Strange too."

Astonished the boy and girlscouts crept carefully to the opening to peer through and listen. It was as little Jean had said.Two Glandelinian officers were standing near the middle of a smallapartment.On the table near by sputtered and flickered a candle. As they gathered about the opening the boys and girls heard the higher officer spoking.

"And so"they heard."I heard that Glandelin ian boyscout Gerald Starring settled for the two little golden haired devils Gertrude Angeline, Angeline Riches, and the blacked haired little Frenchie Imp Schoefield Penrod.No person could survive a stab likethey recieved. But these christian dogs got us after all by shooting at our horses.We were captured as we got caught under the hoses.I'm mightly glad that you speaking to a third one now coming into sight"happened to show up."

"Yes indeed"replied the third man."Ifelt you needed me.After reaching Etheldreda I found you were captured here and therefore I made as good time as possible, but too I was surprised when these christ ian dogs also nipped me, and put me here in here with you."

"No? Now"continued the first spokesman"They're awaiting the arival of some christian dog officers of unusually high rank so they can try us as spies.I'm afraid most ly of those boy scouts who came in this building recelty with three wounded comrades, and whom they are I do not know, neither does it worry me.But I'm afraid of those who just came in in particularly one of those boys whom I recognized that is a sut of leader.They in our camps call him "THE RATTLESNAKE" though for why I could not guess.Maybe when they preside at the trial which is most likely, maybe I,ll be searched, and I don't want them young christian dogs to find this package.If they do my name is mud."

"Whqt is to those kids."?

"They're the main cheese .These officers act under their orders."

"Where's the package?"

"Here." As he spoke he drew from itsplace of concealment at his inside coat pocket a flat package about the size of a long business envelope.

"This is something is that Irish dog general Clancy who su er sup rcedes Manley gave into my possession to bring to general Ismer Heididi Mylstze.What I want you to do is tocarry this for me untilll after the examination is over.I believe it is better if you let me

put this inside of your shirt so it'll hang down your back.It will be out of the way there.Be careful too as that little snake Radcliffe is worst armore clever than even Sherlock Holmes or Hawkshaw the so world famous storied detectives and can spt anything.""

Intentlythe boys and girls watched the adju t adjustment of the flat package. Indeed Angeline Jennings eyed every movement very closly and very greedily too with fingers itching to get possession of that large envelope.However she knew that the opening through which they were peeing was too small for her to reach in her hand and grasp it and it wasout of the question to ext expect the Glandelinian to step through such a small hole and hand her the package.Again the Glandelinian spoke;;

"N ow if my story goes with this Gln Abbiesmnian boyscout chief, and they hold the others whoalso are under suspicion and let us go, we 'll be all right.If however those girlscout leaders decide to let the others go and hold us, I'll have this little can of Splatter Dose in my pocket whdh in exploding is a hundred thousand times worse than a stick of dynimite handy in mypocket"here he indicated his coatpocket,which bulged suspiciously"and at a favorablemoment I'll hurl it tward the Court Marshall Court. If I can get Angeline Jennings so much the better.The three others, Angelinia Aronburg, Angeline Riches, and Penrod are dead, and out of the way, and that'll settle one more who is equally as dangerous.In the excitement we'll slip through the crowd."

"Good scheme"agreed the third man."And you say your assistant has secured four horses.""?

"He claimed that he would be able to get them in a hour.He will wait for us at the spot I described for you.I rely upon him.He's looking out so he won't get killed or captured."

"And then we'll be off.There's a big fortune for theone who delivers to Mylotze Clancy's plans.But why take them from Clancy.He's not a christian dog.He's on our side."?

"I didn't say I took them stupid.I said he asked me to deliver them to Mylotze.It's a warning to Mylotze to look out for the two Vivian pugs." And there is a fortune to us if we succeed in deliver ing it,and a higher commission too.Three other great Glandelinian generals are dickering for them right now.We'll makeout pile on this and cause the christian dogs a resounding good defeat ."

"When is this christian dog expected to arrive."?

"Onyminute now.He's late as it is.Now don't give yourself away.Just stick close to us, and remember the arrangements."

Jean tugged at Jacks sleeve.Turning away from the o[illegible]g

opening the boys and girls turned away from the little hole, and forgetting theirplan to play a joke on their friends returned quickly tward the room in which they had come to rest their wounded friends, and too Angeline Jennings found the lever to operate their secret door more easily than they even suspected, and they all passed again into the chamber.As Jean closed the door with the short length of wire she went to the beds where Gertrude and the others lay and told them first about the pr so prisoners and the package and then and that the rascals thought they were dead.

"Well then comrades we're dead after all."Sailed Gertrude."W-on't those prisoners be shocked when they hear we're here?"

"Yes and it seems I'm about the same"replied Angeline Jennings soberly."That fellow certainly is a rascal. He's planj planning on blowing all of us up."

"No he isn't"protested George."He's planning on a fiasco or I'm dreaming.Remember your boy and girlscout motto and be prepared.Our Motto is God helps those that helps themselves.We'll give him and his three companions a very big surprise and shock when the time comes."

"Thank you Jack or George"replied the girlscout smiling faintly.

A soldier was rapping on the door.

"The court marshall is about ready.Are you going to hold it now"was the soldiers question.

"We'll be there right away "said Radcliffe.

In the westerly class room of the schoolhouse, the teachers table had been arranged as if school was going to be kept.In it was seated Racfli Radcliffe and Angeline Jennings the former exam ing a pile of papers placed on the desk.About him and the girlscout were grouped several officers and an orderly, and all the child scouts who were called were in their respective school seats and desks as if Class in school was being held.Lighted by two lamps

the interior of the schoolroom pastended an imposing and beautiful picture.As Jack and Jean now appeared one of the soldiers who was man offier rose as the prisoners were brought into thatschoolroom school room. ANgeline Jennings clached her hands and her face turned a shade paler as she observed the little group which now approached.Jack drew his friend Jean backs step untill they were almost against the massa massive walls of the room.

"Jean"he whispered"you had better stand a little furthe r to one side.If anything should happen you know itright-"

"N overmind"declared Jean."We didn't come into this schoolroom to back out now.If he or any of his companions starts anything I'll plug them all three."

Further conversation was impossible, for the officer who was to acy act as questioner spoke to Angeline Jennings and she holdupa warning hand which told that all must be as quiet till you could hear a pin drop.Then as this was obeyed the officer turned to greet the new comers. Between two heavily armed soldiers marched the three rebel soldiers who approached the desk with vindictive glances at the children in the school desks.

He then with his companions glanced at those at the desk.

"No we're not playing school"sneered Radcliffe." "Why is it that you three were captured in our lines."

At this question knowing that Radcliffe could speak english the rebel at once launched intoa long story, using the englishtonbue tongue.The others could not follow the speech except Jean who know it a little, but judged from the gestures and glances, that the man was trying to say that he was not a spy, and makingup a bunch of excuses as towhy he was in the lines, by mere accident and so forth .

"You may speak Abbiesmnian."directed Angeline Jennings."Besides sir, we're not english here, and only one or two of us understand your present language."

"You havesunderstood just what I have told you"sulked the prisoner.

"Maybe but your statement will only be accepted for what it is worth to us."was h r reply."Just now all of us present in this schoolroom are inquiring with special regard to your presence within general Aronburgs Lines, the attempts to blow up our rafts, the attacksupon us under general Aronburgs very eyes and other incidents.We captured you on the raft with your followers just the last time you try tried to blow it up.It has been stated also that you came in an airship from the Glandelinian armies, and that you landed near general Vivianslines and escaped him only to be captured by us on the raft, and that too you have on your person orone other of you have certain papers and letters and a map ofinterest to this country which general James Scanlion Clany gave you to deliver to general Izner Mylotze. All this I for some reason or other know this is true, and which indicates that you were passing through here not only as a messenger for that Irish dog , who fights against God for a lousy little prayer not being answered, but because also you are here as a spy in the interest f of glandelinia and her unholy cause.Also I know that is true,and there is but one course for me to persue.Can you refute the charge."?

Overcome with rage at the evident reversal of hisplans, the Glandelinian leader choked for a moment, while he glared wickedly at the chief of all girlscouts and boys too Angeline Jennings.Then shaking his fists at Radcliffe and at George Zimmermon whom he had recognized a one of the boy prisoners in the enemylineslong ago he burst out in a torrent of abuse.

"None of your abuse"shouted J ack.You are the spies .I can prove to any of the whole assembly in their desks here that you cameupon our raft to blow us up, and tru tried to escape, and that you had been an accomplice of that Glandelinian boyscout Gerald Starring to help you gather information which would frustrate our efforts to reach Abbiesmn.And concerning yourself"indicating the leading man I and my superior officers here)indicating Radcliffe, Angeline Jennings, and Jean, and Jane Melfort, have heard and seen enough to justify all of us in holding you and your two friends for further cross examination on the original charge of being a [illegible]p spy.Have you anything further to say on that subject?"The boyscout questioned.

"This is only the subject I have for all christian dogs."shouted the Glandelinian prisoner, and he made a sudden swift movement tward his outside coat pocket."You'll never try me or my companions as a spy."

He withdrew his hand quickly,and made a perfect swing of his arm and launched tward The boy and girlscouts the deadly little can of

 explosives.Instantly he and his three companions sprang away
ward the other windows,but the explosive went through one of the windows
landing on the soft turf outside and doing no harm.Seeing a swarm of
boys and girls suddenly leaving the school seats to v try and capture
him and his companions, hethrew another can directly for Angeline
Ritkke Jennings.He and they then had the chance to jump out of
the school windows by smashingout the glass, and landing six feet below
sprang away across the lawn the paths of the four separating as they
went.Angeline Jennings had not forgotten her own baseball tatics for
though she is a girl she was an expert catcher and a thrower.Just as
the fool swung his arm the second time while near the window, the girl
jumped high into the air, screaming loud enough to make all fandom
throughout the world hearr her, and at the same time waving her arms.
It was just as she had sorrdently desired.The second aim of the
Glandelinian though he too was an expert thrower was spoiled. And too
with the mostunusual and wonderful dexerity dexterity the girlscout
leader leaped forw ard, and caught the small can of explosives high
in midnight.The forced of the momentum as she seized the dangerous
mizzle missle(which would have k illed every one in the schoolroom
had it exploded) whirled her around, but she regained her feet,, and for
an instant held atarms length the object which meant frightful
destruction of the whole schoolg schoolhouse if the rascal had succeeded
in carrying out his dastard intention.Involuntarily every o ne in the
schoolroom had dodged under their seats as they realized that the
explosive thrown again st the hard wall would bring about a dreadful
disaster in which no one wished to share.As Angeline Jennings with
a grin on her face turned to place the dangerous missle on the teachers
desk, she had given q quick order to the number of children who had
raced to the open windows.
"Get those Glandel inians if you can."
Theirpis tols had been quickly drawn as they had swarmed to the
windows from their seats, and fifty shots rangout as one.However
the Glandelinians had got beyond pistol shot range by that time
but nevertheless the groups at the windows were surprised beyond
their wits, for they heard two deafening explosions and saw two
clouds of smoke appear, and the four men dropped in their tracks at
full length, and lay still as they had fallen.Everyone immediately
left the schoolhouse and ran forward.They found onlyone of the four
men non injured though he had been prostrated by the fall and
the shock of the explosion.Hr w He was helped to rise by two of a
number of men who came running forward,and then supported between
the pair he was stood before Angeline Ritkke Jennings, and Radcliffe.
"You gunners are good marksmen"commented Radcliffe."but how did
you from that distance see these four men on the run?"
"We observed them running from the schoolhouse, and the many shots
coming from the windows Master Radcliffe"answered the gunner
smiling as helifted his hand in salute.
"There is something peculiar about this matter anyhow."declared
Radcliffe."But how did you hit the mark so easily."?
"My gunners took careful aim."was the answer."
"I believe that is quite reason able"agreed Radcliffe." I
believe you."
The dead bodies which were shattered were searched for the plans and
those that thought the rascals would be carrying the dicumont document
in a belt about his body searched that and not finding anything
believed the explos ons explosions might have destroyed the plans.
Just then George came up.
"The plans oare on that man there"he said.He "He has them in a secret
place hanging down his back inside hisundershirt."
"You're a little devil of a black faced liar."yelled the man look
ing about for a chance to make another attempt at escape.
"You call me that again and I'll drop you where you are"retorted
George suddenly drawing his pistol."You have that pckage o fplans
that the leader gave you more than half an hour ago.I saw the exchange
made."
"SHoot me if you wish but it's a lie."again declared the man."I'll
admit I did have the plans, but they're torn to bits now, and you
will never see them."
"Search this man and see if he tells the truth."said Radcliffe.
One of the soldiers thrust his hand down the mans collar and
to the surprise of all the packet was brought forth.With a rough
pull the string was severed, and the parcel was handed to Radcliffe.
The mans consternation over the discovery of his lies was complete.

"Pardon me comrades"Radcliffe then apologized to everyone p resent.
"I think we shall have to go back to the schoolroom.I shall have to
examine the contents."
Soon every one were in their respective seats andplaces again in the
schoolroom.Per Peering over Radcliffes shoulders as heunfolded the
contents of the little package, Jean gave a shout of joy.
"Hurrah "she cried jumping about."Hurrah.These are the plans of
the Abbisann territory and of the two armies concentrated near here to
oppose Mylstzes plans.We have captured this in time."
"What incredulously, gasped George Zimmerman pressing forward.
"It certainly is"declared Jean."This is a plan of the whole terri
tory of Abbisann, indicating the spot ofour armies, where we go
with ow raft, and our location and so forth, showing also the
proposed barrier that Mylstzs was advised to make to stop our
trip with locations for batteries to blow us all up."
"Then we captured a valuable ducoment."said Jack."We've frustrated
bloody Clancy."
"I hould say so.Other charts too are here of greater value.We've
frustrated both Clancy and Mylstzs by capturcing these men and killing
three.Thisone shall be condemned to face the firing squad as a spy
to morrow at sunrise."
All were overjoyed to think that the deadly efforts of gen ral
general Clancy had failed to bring about the di s dis aster that it
could have.
"and now"continued Radcliffe as the mater seemed to be settled
"We must hasten forward to the raft once more to see that it is
perfectly safe for the onward trip when general Aronburg moves.We
all have some disagreeable work before us and cannot spare any time
than is necessary."
"Can we take the reinforcing boys and girls along with us who had
wi h wished to join us?" queried George anxiously.
"You may take as many as there's room on the raft only"replied
Jack himself."We cannot allow too heavy a load on the raft.It is too
dangerous an undertaking"
"I want to thank you good Rangers for your kindness you have shown
to us."declaredone of the Vivianite boys."you have been kind in
accepting us into your ranks."
"I and all the rest have been trying to be fair with you."was
Jacks reply /"You s have shown example andloyalty to your country
that breaks all records, and your devotion to duty has only been
exceeded by your bravery under most trying conditions as the Princesses
have informed us.We shall accept your troop in our ranks with
pleasure."
Before the dinner hour many of the boys and girlscouts were
again on their beloved "Mary Ann."
"Well I'm glad to get my face turned tward the Historic Abbisann
again"grinned George as they were working on the raft at cleaning it
up and making repairs that were necessiary."
"Just the same"saidone of the Vivianites "I vote three cheers for you
and all your officers.You have treated us all nicely.We like you
all.You are all fine."
"Yes"added Jack Saunders."But how about yourselves. You are just
as good as we are.But we all go through the same experiences
and find out that war is not a very nice game."

Gertrude Angeline awoke the following morning feeling almost as fit
as before her injury.But nevertheless when she tried to raise herself
up in bed she couldn't hardly make the movement..Nevert/ Nevertheless
she had just finished her breakfast in bed, when one of the boyscouts
brought her a message from Mildred Mac Maxwell, scribbled an hour
before. Sheopened it and read;

"Dear Gertrude;Got news that at Hangar Run general Vivian was
wounded again.He however slept through then ight,, and is now slightly
beter better.Jack Evans is in command. The wound however thank Heaven
had been a very slightone, he can speak though he seemed still drowsy
andunaware of his condition or how the days battle turned out.He eve
even does not seem to have any remembrance of the events of the pro
ceeding day.So there is nothingmore than we can do now but remain
with general Aronburg for a time. Anduntill general Vivian is welll
again Jack Evans is in command, and he advised us because of con
ditions exisiting there it would be better for us not to come there
as it is toodangerous, that general Aronburg can care for us all.He

He will com and see us and Gertrude as soon as he can have the chance. Meanwhile trust in the Love of God."

Mildred
Maxwell.!!LLK"

Radcliffe was on had hand before Gertrude has finished her break fast.ghe was overjoyed to see him back. Everythin g sofar he told her was going well and the two other christian armies facing the foe at Bicknell town and Big Knool or Girlkwool were waiting for more rein forcements which was expected to arive at any hour.He informed Gertrude and also Angeline Richee, and Penod that general Bap tiste was also moving forward.

"That general is all right, and a dread to Clancy"he laughed."I know Baptiste, and I don't believe there's ll be any trouble on account of that.He'sloyal to the cause believe me.He was always a good helper to us boy and girlscouts.And now he'll do his best to worst the enemy at Big Girl Knool when the time comes.."

The two girls and Penrod agreed with Radcliffe.General Dupont had an independent army of his own, and Baptiste was nolikely to have to fear anything corcning Manley or Scanlon Clancy.The pro bability was that he's have towatch out for general Raymonde Richardson Fedderal.There was something more that Radcliffe had no on the mind. Gertrude was conscious of her disguised sisters hesitation and finally Radcliffe said to general Aronburg who had just come in to see Gertrude;

"Did you see sir anything different about your desk early this morning?"

"Yes I did"the general answered."I had looked at it.I found nothing wrong but there's a different key."He looked at Radcliffe questionly.

"It was found broken opn yesterday afternoon"said Radcliffe.

"Broken open"said the general with a scowl.!

"Yes sir.And not only that but ransacked from top to bottom.Like wise yojr your bedroom.And what was astonishing to me and the others nothing was taken so far as I or my followers could see.Leastwise your very pocket book, and your gold watch you left in it by mistake was left there.Nothing was missing.Come sir and look for yourself."

Excusing themselves to Gertrude, and the others the two weh went into the generals room.At the advise of Radcliffe the general unlocked the desk and went through it carefully and not hastily. Radcliffe had slightly changed theposition of the papers but so far as the gearal himself could see everything was there.

"What do you make of it my boy?"he asked.

" There are only two persons who might have had keys to our headquart headquarters."answered Radcliffe slowly.One "one ofour boyscouts who is or was a stranger amog us is gone."

"Francis Morris!"

"Yes.We didn't miss himtill thismorning."

"He must have left the day before this happened and----"

"Then; "

Radcliffe nodded at the unspoken question of the general.

"Yes sir.But why?" the lad asked."I've tried to think it over.It must be he didn 't I hopeintend a raid, but maybe he wanted a map or papers mightly badly.And it might be connected probably with some of the statements concerning the Glandelinian boyscout Gerald Starring."

"It can't be that map of Abbieann."said the general, and he picked it up from a drawer.

They thought over the problem.It was evident that som some runaway boyscout must have broken into the room probably with a duplicate set of keys, w but what he wanted was a mystery that could not be solved.

"Perhaps again it might have been that boy in disguise and wished to know how big my army was without taking anything awhy."suggested the general."If so I hop e the information satisfied as I do not know the size of my army yet myself.And it'll be a joke on us both.Anyway we'll get a new lock on the door Rad."

"I saw to it being done"said the boy.

They turned their thoughts to other matters.

"How are the movements of our armies?"the general asked.

"The officers are getting up more troops from the southe ast"said Radcliffe."But there isn't enough in your army yet to hold out against Mylatze powerful host in a pitched battle.I guess we'll have a few weeks of inactivity after all, sir...!!!.."

"Then we can't hold out on this ground.I propose we move."

"I've been thinking"said Radcliffe"and too I've been calculating. If we was to lay off from battle with Mylatze and his armies for two months, and stop the advance of Clancy and his followers instead, it might bepossible;;;;;;;------"

"Out of the question me boy.It wouldn't be fair to my staff, and Violet, and her sisters wants me to move against Mylatze and engage him if possible and drive him tward Abbieann. It would be fatal to our own part too if we was to back out now.NohRadcliffe I've been thinking too.How about the grounds near "Flood Abbieann".It looks like a good spot to concentrate my army and force Mylatze to battle."

"But it doesn't seem to be on our limits"said Radcliffe."And its quite a march.""""

"Who told you so?"

"Why everybody knows that.Even when we had one of the Glandelinian prisoners he himself said so."

"He was lying then."

"But it ain't on the map.Why would the Glandelinians want to?"----

"I don't know what the reason of Mylatze is, but it is some enemy schemes depend on it.I saw it marked into the Abbieann territory when I was on the advance, and surely no Glandelinian general would give his plans away to any of us, and if he did he must have been crazy to make such a mistake. Anyway theres, the record. Besides I had the plans announced to me by Violet, and her sisters themselves.""QAASEWE

"Now here's my idea""""said Radcliffe ."There ought to be deep water in that locality, and we could form some sort of a trap for a good portion of the Glandelinian army."

"We'd lect need lots of pontoon boats."

"Half a million would beplenty.The cost is nothing.And even if it doesn't pl play well on the game it might enable us to keep Mylatze going untill we can get the army around him ourselves and frustrate himsove in trying to get round us."

"Radcliffe pondered.Then he said;

""General Frank Morris said it was all good for it to be tried when I suggested it to him .He went over there with general Jacque Fox.But of course general we have to be careful what sort of a move we make. for too none of the Glandelinians would have wanted us to know anything anything about that territory."Maybe there is a good chance for a pos ition there."Maybe---"

"Mylatze isn't after plotting to run me out of Abbieann territory" said General Aronburg."Heplans to keep me from gettingout.I wish I knew absolutely what he is after.Anyway suppose we run up your raft to that locality and expore the territory."

Radcliffe assented, and no more was said on the subk subject.The trip was to be made as soon as the army moved.As the general went out the building Mildred Maxwell came up to him.

"General Vivian telegraphed that he is much better"said the little girlscout officer."He is not wounded as bad as it had been feared and he can walk with help.I have telephoned the dotor in general Vivians lines, and he says that if the general is kept quiet and not allowed to distress himself in any way, having the comfort of having won a splendid victory i he will make a complete rd recovery in no time. Fortunately the wound was on the thigh.So you see general you better not advance yet.He intends to make a junction with you."

"But when Mylatze is moving round----"the general began with a touch of fear and anxiety;

"He won't accomplish the move as Vivianis Angeline Richees father is coming on general.And by then --who knows what may happen.We will talk it over together.If there is no other way at least you know;;

"That I shall not have towait at least a month." he said happily."You have not yet seen-------"he co t continued;

"Yes "answered the little gi l girl in alone tone."He met me this morning.He had ridden alog along the new road,,, and he was waiting for me.He seemed to have sensed that I was going out.He--begged general that we'd accompany him up to Abbieann.I told him it was impossible untill we could get communication with violet and her sisters and get them to come here.Then he was angry.He threatened all sorts of things against Glandelinia."

"He has threatened glandelinia before said "said general Aronburg not surprised. "Usually his threats do come true Mildred. To Glandelinia Mildred Walter John Starring is an exceedingly dangerous foe.I know him.He never failed yet.."

Later he was with Gertrude and after some conversation she finally said;

"And you will be watchful for the movements of Mylatze will you Uncle dear.'And you won't fight him without proper sources and means!"

"E xcept in self defence,just now.Yes Gertrude dear I promise you that.I've heard a lots about Mylatze and I don't believe any one would or could help fearing him.If I do like him they'll all look upon me as a great general,but it'll all only be by the help of God."

As he stood by the window he saw Jack help Mildred upon her horse and felt a wild desire to ride beside her--anywhere as long as he might be withone of these brave fair child scouts.He watched her ride away till she had disappeared in the direction of the river where the raft was moored. Then he went back to see to the harnessing of his horse as he decided to go out to view the river himself.A little later another of the girlscouts came to Gertrude gleefully, with the news that general Mylatze in his advance around general Aronburgs army was checked by the sudden appearce e appearance of general Francis Vivianis Riches , and that the advance of general Vivianesse an d Deppo John Evens had been di covered by Mylatze who had never expected these generals would ever dare think of following him, and that a certain portion of general Richardson Halstads army had been also discovered along a creek almost at the northern limits of Polorsa Farm.This when the news got to general Aronburg drove the thought of his own plans temporarily out of his mind.The minutes passed into two hours andone half after break, fast(very fan t) and our battle seemed to be threatened in re in ear nest as either general were determined not to try to frustrate any move that Mylatze would make, but believed how glorious it would be if they could even surround and force him to surrender..The weather which at this time should show never l several inches of snow on the ground an and the surrounding hills, and when the rivers should already have a thin coating of ice was like in the hottest season of july in Afiv Africa although it was early October.Nevertheless with the arrival of these new christian armies never had general Arcburg been more hopeful.::

"We will win out yet and clear this holy Abbieann territory from the enemy Gertrude"the general said....

Gertrude Angeline, can ious as she was, was for once disposed to agree with him. She wished that general Vivian would arive, and Broussseau too.He felt sure Mylatze then would altogether abandon his pretes pretense of working around general Aronburgs rear, which would now have been impossible owning however to general Walter Starrings movement against his own rear. Broussaau had not yet recieved the letter from general Concehinian Aonburg,, he had been to St Anns, and was marching up the Ste Marie Rao Road.Conditions there because of the Lebanon battle had been bad for quite a spell, all railroads were rep r reported close t closed to transporation, or at least doing only the trivel business common of transporting soldiers and prov ions, andmunitions.All other rods were closed to navigation.

Also general Aronburg by a wireless telegraph had heard from Violet, and her sisters almost daily, but they couldn't yet come up to the north untill general Vivians army would be united with Hansons which wasnos moving hastily for Abbieann, and too they realized the ardent need of concentrating all their thoughts upon their own military ~~taik~~ work. General Dupont had made three spirited advances, and general Hanson is Baptiste who still was out of sight had given complete satisfaction.General Aronburg sure meant to fight out the issue with Mylatze paralyzed his army ifpossible.

Tward the middle of the morning the movements of general Isner Mylatze seemed about to be checked, and success seemed now almost assured.General Dupont was getting ready to move forward, and general Aronburg turned his thoughts onceore to the movements of his own army no more from eagerness to explore that part of the Abbieann territory than fromany thought of cutting through Mylatzes army.Just then there came a lit light tap at the door and to his astonishment walked in general Walter Starring.

"I am very sorry we couldn't get ahead of Mylatze"he said.I"I have been away.Not I have returned."

CHAPTER TEN...".".

////// A RECORD OF UNUSUAL SHOCKS LIKE EARTHQUAKES PRODUCED BY THE BIGGER BATTLES OF THE PAST UP TO OCTOBER 1913/////

///// THE BATTLE! AND ITS CONCLUSION. WARS GREAT DEMONS OF DESTRUCTION//////

/////////// ACTIVE PROGRESS OF THE WAR.....".".//////

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The Twin Provinces or States of Angelinia, Calverinia, and Bengall States since the beginnig of beginning of the war had rivalled the record of all true wars of any magnitude in their experiences of something akin to earthquakes produced by the violence of battles, and great explosions during battles or at other times.The first of these made note of was at the battle of Delight's Junction in November on Thanksgiving day, but they have been as numerous as all the big battles if not disasterous since.Among these as spoken of before were the great shocks produced by terrifiy cannonades, and awful explosions at North Bend and Sunbeam Creek during the Delight's Junctions seventeen days battles ending at Evangelinia Grania and Jennie Vivian town in which first day of the battle 13,000,000 were killed on the christian side, and the concussions of the battle of Anu Aurandsallia, with thirty three thousand concussions, and at the battle of Jennie Turner, where 1,114,000 lost their lives in defending the causes of either side.It will and ought to prove more of interest to all our readers if we pass over these ruinious disasters of the war and the battles already written of proceeding chapters, one like at Abbieann and confine ourselves first to less destructive battles and disasters, which had taken place in the Angelinia Province itself.

The United States of Angelinia Province large a section of southern Abbieannia as it occupys was fortunate so far in being in a gr e great measure destitute of the great war horror phenomena except in the extreme south and north early in the war, while destructive battles so far have been very rare so far as the war progressed up to now.The Calverinia States seemed to be the very "Whirlpool"of the war.This it seems does not apply to the Angelinia United States as it is now but as it was early in the war.It however has annexed the war horror and the disasters it brought forth with the war raging in Calverinia at its very doors.Angelinia Vine Province is its nearest state, and subject to the wars worst sort of disasters so far as mentioned in previous volume, and throughout Calverinia and partic ular particularly in Calverinia and Bengall Provinces they now possess the most spectacular war disaster ever on all record still on, while the dreadful"red Plague" of the forests of Calverinia it is its most common attendant and a frightful menance to the sister State Angelinia.But in the southern Angelinia Province the war is only a tail lashing so far, and war phenomena are confined only to a more dramatic movement of armies and no disorder so far.

No part of the "war Zone was absolutely free fr m the earth concussions produced by the mightiest battles..Slight concussions of the ground were much more common than any one can imagine, but the shock was not exactly like natural earthquakes, but nevertheless far more sudden, and the violence was in comparison to the numbers of cannons used in battle, and the force of the shell explosions, and the numbers exploding at the same time.In the war became of battles and great explosions even in Angelinia State there had been a number of eath concussions of considerable violence, and which made houses in towns and cities act as if demons possessed them, or objects in the buildings and made people at first believe these manefestations were supernatural.

Prior to that of the Abbieann horror, the most destructive to life

and property was that of the wild insane battle of Headrick Junction or Cedernine, on the creek of that name between Nelkinb, or Nelkingburg and Stanck towns, though the battle convus convulsion of Evangeline St Claire in the valley of that name near Trinoque might have proved a much greater calama calamity and scare but for the fact that dreadful forest fires, and floods had caused the populations of those territories to flee to safer quarters.As regards the number of strange earth concussions in southern Calverinia it was told to Emperor Vivian that in St Michaels State alone 34?, shocks of a strange nature were recorded in two hundred and fifty days, while a doubt many slighter ones were left unrecorded.Once emperor vivian while writing at his desk during the battle of Cedernine noticed that the ink bottle on his table stared or started to dance the jig without any apparent cause, pictures on walls turned their backs to him with a sudden bang severe enough todash the glass in the frames completely out, and that the window sash rattled and banged enough to drive him out of the house in a panic thinking an earthquake had started a up. Taking however the whole of Calverinia there were since 1912 364 recorded in ten months from June 1912, and eer early in 1913 fifty nine most severe shocks were recorded which were felt in freakish manners in Angelinia Agathia more than two fifths of them being on the Mic-Hollester Run.Because of this there is one house in Angelinia Agathia now known by the nickn nicknamn of"Possessed"house.Most of these shocks were very sudden, and uncommonly severe, though they did no recorded damage though freakish phenomenon produced by them scared the people into the streets making them believe their houses were sudden/possessed by evil spirits.

Confinding ourselves to those of the past in important in their effects, we shallspeak first of the vibratory shocks which took place throughout the small part of southern Calverinia in December 1912 , and in the year and month of the great artillery horror at Vivian Wiskey, andTrinoque .

On the 17th of December of 1912 while the vibrations at Trinoque still continued, Angelinia Agathia was violently vibrated and the whole country in that ll locality locality, loud explosive noises accompanying the shocks, but to the surprise of the people the noise didn't come from underground but seemed to be in the very air and far distant.Along the shores of the Angeline Run River there was severe vibrations coming every few seconds in rhytem fashion, and there was much agitation in the river waters, and many dead fish were thrown up onto the shore.This event however though full of scary freaks and phenomenen of extraordinary kind, was of minor importance and produced by the battles of Delight 'n Junction, but being much inferior to that of the horrors of Cedernine in July 1913 in which all of Southern Calverinia, and Northern Angelinia alin alike were affected by violent vibrations which though not felt on the ground or in the streets were noticed breanely in the houses of towns and villiages coming in a throbbing fashion and v with varying times a second passing for every sudden shock.. The convulsions produced by that battle took place simultaneously during the time the battle was raging at its worst, but ending with the stopping of that herculean conflict.

Throughout July too the southern portion of Calverinia was violently shaken by the Abbieann horrors, the shocks being so frequent and so unusa all unusally severe that people abadoned all their houses and slept on on the open ground.The most destructive concussions came in June of 1913 when the Bengall and Calverinian State cities and towns of the Central Province were destroyed with such awful loss of life, during the Abbieann disaster.It therefore may be said that Calverinia State has been proved more subject to diasterous shocks produced by battles and great explosions than any other section of Abbieannia.The Abbieann explosions shook the whole region about the very Bay of Calverine Green Burg City many buildings being thrown down, and in all others there were "Possessed" signs and Phenomeneans.In the whole city, so far as it was hardly any of the brick or stone or wooden houses escaped injury though few lives were lost.The disturbance was sudden and felt fourteen times for fifteen minutes, and felt farther west than Calverine, the whole range of the Vivian Hills being violently shaken,and the strange vibrations extended into Angelinia vine.Yet it was not felt at all by any one standing on the ground.The centre of a activity as all reader may know by now was north of Abbieann about fourty seven miles in Bengal County, and immense landslides occured in mountain ranges close to Abbieann.It was said a tremendous fissure connecting with a explosion

crater was torn along the eastern base of the mountain range for ten miles showing the force of the explosion, the land to the east of the onening and of the crater rising, and that to the west sinking several feet showi g showing that the terrific explosion might have undermined some of the landscape by the eruption of the earth caused by so much dynimite and gun cotton. All the reader knows the whole of many sities far from the blasts were completely or partially demolished by the sudden and strange vibrations , but the explosion concussions caused no loss of life at all compared to the awful numbers wiped out by the gre great floods followi g following, and the conflagrations resulting.This calamity in greatness breaks all records.

And then throughout June , July and August in other sections as well as in Mc Mullengatt State of Calverinia many concussion s had occupred mostly from explosions.As a rule they were more distinguished by frequency than violence, though on twenty or thirty occassions they were unusually severe also and had very calamitous effects.

They extended along the southwestern coasts of Calverinia, but the worst seemed to be in Mullengatt State, and their long series and continuous or continuance was remarkable in view of the territory affects affected being far w from the dreaded war zone.

But never was any section more visited than the Bengall State. The surface of Central Calverinia was a good deal altered by these awful vibrations- several big lakes being left by the floods to remain always, while rivers were drained till now their beds are dry.Several new towns were obliterated.The ground on which the town of La Pulsma stands and the banks of the Norma Run River for fifteen miles above it near one of the explosion scenes strangely subsided permanently about eight to six feet, and a big Catholic Cemetery of the outskirts of the city is now under water.In the neighboring forests the trees from the awful concussions were thrown into inclinedpositions in every direction, and many of their trunks and branches were broken.But there was no symptons of real earthquakes.The concussions were noticed by the destruction but strangely not felt underfoot, butmore in the air.

The ground did not swell into waves like in great earthquakes ne ther were there left any hollow depressions.The shocks were not vertical nor horizontal, but what ever they were they were far too sudden to be from real natural earthquakes, and had more the symptons symo symptons caused by explosion s than by earthquakes.Every shock was the same duration, the same kind, but varied in violence in accord iance to the violence of the explosions.The slightest shock and the slightest explosion was said to have made the Krakatoa explosion near Java seem like a harmless "Puff"firecracker in comparison.But nearest where the explosions did occur the force and the shocks did result in the subsidence of a large tract of country, but only in the territory of the explosions, between eighty and one hundredmiles in length, from north to south, and from thirtymiles in breadth from southeast to northwest .Lakes now mark many of the localities affected by the disasterous flood, where the water remained in these depress ions.It is only to the reason that this part of the country was so thickly populated that such an unusual great loss of life occured.

Little Abbieann was a central point of this concussion horror the twenty shocks there being of the greatest force.

The peculiar vibrations however was not confined to Bengall State but affected nearly half of the whole of Abbieannia, and in thousands of cities and thousan ds of towns making the freak strange and weird"Possessed" manefestations and do n doing also in capable damage and frightening millions of os peopleout of their wits, and making them think the end of the world was coming..T The destruction of Fair Mildred Greenburg, Francis Atlanta, with many thousands of their inhabitantswere incidents of this disaster as already described.

Even far as Angelinia Agathia is from Abbieann, well say as far as Chocago is from St Paul Minn. the vibrations were intensely felt seventeen times, and houses vibrated every time that night as if they were "going to a dance", and all the "Possession"freaks that occured would have made a broken hearted person die laughing.

The disturbance caused by these explosions too was not confined to the Abbieannian Country, but affected nearly half of that section of the world, ending in concussions felt as far south as the Catheinre Catherine Isle.The destruction of the town of Blomlinia with many thousands of its inhabitants,,, were other strange far away effects felt as incidents of this "Abbieann" ccom vulsion.

One of the Abbieannian scientists told however that the con cussions were far more intense in the Abbieann territory. The most destructive vibrations ever felt and caused by battle in the war so far was those which were felt in towns and villiages during the recent battle of Lebanon the injury causeschy the vibrations being largely due to the facts that populous cities felt it the most and smaller towns the least. The shocks were felt for the full duration of the battle without hardly any abatement for a distance of one hundred miles, and the terror and confusion due to these vibrations were greatly increased by the sky being dark with smoke people fleeing in panic fear from the tumbling cracking, andliterally jumping houses, to seek refuge in the wider streets courts and the like.

Southern Calverinia had been affected by the wide spread concussions produced by the shocks of the battles of Cedernine.These in some cases did some injury too, but the effect than was far much less than the vibratioge produced by the battle of Lebanon.Early in the morning at the beginning of the battle several slight explosion like vibrations occured and were noticed with objects movable in houses doing many freakish and weird stunts, but then did not excite much attention. But more distinct vibrations were felt at ten oclock in the morning,,, but the climax was not noticed untill the afternoon.The atmp atmos perehs of the day despite it being October hadbeen unusally sulty and quiet, the sky had the darkened strange apparance as if the worlds end s was approaching, the breezes from the east, was almost entirely absent, and there was a little sunset like glow far in the southeast.

As the "beautiful" hour of two thirty oclock in the afternonie was reached, there was suddenly heard a strange booming sound(in the direction of Lebanon) compared by some as if a Volcanic eruption was in its loudest thunderr,, others compared it to the sound of trains running at no great distance, by others it seemed to have sounded like a clatter produced by two or more omnibuses moving at a rapid rate over a roughly stone paved street, by others again to the sound of cannons firing incess ant long rolling vibrating salutes..... It was simultaneously followed for every sid sound by a strange thumping and beating as if not from the ground, but against the houses of the town of Cyamberlane, and instead of rocking and swaying to and fro as expected the houses seemed stationary but objects inside jumped up and down, and walls of some houses fell into the street revealing the rooms inside ...!!!

Fi Furniture was violently moved and dashed, to the floor, or jumped to the ceiling and down again, beds danced the tango(if they can) pictures were swing from the walls to the floors, and in many cases turned violently with their backs to the front violently enough to shatter the glass, and every movable thing was thrown into extroardinn extro extraordinary convulsions as if every one of the houses were possessed by insane evil spirits or ghosts and other phantoms.The greatest intensity of the extroardinary phenomena was considered to have been in the after noon, and it was then that so many chimneys were broken off at the junction of the roofs, that even roofs of wooden houses literally jumped off into the streets,windows of all high houses fell in showers to the streets, and of tall buildings the upper sections came crashing down bringing ruin and death with it.

The duration of these severe and strange vibrations was the full afternoon, and the vibrations didn't vary but all seemed the same violence, though some of the concussions had lasted without a stop to thirty or fourty five minutes.The impression produced on many was that it could be subdivided into many distinct house hitting vibrations, while others were of the opinion that they were one continuou continuous vibration, or succession of vibrations all the afternon afternoon, with the greatest intenisity during the loudestof the sounds or detonations.

In this city fourty seven prsons were killed outright, and four times that number died soon after of their hurts, or from exposure, and hundreds,, were injured. Among the buildings, the havoc though not too disasterous was nevertheless very great. There was not a single building in the city which had escaped serious injury. The great extent of the damage varied greatly, ranging from total demolition down to the loss of chimney tops and the dislodgement ofmore or less plastering, and of all windows being shaken out in the directions of the sounds. The number of buildings which were completely demolished and leveled to the ground(hound) was not great., but there were thousands of them which lost largeportions of their walls. There were very many also which remained standing but so badly shattered or

so badly sprung orjumped out of place and dislodged from their found ations thatpublic safty would require that they should bepulled down altogether.However there was not so far as telegraphic communication would make known a brick or stone building which was notmore l or less cracked, and in most of them the cracks were a permanent di- disfigurement and a source of danger and inconvienience. However the concussions did not affect railroad tracks .Usually by great earthquakes railroads were displa- displaced lat rially and sometimes alternately depressed and elevated.Occasionally several lateral sometimes many flexures of double curvature and of great amount were to be observed.And sometimes many hundreds of yards of track would have been shoved bodily out ofplace. .but no harm was done to rails during these vibrations .Neither was the ground fissured at anyplaces,, and neither were there any craterlets formed.

General Concentinian Aronburg while returning from a furlough had come close to the battlefield of Lebanon and saw some of it. He had made a careful observation collected by himself and others with him concern ing the manner of the glandelinian charges, and came tothe conclusion, that one of the waves of Gl n glandelinian assault showed that the Glandelinian soldiers were at that time advancing onward at an unusual speed for their mean velocity was the rate that a man could run at the avar average.The main force of one of these Glandelinian assaults which for a time hadliterally carried all before it, was also ascert- ained.Apparently the one wave of assault was a double one, the two y waves being thirteen hund' hundred feet apart, and the skirmish line preceeding them running nearly the same distance to the south of Lebanon. The concussion of the Big Lebanon battle was not felt as an earthquake tremor, it seemed to be a sort of air wave shocks, and affecting the the country as far around the battlefield as the concussions of a gigantic Vi Volcanic eruption would have done.The Vibrations were felt in every direction, north, south, west, and east, southeast, northeast, and so on,and also deflected to the east and west, and the apparent banging sound against the houses indicated that it was more of an explosion variety than that from cannons, and must have been caused by so many exploding shells.Also these vibrations of the battle had been attributed to other various causes, but geological experts think that it was due to both the terrible number of big cannons in action, great explosions, and of the rattling thunder of so many thousands of shells per minute.

In being asked what was his own opinion as to how a portion of the christian line had been hurled back, he answered;;;;;;;2;2;2;2

"It must have been caused by a slip of sportion of the christian line along the left.There must have been some sort of weap weakened portion of the line characterized by the pressure of the sudden enemy,, assault and it is thought that somewhere along the lin a strain had been been gradually brought to bear upon this through the removal of a torn up up division.It was supposed the enemy must have got through this gap and the whole line then had to yeild."

To most of us readers I suppose, this war might seem to be unusual when a country like Abbieannia, and her states should have been quite a confortable place of residence.Of course however it is not so, the forces of the war, worst than the forces of Nature everywhere and at every time surrounds the population, forces always bringing more death and destruction to man and the works of his hands than Nature could ever boast of having ever accomplished.The war had also created strangely enough forest fires, which for this coming new year is the story had decided upon that there'll be no winter, though the alternation of supp summer and winter is to us and them generally an agreeable relief from the monotony of a a uniform climate.The variation from sunlight to cloud, from dry weather to rainfu rainfall was always equally viewed as a pleasant escape from the weariness of too great fixity of natural conditions which was now apparently brought on by the fierce heats of these gigantic forest fires, which the hotter they became the more they spread, and the quicker. Throughout Southern Calverin ia the change from day to night seemed to have stopped, it seemed now almost night, or twilight and night.But has Nature---if we are justified in personifyingthe laws and forces of the univ universe------Has Mother Nature become to take sides with the Glandelinian foe, and is she in the mood to help Glandelinia sweep the christian countries like leaves from her path.!

It does seem so to the unfortunate Calverinian,and Angelinian, especially to the dwellers of the forest, and Abbiesann regions. The Wind for instance in the forest fires is a demons in chains At times the force heat of these raging blazes with flames leaping many hun dreds of feet into the air, creates terrific hot win dstorms, that breaks its fetters, and rushing on in mad and irrestible fury, rending and destroying,, sweeping such such trifles as cities and towns and those to live in their homes to common ruin and spread the flames so that whole armies of forest fire fighters cannot place themselves before the "DREADFUL RED PLAGUES"..." Usually the sun itself has in countries poured down in burning rays for weeks andmonths together, scorching the fertile fields, drying up the live giving streams, bringing famine an andmisery to lands ofplenty and comfort, almost making the blood boil in our veins.The forest fires, created heat that for three hundred miles from the blazes even in regions where now it is October wouldput a person in mind of being in the "death Valley"in California or in the hottest spot of Africa, and keep the air and sky always darkened with the smoke, and the sky line at night red from the glare.It's antithesis, the windstorm not produced by the heat but which usually originates from natural causes is at times a still more terrible visit ant and spreads the fire dreadfully.And the rainstorms which did occur occassionally in forest fire regions produced by the heat of the fires itself, though it poured down in frightful floods, did not quenche the fir s in their storm path totally and only increased the smoke to such a volume that the clouds would be seen at sea six hundred miles from land.That summer of 18 1913 while it had been looked forward to with joyious anic anit anticipation, had became too ardent in its grasp because of the forest fires, and winter often welcomed by the Calverinians withlike pleasurable anticipations, well probably there'll be no winter this year. Explosions have torn up the landscape bringing ruin to man cities, floods have wi wiped out sections of Calverinia, and manymillionslost their lives in battle.

Such is the makeup of the war that is progressing and growing more severe, such is the vagaries of the forces of the war which threaten on every hand.But these enumerated are not the whole.

Could any one in Calverinia or other states say with a stamp of the foot upon the solid earth"Here at last or at least'I'm far from th e war, here the goodly winds will blow and the rains descend without hinderance of the wars furies, let the summer scorch and the winter, chilll the good earth still stands firm beneath me, and of it at least I'm sure.!!!"A

Who ever says so speaks heedlessly and hastily, for a wars horror can reach near and far and the farthest of the land can become as unsafe as in the absolute war zone itself.The powers of wars disasters as great as they are, and mighty in destruction as they became, could in this story never be surpassed by the powers of nature herself.

Nevertheless uch is the enemy which the christian countries have to deal, that even the glandelinians seem to control the ruthlesspowers of nature, and use such terrific fore forces by creating explosions, forest fires, floods and the like with thepurpose to sweep the too confident Calverinians from the "earths smiling face." The main horrors of the war so far here spoken off in volume after volume , are the forest fire, explosion and flood, tearing and rending and so often bringing ruin to mans boasted fanes and palaces.

No one who ever he is who has ever seen a forest fire can pos sibly forget the grandeur of the spectacle.It's more terrible in sight than a volcano or burning mountain, castinf forth steam, huge red hot tones smoke cinders and lava.At night the scene of the forest fires is doubly terrible, when darkness shows the enormous rolling clouds of red or white hot flamesinterminglled with black smoke.At times indeed a forest fire may be a big smudge,and only smoke rises from the burning lands. Even this may travel slowly forward, but deep down in the burning rubbish, the red hot flames are ever preparaing to force their way upward, through the smouldering debris, and sometime when all is seemingly calm, suddenly a fierce wind springs up, and soon flames hundreds of feet high rise into the air, the conflagration becomes genera and destroyes everything in its path/

It is either the same with the horrors of forest fires as with the great floods that had raged over Calverinia and extended so far south ward into the Angelinian States.violent vio volcanic eruptions were as the explosion of a childs pistol camp compared to great exp l explosions in this dreadful war.Because of the violence of many explosions, the roar of the perpetual battles of the west, and battles everywhere, the air and the surface of the earth in Calverin ia seemed

never quite still..... Vibrations like pounding at houses were constantly felt every day which could be distinguished by delicate instruments but only rarely were these air convulsions of sufficient force to be noticed, except by the means of these instruments.At inter vals however, the shocks were of violent character, and when explosions w re were like that of the North Abbiesann character no edifice or human habitantion could for a moment stand when too close to the scene of these great explosions, or the roar of so many big cannons and explosions of so manypowerful earth rending shells.during battles the earth had been frequently rent asunder by terrific explosions.One mine explosion during the battle of Lebanon changed the course of a creek that runs into the Ventura Stream, and the waters were swallowed up by fissures rent in the surface by the force of the explosion, while ruin impended in a thousand forms.The cities during the Abbiesann terror became death pits, and the cultivated fields and lands are still even nowunder the awful flood waters or buried beneath floods of mud, sand and debris left by the receding waters .:.:.:.

Fortunately,, these convulsions of this unusall, and dreadful wars,,, were comparative rarities in thickly inhabited places and the main one was confined to the Bengall State.

"What do even the readers know of those strange powerful explosives that tore up the Abbiesann terroritics like so many violent volcanic eruptions each ten times worse than the worst activities of Mt Krakatoa! With all our own science we would have been a step beyond the ancients if the truths of the disaster was not revealed, as will be seen in early chapters of following volume.To all northern Calverinians they believed the Abbiesanian disasters were of mysterious volcanic eruptions, but no evidence of volcanic water was found.The worst volcanic eruptions everknown in the world or in the unknown pasts were small tearfs besides these mighty agents of destructions, whose flood results as previously mentioned, extended for thousands ofmiles over the landscaped.

By strangers in Calverinia the Abbiesann disaster afterwards was regarded with strange and superstitious awe, and it was considered that because the Calverinians up there were so unnaturally good, that the demolical powers of Hell must have created suchdisasters through Natural means, and others now believed that the Calverinians would consider it highly impious to make any investigations as to the nature of the disaster.

Emperor Vivian was told by general Virgil that Abbiesann marks the spot where the explosions in their shocks and concussions caused the sliding of one side of a whole mountain.To t the information of one of the examerners one of the "Explosion craters nearest Abbiesann was claimed to be the force of an eruption from volcanic en ergies, for accordingly to witn esses there came after the explosion more black smoke and a lurid glow as if from molten lavas. This old myth was in many respects more consant to the or the facts of the smell of gunpowder than that of the sulphurious fumes of volcanic smokes and s ash.All who had investigatied the horrors were o further in their theories as to the cause than when they started. They could only speak of the forces as "Probably"caused by Volcanic outbursts!The questions arose too when these heories were given out;

"Does Volcanic eruptions throw out the smell of Gunpowder and dynimit and Gun Cotton!

Does volcanic eruptions only throwout rocks of limestones, water, mud and sand, clay, trees, and rain fishes all over the lanf landscape as investigations had proved to have happened.!

Or was the earth underneath the State so fircely heated, miles below our feet, that at the release of pressure the solid rock under the ground was blown into the airlike explosions!"

Or was the steam,, from the contact of underground rivers and deep lying fires the origin of the terrible rendingpowers of these strang strange and mysterious explosions, called Eruptions!

Truly none of them could answer any of these questions, with assurance, and could only guess and conjecture from the facts only of what had occured.

Howeverone thing is sure what causes suspicion of all these strange disasters.In the early beginning of the war nothing was more remarkable than the extreme fewness of explosion,-shock disasters in comparison wh with these that occured in June 1913 and continuing up to August.It is to be borne in mind therefore, that at the beginning of the war the number of disasters though great were small.

The vast increase in the number of disasters is owing to a great spread and violence of the war.The same is to be said of the strange concussions of battles, which also have increased in fury since the beginning of the titanic titanic war.There may too possibly have been an unusual increase in these phenomenon,but this is hardly probable, the change being more likely due to the increase in the number of battles, explosions and other war disasters.

The fury of great floods however is very much different from that of the other war disasters, usually being more dangerous and having more force.However forest fires too are equally as bad and probably more consuming, ad whether the Abbieann flood was an immediate result of the explosion disasters or not is hardly wor h worth while mentioning, though the greatest freak of all the disaster was of the long mountains of wreckage of houses and the earth, machi machinery and other materials which had been flung into formation some distance in front but very close to Mildred Greenburg city.The cause of this however is easy to dec describe. In the path of the flood in front of Mildred Greenburg a small stream formed into a huge bend where there was a sery of long and elevation of ground, and the floods swirling round this formed the wreckage windrows of immense height and remark able regularity..however this windrow had been a scene ofmost unsurpass ing horror for so many in jured had been caught midst of all this wreckage and could not be rescued and had to be left to perish most miserably.Such explosions as had happened near Abbieann could have easily blown the whole island of St Martinque to pieces.In the case of the Krakatoa eruption, in the East Indies for instance the whole mountain and island was rent into fragments by explosions heard over two thousand miles, and which were flung as dust miles high into the air.One of the lesser Explosions of Abbieann, had that happened at Krakatoa would have blown the city of Batavia off the map.

The main point we wish to indicate is that it seemed that the Abbieann explosions which all these boy and girlscouts are trying to have investigated may never be found out as to the true cause untill afte October is past.They have had to go over debris of cities and towns piled up like huge rubbish heaps, resembling some end of the world already having occured without any fire adding to it except where such vast extents of forests are burning.

When one Scientists was asked about the matter after he had investig ated one of the great big craters torn in the ground he answered;

"It must have been to the burning heat of the earths crust and the influence of pressure, and more largely to the influx of river water to the molten rock which lie miles below the surface of surface of Calverinia, that these strange convulsions which destroyed Abbieann and caused the big floods are due.Water on reaching these overheated strata, must have exploded into volumes of steam and instead of the explosions finding free vent in the mountains must have been apr apt therefore to break into eruption from these level plains and rend the surface of the Calverinian Soil asunder and into huge holes and fissures in its efforts to escape.This must be considered the most peculiar, and most tremendous volcanic phenomena in all history."

"But how can it be possible then!"asked the other."I doubt your statement sir!"

"How do you doubt it?"

"Why sir if we should seek to give a general full description of volcanic eruptions of any sort, it would be in some words as follows;

Anoeruption is usually preceded by earthquakes, which affect the whole surrounding country, and associated with which are the unusually loud underground explosions, that seem like the sound of set artillery firing.The mountain usually quivers with internal convulsions due to the efforts of its confined forces to find an opening.Even the drying up of wells and springs and rivers are apt to takeplace the water sinking downward through the cracks newly made in the rocks and soil.Finally sir the fierce unchained energy rends an opening through the crater, or the mountain side,and an eruption begins.It comes usually of course with a terribleoutburst that shakes the mountain to its very foundation, explosions follow rapidly and with increasing force,while steam issues and mounts upw rds upwards into a lofty column.Too the steam and escaping gases in their fierce outbreaks hurl up into the air great quantities of solid rock torn from the sides of the crater.The huge blocks meeting each other so often in their rises and falls,, are gradually broken and ground into minute fragments forming dust or so called ashes often of extreme fineness and in such such quantities as frequently to blotout the light of the

sun for days.There too is another way in which a great deal of volcanic dust is made---the lava is full of steam and gases, which in its expans ion tears the molten rock into atoms, often converting it into the finest dust.Yet here these so called eruptions didn't have no such symptoms.The explosions each one following each other in rapid success ion were secondary in duration. And if so if these were eruptions of vol canic origin why was there such strong smells of gun powder in the air.?"

To this answer the scientist couldn't say a word.

Nothing however is great in the unusual sights than the great "Red Plague" of the Calverinian southeastern forests. Ever since Sept, 1912 the Red Plague had beenspreading like the wildest pestilence among the human race, ac hundreds after hundreds of acres going before it seemingly every second, and the dreadful red plague has sent up such volumes of smoke that the atmosphere not over nearly all of Calverinia but into Abbieannia far north, even near to the country and nation of Protestantia was and is loaded with it since the horror b gan and the darkened and various colored vapors had been carried to the northern part of Mormonia, six hundredmiles northwest of the main State of Abbieania Abbieanniacountries in such quantities as to make the sun shine through it like a blood red ball, and to make weird astonishing colors colors of the sky, or to blot out the sun altogether.During the raging furies of these conflagrations so great is the quantities of the seas of smoke rising up to scores of thousands of feet, that whenever the wind is easterly it has caused darkness at Vivian Wickey, four hundred miles away, and when the winds were westerly, the darkness was partly gone, but the sky looked the color of blood red copper, and sometimes to the color or yellow crayon, and then to b e brownish, and sometimes the color of tan.

It was hoped by the frightened inhabitants of prostrated Calverinia that the great heat waves rising into the air from the immense clouds of flame would suddenly condense the air with the chill of the upper air and cause rainstorms, but though this sometimes happened it ino only increased the immense volumes of smoke, which at times were becoming to such a great scale,that ships waycut sent on the Angelinian seas reported seeing huge rolling walls of it I,000 miles away, and that darkness was over half of Calverinia for days and weeks without a break, and the fog of smoke so dense that to avoid suffocation people fled to the north.No one could stand the heat one hundred miles away.In addition to this phenomena, gresy great "Fire Hurricanes have arisen spreading the "Red Plague"with the speed of an express train.In the terrific Mic-Whirthern Run forest fis of June 1913 the flames were so great in quanity as to be seen leaing through the smoke clouds five hundred miles away, and to extend along the horizon from east towest.Great explosions have occured, rocks have been melted like molten lav a vy the heat on hillsides, and dirt and clay once wet have turned white hot and rolled down burning forested hills like melted glass .In the Cedarnine and Head Rick Junction forest fire horror streams of melted rock caused by the heat were so great in quanity as to fill a ravine sixty feet deep and two hundred feet wide, and to stillextend over an open meadow to a dist ndistance of eighteen hundred yards forming a like of minitura lava fifty feet deep, while the flames of the conflagration were said to be leading over fifteen hundred feet high and threw such a heat as to be felt in a parching smouldering degree for fifty miles, starting new fies at that distance.Forest fire fighters gave it up and fled in panic from this roaring hell.

In the course of the succeeding months following the beginning of the conflagrations progressive horrors of this fire have consumed much more forests than would have been seen along the whole Rockey Mountain Region of California.These great conflagrations are not only confined to forested mountains, but rage also in the forested plains, and look as if the very coun try itself was in a great erupt ion.Occasionaly great forest fires have takenplace also in the west throwing up added columns of the dense smoke.The formation of these immeasureable forest fires is blamed on battles, but such a theory is not well foundod.During the battle of Headrick Junction, that dreadful forest fire just previously mentioned was heading that way,and yet the battle is blamed for it.The fire even struck Headrick Junction first, and the battle is blamed.

During the Battle of Jenie Jennie Turner a flood of fie fire was advancing, but a sudden change of wind, saved both the enemy and christian armies from a sudden disaster because of it.and the battle of Jennie Turner also was blamed.And it was an arm of the South Eastern Calverinian fires.

In the progress of these forest fires since the beginning of Stemptar September the amount of fir forest burned over is estimated to have in this story contained enough timber to cover the whole of the United States, with fifty miles of forests burning every half hour.These great immeasureable forest fires are however series in number, andone extends as if all the forests were almost burning at once along the whole Rockey Mountain districts of the two sections of the North Americes of from north to south, though of cowse not all burning at one time but the fire to take up that immense territory in due time without there being any hope to check it.The horrid Ced r Cedernine forest fire crossed the extreme Eastern section of the Sunbeam River territory not far from the famous Annie Aronburgs run sta stream,and after the passage of this hell these rivers and lakes in the vinicity contained enough dead finsh in such a awful abundance on the boiled dry bottoms that their decay began a sort of plague in that vinicity.Lake Sunbeam boiled dry leavingmillions of dead and cooked fish strewn over its bottom.The burned over territoy appared as if a storm of volcanic ash stillmouldering and smoking have fallen for ten years without stomping.

The worse of the forest fires traveled at the speed of fourty miles an hour s

An ob er

An overvation Ar observation of the forest fires could show those who watch and studied their progress even at great risk that they have three well marked phases of action.The least of these forest fires was or is the huge smoker burning where there islots of ground rubbish high impenetrable brush but not enough trees to burn up to their tops.But this state of forest fires though slower is also a very dangerousone , since such a smoulder is also if huge hard to overcome, and rain if coming on would increase the smoke to a terrible degree, onlyputting out the fire on the surface and making it a worse smudge underneath.The second stage stage is one ofmilder activity with an occasnisan occasional somewhat firoe one, according to the nature and formation of the forests, this is apt to be still more dangerous, there plenty of high flames, though so swift in its progress though a littlemore so than the smudge. The third phrase is the three fold fire or what is usually called the "Combination blaze" Ground and brush and trees to gether burn at one time.This happens where the forest is very thick till its nearly dark, and growth also is heavy and thick from the ground and great thickly set vines and other forest moss hangs down from the branches.There are also some peculiar dried up swampty regions in these forests where peculiar enough may be found immense dried up peat bu bogs, and large open clearings where there's bogs of inflamable tar and p oil.These make fires that quadruple the ammount of smoke of different shades or quadruple the ammount of flames.The worse of all is when all trees of the forests have pine tar and Turpentine for the sap.These forest fires of the latyor sort o are of extreme fury,and cause wide spread destruction.In this case its sucide for fire fighters to try to stop its progress.

Such are the general features of the vast furies of these progressive forest fies which is being frightfully perilous to the whole of Calverinia, causing the threat of pestilence because of the lack of sunh sunshine, and by the terrific heats which even now threatens to allow no approach of winter for the coming season.Yet even then hundreds of thousands of men have volunteered to fight this Red Plague, armies of soldiers not in battle have tried theirmost desperate efforts to check and overcome these awful forest blazes, namely too for the sake of the value of the forests endangered.Of all the wars disasters these forest fires breaks the d record.The forest fie once struck an abandoned munition depot used by forest rangers, suddenly the earth quaked from the force of the explosion, the blast rared as if a volcano had broken into eruption in the midst of the forest fie, or as if a mountain had been rent in twain, and great clouds of smoke rolling like caluiflower had been seen to be hurled thousands of feet into the air.

Though the first formation of the forest fire(St Anne's County Southeastern Calverinia) had not been observed quick enough to have determined its cause, it would seem that by the speed with which it spread that it was of incendairy origin, followed by the outbreak of other fires in other localities at the same time, but with no such evidence at first as to reallly blame it upon the enemy. no battles had reallly occured there.

The forest fires began on a long range of low forested mountains, and as one of the mountains was an extinct Volcano called by the name of Mount St Peters, it has at fist been believed when the smoke was seen that the Volcano had been in eruption and had set the forests ablaze by its streams of lan lava..The first clouds of smoke from the fires were so white and heavy and had such strange rolling forms that those whowitnessed it believed believed that large volumes of steam was issuing from the Volcanic vent, and from the color of other clouds soon coming they believed that the various gases followed siut.But at night nothing but copious flames were seen issuing forward upward and a/s also downward, and the mountain itself showed no glow from the crater, nor were there any explosions that accompany any volcani volcanic di- disturbances.The conflagration therefore was investig ated from a great height by scientists who had been called to view the scene but they predicted that there were no t traces of any hydrogen, neither were there any such gases as nitrogen, carbon, dioxide, hydrochloric acid or any sulphur dioxide, but there was plenty of odor of burning pine wood, leaves and ground.They did detect some sort of explosive activity with the aid of their glasses, but they believed that the fie struck something explosive, and that the strangely white clouds was not steam, but smoke, from flames and burning grounds of very high temperature, tainting the atmospheric oxygen so as to make strange unatural coloring in the sky far above.

Usually too much smoke can too naturally disturb the electrical conditions of the atmosphere, so that strange appearances in the sky, as noted with the advance of fires of this sort would have been noted, which afrights observers and makes them think of the approach of the end of the world.

Besides these symptons of the fire observed by the scientists there was great heat waves, and that too it was important to notice that the clouds of vapors did not issue from any side of the mountain spasmodically, nor was there any signs of activity from the crater, neither was there any other sound, save that which is produced by a great fire.Though it was risky, as the fire might come round that way too, nevertheless the scientists took the chances to climb the mountain on the unburning side to the crater to make sure of their theories and were able todiscover that the mountain was as quiet as it was days before the discovery of the fire.

A great mass of people mostly men, went out directly from various towns to fight this great conflagration, but the rocks and slopes of the mountain being mostly lavas became intensely heated if they were not in an incandescent state, and came down slowly as if lava flows were onland therefore the men didn 't believe the scientists and claimed it was an eruption that started the fiesThey fought the blaze nevertheless, and had it partly overcome by their great energies when another big one broke out ten miles away.Most of the gases of the forest fires were from the burning ground, and from the trees, and therefore that it was as claimed to be a volcanic eruption was soon disvcered discovered to be an error of observation, due to the discovery of new fires breaking out elsewhere very mysteriously, and the reflect ion of a far distant blaze upon the clouds of smoke at night.

Explosions however were more unusual sometimes in their force. Solid stones were known to have been thrown by explosions in the air during battles with enormous force and to great heights, and those not hurled vertically by the explosions falling in consequsince at considerable distances from the battlefields.A huge block of stone said to have been weighing two thousand tons was said to have been thrown ten miles by one of the explosions at or near Abeciann; indeed masses of rock weight asmuch as thirty and fourty tons to have been hurled by other explosions during disasters and battles, and during the battle of Jennie vivian Town on Sunbeam Creek stones were said to have been hurled to a distance of ninty miles byone of the big explosions there.

Other materials thrown far by the explosions were earth, rubbish, mud, sand, clay and the fragments of trees.

Though on the investigation of the Abbieann explosions masses of great limestone rocks had been torn from the ground and hirled to a great distance by the force of the blasts it was thought to have been caused by eruptions which must have blewout the solidplug of rocks which must have cooled at the bottom of some volcanic crater or that some volcano had been blownup, and that the bulk of the solid particles of which the volcano itself was composed of but none of the stone was found to be from volcanoes.....

There had been odors of gases nor had there been any steam accompanying the strange outbirsts,, and neither had there been any sort of volcanic matter seen such as lava, scoria or "bread Crust Bombs.s ch Such masses whirling through the air in a plastic sta statevo often bec often become more or less rounded in form or shape, or the explosive forc force shatters them into fragments producing quantities of the finest Volcanic dust or sand.None of this could be located after the supposed eruptions.There was no fall of mud, nor was there any steam in the "eruptive "clouds.,very one despite the theories of many of the scientist absolutely believed it was caused by explosions for at the time of the Lake Solicis horror the air because of the smoke caused by the explosions was as dark as midnight for fifteen miles round for twenty to fifty minut s minutes. There was another ex ample which proved that the disasters were not from volcanic activity. Volcanoes when they start with eruptions in a plain don't blow holes in the ground and leave them as holes but volcanoes are builded.All the great disasters of the war appear to be very remarkable.Owing to a general sil similiarty in the concussions the battles in Calverinia and on Angelinian Soil had very similiar symptons, but the bigger concussio s concussions of fierce battles, so secondary shocks had been felt and explosions have occured as violent as if a Volcano had blown up.

In size battles varied from mere s, skirmishes, such as themost numerous of the conflicts, to battles like Cedernine , with a loss of life soc incomprehensible to reckon or like Evangeline St Claire with a atill bigger l oss ofliife(gethyour wife) or Lebanon and St Ethelbreda, the two biggest battles of the war so far.Ia g Larger battlefields of vaster extent are to be remembered near the territory of Vivien Wickoy, but many battles of even severe nature are dwarfted by those of Lebanon and St Ethaldreda.If is of course fortunate in one way that there had not been any explosions of im asursable force at St Ethaldreda.

But from the directions forest fires take, shows they're not to blame fro from battles.Several blazes have issued from different directions.Their sizes are and is enormous.Yet blazes vary much in size and in the rate at which they burn forward.

This much depends however on the amount of wi d wind that drives,,,, it forward,,,, andupon the slopes of hills, and mountains the con flagrations have to burn up.One branch of a fcest fire near Evange line St Claire burned up a hill four miles in less than three minutes,,, while a conflagration near Cedernine burned up h eighteen miles of a slope in two hours..aging at first like a long wall of white hot clouds of flame, the rear portion of the conflagration tail ends into fierce smoking smoulders,, while clouds of smoke and great smothering heat rises from it for days.Thus is the progress of a Calverinian forest fire.

As to what was the causes of the great forest fires at first the Unfortunate Government of Calverinia knew very little. Various theories had been advanced,, but nothing by any means of are facts had been discovered, and considerable differences of opinions exisitéd..In truth for a long long time they know so little concerning the condis conditions existing that caused the dreadful blazes that any views concerning the responsibilities was necessarily largely conjectural.

The heats of such forest fires was us unusual became of the intensity of the conflagrations.If we were to judge merely from sure temperatures reasonably believed to exist among such dreadful clouds of flame leaping somany hundreds of feet along a hundred mile front, and felt tosscorching twenty miles away, and if we might overlook the question of heat pressure of forest fire "hurricanes" we should certainly say that it is a wonder the flames didn't turn the mountain sides up which it burned into a temporary fluid state.It seemed at least certain that the temperatures surely must have been so high that on the slopes of hills the most refractory solids, whether metals or mineral, loose rocks and stones, sand slopes yeilded into molten before such temper atures of so frightful a forest conflagration.But no one could tell for sure whether under the pressure of wch tremendous heat such tremend ous heat rocks had turned into liquids or not.

And it could have been indeed reasonably doubted whether the terms solid and liquid were applicable in the sense of which forest re rangers understand them, to the materials in the path of such dreadful fires.

A principal which already should be well known in the arts is that many if not all solids may be made to flow on the slope of hills like liquids if such heat be adminisnt ndu administered.Whatever be the state of affairs in the path of a highly heated atmosphere prod ced

produced by such flames, we may look upon the conflagration in the forest as a sort of "wolrd world destroyer", relieving Calverini n soild relieving Calverinian s il of valuable trees.It seemed that in Calverinia there was hardly nosafty for man on the earths face.One of the Forest fire investigating scientists presented the following views concern ing the forest fires;

"When reduced to its simplest terms, a forest fire may be defined as a "Red Plague of the Trees, or rather a "Fire Pestilence, and through the forest it goes as if nothing could chck it.The flames in these blazes seems to consume everything, the very heat penetrates the cool and ridi rigid rocks under the forest floor, and causes them to burn the ground through so that the very earth turns red hot.The extent of a dreadful forest fire of this nature can only be conjectured conject ured but judging from the approximately kn own rate of increase in the conflagration, with speed(on an average of sixteen to fifty miles an hour if wind is blowing, and the temperature of which the flames rages the heat) they must seemingly have a length in the worst stages of probably one hundred miles each .There are other factors to be considered, but in general terms it is safe toassume that the formations of advancing conflagrations are irregular, manymiles in length, two to three miles in width.

During forest fires of the slow andmore quieter type, the flames burn more slo ng the rubbish growing on the ground and climbing partlyup the trees, and moves forward with the speed of a gigantic smudge/. A fierce combination fire however spreads widely andlike anyone of these would form a conflagration several hundred square miles in length as had been observed in the territory near Evangeline Evangeline St claire. Even now in the story going over a portion of the Sunbeam River, there are sheets of flame which is advancing in the manner just named, some four hundred qu're square miles in length, and not over seventy feet in width.These conflagrations is flamingup the slopes of forested hills has caused melted rocks and st nes to almost casd cascade down steep burning forested slopes and to flow through narrow valleys for several miles before becoming chilled sufficiently to arrest its progress.

.Instances are also abundant where the forest fires are burning fiercely over wide forestedplains with immensely expanded branches. Illustrations also can be furnished in southern Calverinia, in which one of these fies u burning isone hundred and fifty miles in length, with the flames leaping more than a thousand feet in height, but have a bread breadth of only eight or t n ten smiles.In the case of forest fies illustrated by these examples, there is no absence of many explosions and a person standing on a slope witnessing a fie of this origin over fifty miles suffers even then severe inconvenience from the radiant heat even though the winds blow from him to the blazes.

The quieter forest fires or smudges are worst however fo the awful clouds of smoke they produce.If however the fcest fires are mainly all flames,the vapors and gases contained in the burning trees seem to find more difficulty in escaping, and may be retained untill the main fire passes, and then they roll in immense seas of smoke clouds from the remains.Forest fies in which the smoke is copous is the main smudges, and the gassesundernoath the smudge seems to be retarded untill the pent up energy bursts all bounds,and therefore produce enough smoke to cover the sky in such masses as to cause darkness for a very great extent.One characteristic example is the fires burning near Evangeline St Claire.

Near Ev nEvangeline St Claire during the battles of Trinoque there explosions had occured during the fires themselves which were said to have shattered would hillsides and hurled the fragments into the air, from probable gas escaping from the hillsides and becom ing afire.Wholeburnin g forests had been shattered by gigantic explosions coming from unknown sources during conflagrations.

Clouds of smoke during these explosions were hurled manymiles high.The larg e fire brands hurled in all directions by the terrible explosions commonly fell back into the burning forests, but sometimes the explosions have hurled upwards terrific clouds of sparks and burning leaves, and had been carrdd several miles by a wind then blowing to start new fires far in advance of the main one while if a strong gale is blowing the sparks and burning embers had been carried nearly three miles.Forest fires of the worst type not un commonly have melted rock on the slopes of forested hills which had flo wed for several miles.In certain instances these downflows of liquid rock occured after the hottest conflagrations and made a mountain

appear to have the a characteristics of a quiet eruption.Sometimes too from the fierce heats there is no fundamental differences between any types of great forest fies into which it is convienent to divide the big conflagration..... In extreme examples of dangerous forest fies, the forests have become aflame on the high mountain top, and a volcanic eruption fierce enough to blow two thousand feet off summit from a mountain couldn't make the apparent eruption of flame and smoke look more fierce.such an occurance was recorded in the case of the extent volcano St Catherine, when the flames of burning forests raced up its slopes.The entire mountain seemed todisappear in the flames in two days time all the forests being reduced to smouldering ashes and like debrisand the lavas on the exposed portions ran down molten once more from the dreadful heat. The essential feature of a big forest fire, as stated above is the con combination fire, leading from the course of a everything burning at one time and making such heat as to run rocks like water.And the most marked variations in th the process depends on the intensity of the fires burning, and on the winds that is then blowing.

The cause of the forest fires though believed incendary? to be burning so fdrcely and on suchan extensive extent is stilla matter for discussion. Certain forest fire" geogorists contend that fierce windstorms a is the solomotive power, while others consider that the flames is forced forward owing to the inflamable materials of the trees and ground rubbish of which it burns.The view most favorably entertained at pesance in reference to the general natureof these awful forest fies is that so many fires had formed as to becomeone, owing principally to winds tearing blazing embers and scattering them far and wide, and that the intense heat also sets the trees afire more than three or four miles ahead of the main conflagrations.As the flames burn over creeks they boil away, and really it is the extent of the flamesthat produces the most conspicuous and at the same time the most terrible phenomenon accompanying the swi t swift progress of the " RED PLAGUE".:.

The unusual character of the enormous forest fires was strongly maintained by many investigators, and certainly gains support from the vast clouds of smoke sent higher into the air than any volcanic eruption by the force of the heated draughts of the flames.The quanitites of smoke from enormous smudge fire to which is due the enormous extent od darkness, and also sunless days over smuch extensive territory ,leads to the same conclusion. Many scientists indeed while admitting the agency of flames to the overheated country all around the red plague look upon this as the cause of so much sickness starting in so many sections of the country, to an increase of the Consumption rate and other lung diseases caused by improper breathing due to so much posionous smoke vapor in the air.For instance Professor Mic-Mahon of the St Michaels Catholic Scientific School said to the swarm of boy and girlscouts attending his classesone day to hear his oration:

"My dear brave little heroes and heroines of the nation, these unusual forest fie outbreaks, are the cause of the overheated w eathr weather throughout the nation, and therefore the whole country seems to be subject to such tremendous heat, that when the conditions are right its pentupenergry breaks forth , and causes heat waves to continue even far beyond the season average.The process by which this unusual unseasonable heat waves becomes so extensive in this manner is a long and yet very much misunderstanding one.Some contend that the extensive forest"fire Hurricanes" cause it, but this theory is not generally accepted.The common common belief by dear little boys and girls is that the forest fire heat is radiated by the winds off the direction of the blazes, and therefore this process of heat can be extended by the various land winds nearly as far as the winds can carry them.... And each additional heat wave from such additional forest fire, while not being extreme at the greatest distance from the blaze nevertheless adds to the temprature of the weather just as the sun does, during the hottest july day.When the radiance of the heat wave of the forest fire has traveled to a distance of a few hundred miles towns and villiages even that for have been so terribly subjected to such a terrific heat spell even above season normal for the hottest Summer that the people have fled to save themselves.This heat generated steam l on rivers and lakes.The heat of the flames of the forest fies had sometimes too held the blaze in a state of frightful tension so that even gases made by conflagrations had exploded with tremendous force ..This view boys and girls is very probably

applicable to in many cases, and the exceedingly immense smoke clouds which so muchrises from the smudges of the reasportions of the con flafration, has doubtless for one of its causes the extensive darkn ess over smuch territory in Calverinia, and for the strange color phenomena elsewhere.But that is the sole mode of the fire which is very questionable.It certainly does not agree with the immense volumes of smoke increased by small rains when fies of such extreme intensity as that now raging at Evangeline St Claire very strongly lead to the co conclusion that sometimes people had fought the bla e blaze by bursting a levee and that a great mass of water has made its way through the burning smudge of peat bogs and other fires produced by the conflagration, and instead ofputtingout the blazes exploded into steam with a suddenss which gave it the rending force of dynimite or otherpowerful chemical explosives and made situations worse than better.

As in one way children the army is believed to be so intimately associated with the forestfies, that they are accused as being the cause of both fire and explosion,and also flood disasters, and the explosions toochildren like those at Abbieann have produced such shock disasters that they were suspected as you know well to be earthquakes.As to the immediate cause of these explosions and the forest fies there is no doubt considerable difference of opn opinion.But I think.it willnot be doubted that the enemy is the main consequence,though perhaps the main one.They remotely too responsible for the fires which are the chief disasters to nbe mentioned.As this great fire plague is gradually getting worse,while the floods are gradually declining it follows from the law that we have already so often had occassion to use the term"that we're all either In Purgatory or in Hell"for not even committing sin.No doubt the expcious of people from so many towns and villiages due to the intense heat of the weather, and the smokey atmosphere must be exe exceedingly great, even in this short period of time.The cause however is continually in operation, and accordingly, the disasters of the war had been from time to time been accommodated to the fact that as your comrade Mildred Maxwell says the whole resistance of the christian armies to both fires and the enemy seems to be lessening. We hope however that that is a mistake.Yet at some points our success in this strif is gradually declining, for the enemy is grasping more of Calverinia every month.We may hope to admit now however that loss to be a quanity too small to be measured by any observations as yet obtainable, but its a fact that'll be disasterous is if overlooked too long.It follows from these considerations that at various points the christian armies because of the great fies and the intercepting floods must have a lessening number every day and none coming in to reinforce them as so many had to join in fighting the fies.These armies must necessarily submit to compression by the three foes, one humna, and the other two natural, they must submit either continuously or from time to time, and the necessary yeilding of the armies before the conflagrations will and is in general taking place where they are too small in numbers for offering successful resistance.These acts of compression dear children of Abbieannia is fortunately not proceeding with uniformity, but rather with small successive shifts, and even though the displacements of the whole long line of christian resistance in these shifts be actually very small yet the pressure to which the armies are subjected by the triple foe are so vast that if something is not done soon, a very small shift or withdrawal may soon correspondend to a very great disaster to us all Suppose children forinstance that there is a slight shift during a battle along a fifty or sixty mile front in the christian lines between two enormous wings of troops at a length of three hundred feet.It must be remembered that the pressure of an enemy assault would be about the force and weight of an overwhelming number of insane men against it.Even a slight displacement overone extensive line over another, the sides being pressed together by the violence of the assault with a force of a race on the square inch would soon be an operation necessarily accompanied by violence along the whole line greatly exceedin that exceeding that which we might children expect from so small a displacement if the forceful attack concerned had been of more ordinary magnitude.Do you Understand my meaning?Yes. Well children on account of this great addition of the intensity of the assault, merely a small rearrangement of the christian line in persuance of the necessary work of accomodating the volume of assault to the perpetual shrinkage, might produce soon an excessive violent and disasterous defeat extending far and wide if reinforcements do

not be sent on time. The effects of such an attack would be of course in waves upon waves of men as you've already seen in battles, just as a violent blow given atone end of a bar of iron by a sledg hammer is propagated through the bar in the form of waves.Indeed when the effect of this war adjustment reaches all our activie christian armies in Calverinia it might some time be great enough to disable the whole cause or all the armies fighting here.And the assaults may become so violent that no armies may be able towithstand it no how, anymee than a ew building can withstand a violent earthquake.Such is the threatening phenomena of the war now.Foe, fire, Shocks of explosions, pestilence, discouragement, and the fires of the forests.

When such a long christian line i of resistance is shaken by one of these enforced adjustments of the broken portion which I have described children, the wave of attack that would spread like a pulsation from the center of wars agitation would soon extend all along the whole resistance, and would be transmited right through it.Taking advan tage of this the enemy would create a violent shock of an attack,and might be made powerful enough to produce destructive effects.The enemy for instance seems to take advantage of the recent results of the Abbieann disaster whether he is guilty of it or not.The convulsion from those explosions children, was manifisted over a far larger area of country in a way which makes the shock felt than supposed or thought of, though the damage wrought was slight.However beyond the limited distance from the center of the disaster there had been no destructive effects upon buildings, and did not even cause vibrations that was felt by ordinary observatories.In each locality of this war zone children in which the shocks of battles have n been cronic it did seem as if there was a peculiar violence in the artillery fire too much power in the shells, and too great explosives to be used by either side.A shrinkiage in the resisting christian line in the course of the incessant adjustment between the interior and the exterior had taken place bet in many armies by occassional small lengths.The fact that in christian lines the enemy do force the formation of these weak spots at wi which small adjustments are possible may be provided as it were "A safty valve "of battle for other portions of the christian lines if reinforcements arive in time.Then instead of a general with drawal, the christian line would be stronger. In this way we may explain the fact that immense sections of all the whole war line are so far practically free from battle disasters beause of the ability of their commanders, while is it is a fact too that in less fortunate armies the disasters have been very severe.

Now suppose another battle soon takesplace right here near the Abbieann territory, if there's plenty of artillery in action it'll originate a series of vibrations through the land as long as it continues.We must here distinguish b etween the two foes,--I might almost say the compat comparatively strong bodds of contending armies--which formup for a gigantic battle and open with intensely severe artillery fire/ The vibrations caused by the artillery and great explosions which carry the tidings of the outbreak of the battle, soon spreads through from town to town from the centre of the disturbance in gradually enlarging circles. We may liken the spread of these battle vibrations to the ripples in a big pool of water which diverge from the spot where a stone was thrown into it.Th The vibrations transmitted by the explosions of so many big shells, explosions of munitions, great thunders of so many hundreds of big cannons per minute will carry the message over a good part of the country if not all over the earth.If the ar illery fire is unusually severe, or if unu sally terrific explosions occur the vibrations will be cor as pondingly large and will sure ly travel o with vigor over the whole land.The Abbieann explosions reached as far north as the city of Pandora Abbieannia three thousandmiles away and set the pencil of the seis ometer so violently at work that the very pencil(not the lead) was broken.But there are different ways round out country, from Calverinia to Abbieannia States, the most direct route being across Angelini a State, Abyssinkile and Ange,ine Angeline vine, the other route across Domdobia, Tripongonlia and elsewhere.The vibrations o f those explosions children traveled also by these routes and the former was the shorter of the rest.

Sme breif repetion may not be here amiss children as to the general outcome of the forest fires, and other disasters of the war itself, of which much has been said in the proceeding pages of the of future volumes ofour own histories espcially as many of the terms have been to some extent unusual in character.The most abundant of these great forest fires is ~~steam or water~~ those of Southeast Calverinia

which dear children as we have seen issues in prodigious fury over all our beautiful fo est lands during its wild progress.No doubt in your adventurious travels you have seen many of these great blue blazes.But with the progress of these forest fires a great number of other disaster horrors frequently make their appearance.Though we have known of a great number of these even from the beginning of the disaster, it will not be out of order for any of you to repeat of what you had experienced of the disaster hre.What did you exprience Dolores?"

"The chief among our experience"she answered"was to three or four times run through a gauntlet of these flames.The chdf among the towns we heard of that were menance were Evangeline St Claire, Trinoque, Sepsenterminia, and Double Dayton, and I say it was a miracle that they were not hot."

"You are right"said the Professor.."And the h heat w was of these forest fires res t upon one another, and therefore many new conflagration horrors are therefore formed.By the action o these flames the ruin of our forests are general.I saw myself a portion of the immense forest fire burn upthe slopes ofone ofour Volcanoes called Mt Joan I believe,and the red glowing light of the smoulders left by the passage of the flames was seen more than a hundredmiles away.Such dreadful fcest fires however were scarcely ever heard of before.The glowing sea of embers looked to me like a great lake of rd red hot molten lava which reflected from the clouds of smoke from it as much as the lights of a great city are reflected from the water vapor of the atmp atmosphere during cloudy weather at night..Besides the progress of all these awful disasters children which is terrifying the whole world itself, there are many other catastrophes to boot, and these have so accumulated in numbers till they have buildedup mountains of horror of vast dimensions, like, Lake Selicia, Abbieann, and the great disasters of the west. Some of these also or every one of them is suspected of having been caused or being originated by the enemy, for they evidently are not Natural disasters , these disasters having extended for several hundred miles, and one explosion was said to have had the force of a volcanic eruption for the blast had hurld upwards fragements of debris as high as they would have been by a volcanic eruption, and scattered far and wide over the fac face of the country. But the principal force of some of these explosion disasters is also suspected to be originated by forest fires or by the highly heated atmospher e produced by them.It is to this cause that the names"Calverinia Purgatories Purgatories"are applied.

Big forest fires do certainly at a close distance present all the appearances of the approachof the Worlds ends, and when we come to study the progress ofone of these blazes and notice even the chemical act o action some of them produce from the very soil, and the hellish n ature of the rolling seas of impenetrable smoke, however we shall find that there are many respects,, in which they may differ entirely from some of the other kinds, they consisting of what sort o f trees of course that the conflagration burns. In speed, they may be slow, fast, or at a race or exp ess express train speed as in the case when they go before a wild wind.The steam and other gases also seen during progressive ~~forwar~~ forest fires .These forest fires have var ed varied greatly in character according to the nature of the material it has burned ans and is burning..In the man majority of cases the conflargrations burn over open forest country with lots of ground rubbish growing and the distension of such a mass of smoke that is produced by it gives rise to the fm formation of such rolling clouds as to appear like huge volcanic eruptions in the distance to which the name"Fat Fake Eruption"ci is applied.But when the forest fire of this sort grows to an immense size the liberation of so much smoke gives rise to the reported statement of a whole territory in "Volcanic Eruption for scores of miles.

Half ofour forests consist of the dangerous Turpentine trees, and the ammount of flames these willand do produce is enormous.We have seen to what a vast extent the flames becamewhen it struckthe fcests forests east of Evangeline St Claire.For weeks seas of flame were reported extending and as existing in the vinicity on the main line of blaze as far as Solomon Run covering the sky over the country to such an extent with smoke and flame that it frightened the inhabitants throughout the territory into believing their last time has come..This forest fire therefore has accumulated into sucha quanity of smoke and flames that sometimes it is even difficult to determine its very progress or what direction its moving.Flames from this blaze has been said to be seen leaping many hundreds of feet into the atmosphere

and created heat felt badly for fifty miles. Thus children it has been related by one of the Gemini who watched thevprogress of the fire as it threatened Evangeline St Claire before and after the battle there, that during the earlier stages of its advancing mo ene movement flames of ernormous size into forms of rolling white hot clouds rose high in the air, and the clouds of smoke filled the atmosphere producing a darkness in the city of Evangeline St Claire that is claimed ni ht might have been felt.so excessivle was the smoke even at that distance from the flames that it penetrated tightly closed windows, and the most closely fastened receptacles, and filling rooms so completely that people had to wear gas masks to avoid suffocation as they fled from the threatened city.

This smoke from its Turpentine odor showed what the flames were burning. These however are terms of convienence only, and do not always pr properly describe the materials what is burning ."

Sometimes the passage ofthe fires through such a forest produces large quanities of ashes still smouldering hot for days.

"How many fires are there by now?"asked Radcliffe .

"It is not by ag means anceasy task to frame anestimate of the n number of forest fires now raging in Calverinia and elsewhre." he answered. "And the forest fires now raging ascI said before vary greatly in their size and heat, from vast conflagrations more than a hundred miles in extent, with flames rising to a height of n early two thousand five hundred feet, to mere immense smoke fires.They are likewise exhibiting everypossible stage of development, and of smouldering,while some are in a state of cronic burning and progress others are reduced to mere smudge fires and ground fires and to the condition of "SmokeSeas", and others again having once burned over am n and meeting with nofurther fuel are burning themselves out."

"But what about---?"

"I'm just coming to that.Even boys and girls if we confine our attention to the larger forest fires now raging, which merit the name of "General Conflagrations" and such of these as we have reason to believe are the main ones to bear dreaded, the danger to our property is increased, and not by any means removed removed. Forest fires if not finding any more fuel can easily burn out of their own accord, but if they are carrid out by a wind they'll cross the wide open space and renew the burning, and it is quite possibly possible in many cases to distinguish between the conditions of a "combination"forest fire,"and a "Smudge."

"What do you meanby smudge".?

"The smoker."

"I see."

"We shallhowever dear child scouts,probably be within the limits of truth in stating that the number of great big forest fires throughout the whole State of Calverinia which we have reason to believe are keeping the whole country in so much darkness or lack of sunshine and smoky atmosphere,, is somewhere between four hundred and four,,, hundred and fifty . Most of these are marked by more or less conflagrations beyond all human or natural control, burning trees composed of the highly inflamable pine of the " Parsley"type and the other sort that has the sap(Turpentine Pine) called Turpentine. But if we include forest fires which exhibit the appearance of the scenes of the infernal regions, and other features of the fierceness of the Hellish places, yet concerning the results of which we have norecord as no one as stays to witness the scene, the number will fall little, if anything, short of I,000 blazes ."

"One thousand blazes? Aw Goon'!"

"Yes indeed"Radcliffe. The forest fires composed of blazes burning these trees, are still more numerous when you call them smudges or smoulders, and the smaller temporary fires or ones just starting which are usually subordinate to the progressive flames that have burned over ground rubbish must benumbered by thousands and willsoon flare up into big ones sooner or later.There is said even now to be still feebler manifestations of the forest fire terrors, such as"smoke seas", smoulders,vand flaring seas, that may be reckoned by millions.It is not improbable that these less powerful forest fires to a great extent make up in number what they want in individual energy, and the relief that thewinds may afford to the underground imprisoned energies of the smoulders may be almost equal to that which results from the occassionalouthirsts of the greater conflagrations.

In taking a general survey of the forest fire phenomena ofour eastern Calverinia lands, no facts children emeout more strikingly than that of the very unequal distribution, both of the great conflagrations,, and of the minor ones. Thus on the whole of the Eastern Calverinia it had seemed to combine recently into one big forest fire that especial especially southeastern Calverinia--and this is raging ever north ward. Across the streams, small lakes and rivers of that section however there are or have crossed no less than six ernormous blazes, namely, the Starring Junction Fire, and Easter River blaze in central east Calverinia, the East Aronburgs.Run in the same ed section, Gra hams Forest, and the Cedernine and Evangeline St Claire horror raging near the Aegean Beadon Territory...!!. The State of Angeline Vivme itself is at presentknown to contain about ten immense forest fires that are burning,-------four on the west coas t(boast) and six in the Eastern pa t part of the state, while about ten other immense forest fires believ believed to be st set by the enemy occur in the adjoining State of A Angeline Vine.I've heard of it said that on the extreme southwest coast forested region of Calverinia more than twenty fpest fires are raging, but no less than twelve of these are raging on mountain ranges.'? M?. No forest fires are known to exist on extreme Western Calverinia so far.Eastern Calverinia containes a greater number of big forest fires than any of the other war zone States.Thereare Twenty big forest fies in Eastern North Bengall State, twenty five in south Bengall State, , and thirty seven in Mullencatt State.Thus taken altogether there are one hundred and seventeen forest fires of great size raging on the great continential lands of our Abbieannian Country, while n early twice as many occur in Calverinia alone."

"It seems unusual sir."

"It des indeed.But children upon examining further into the strange distribution of these great forest fires, another very interestingfact presents itself .Do you know what it is children?"

"I believe I do."said Dolores raising her hand.

"What is it Dolores?"

"Why friend Professor, the forest fies are in almost every instance raging either alongourmountain rages, or close to the coast of the countries, at some great distance from them, or in forested plains, valleys and the like."

"You are right, and your exprience shows that"said the Professor. "What else do you say.You should know as you have had suchexprience.?"

"Why there are indeed two exceptions to this rule."

"And wht is that child?"

"In the great and wholly forested regions of the Mic-Hollester Run River Region lying between Evangeline St Claire city, and Calverine, four of the greatest of all forest fires are raging, and in the northern foested plains of Angelinia State , and in the Calverinian Province of Selicia several others.That is from what I observed from reading the news.However sir more reliable information is however needed con cerning these forest fies."

"It's a remarkable circumstance that you mention this"said the Prop Professor."I didn't even know that.But what else do you know of it?"

"I know that nearly one third of the Vivian Hills covered with forests composed of fir pine are all aflame, and many others of these foests as well as those lying in the valleys are ablaze."

"Astonishing if true.I know that that ridge of hills runs through eastern Calverinia, and if fires are raging there these hills have therefore divided the forest fires into two immense sections..But how fierce is those conflagrations that you have read off?"

"Why sir upon this ridge the fires have gained such fury according to the papers that over the ridge and the forested spurs proceeding from it, the papers and informers had said that there rise numerous mountainous masses of flames,which constitute the well known fires of that locality.All of these sir are said to have been originated by the wicked Glandelinian incendaries, and among them are numerous huge smudge fies.The forests of San Pedro are threatened by this blaze sir, and the State of Casteritia contains thirteen so papers say, not improbably more, the State of Axores have six big fires, the Santa Maria County three(go on a spree)while about eight fires are reported in the ppers to be raging off the west coast of Angelinia State.In the very Blengiglemenean C Islands sir there are six fires in the forests there, and three of them have been recorded in the big Catherine Isle. Altogether to what the paper may say there are fourty fierce foest fies situated upon the Calverinia Territory and properities alone. But sir along the same line the number of big smudge fies and ground forest fires are far greater.and there are not wanting proofs

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that forest fires of the smouldering kind are soon to be approaching to the condition of general conflagrations."

The Professor paused for a moment to wipe his spectacles and then he continued;"If the great chain of these forest fires presents us with an example of a chain of mountains all afire as you said, we have too in the adjoining line of the Bondons hills an example of a similar ge range of hills all are afire or going to f be afire, and which conflagrations are in a terrible rage.I've heard that in the region of Angelinia Agathia, there are twelve big forest fires burning, in the Glinda Territory thirty one, and near Numbi City should three. The Chain of the St Michael Hills contains at least ten fires, and the Territories east of Bengal County about twenty five big blazes.The great group of cities lying in that territory at this present time is near the scene of the grandest forest fire disasters.No less than fifty great fires are threatening these scores of cities and hundreds of towns and villiages.Further East, the sam chain of fies is said be to be continued by the force big blazes of New Calverinia, one ormore big smudges or ground fies, and several bigs bigones n ear the southern Boundary of Abyssinkila, the Solomon River territory and the New Viania, the three big fies of New Curren State,and po ssibly by the fires burning in the Extreme northeast Calverinia region. Altogether no less than one hundred and fifty fuest fies exist along this territory, and if we include the many smudge fies and valley blazes which appear to be situated on lines branching from this particular band, we shall not be wrong in the assertion that this great st system of awful forest fires unlols at least one quarter of the forested territories of our Abbiennnia Southern Provinces.In addition to the great number of awful Combination ithes fires there are here several hundred very perfect extensive smokey ones many of which to investigators appear to have recently come into existance, though some of them may be already full grown.A third series of great forest fires, starts from the neighborhood of the Northern Curvature of the Grand Vivian Hills, and these fies stretches a great distance along the ex extreme southeastern mountain territories.This upper section of blazes so it is said however is much less continuous, but nevertheless very severe, and contains with its branches nearly a hundred smudge fies.On the north of this great bandit is alsoconnited with the one we have already spoken off in southwestern parts of Eastern Calverinia which has been menancing Angelinia Agathia so often.In the Glorianna region there had existed a number of forest fires, one of which burned through the Henrietta territory is believed to have destroyed 18,000,000 acres before it was brought under.Furtyer north in the territory of the Un ited States of Calverinia, a number of grand forest fires still exist some of which are probably the most immense of all, for terrible darkness from much smoke is observed, and many other manefestations abound. From the southern extremity of the region west of this territory an almost continuous chain of forest fires stretches through Gautemal Gautemala State and from this part of the forest fire band a branch was reported given off which is burning through the West Guatemala Junction Territory, and contains some of the most dreaded forest fies of all.However in all of Southern Calverinia theline is continuous by the forest fires of the Provinces of Ecuador, Bolivia, and Chili but at many intermediate points of the fire chain great smudges and terrible smokers are occuring which is to a great extent filling up the gaps in the series.A small offshoot to the westward passes through the St Ann Territory.The great band of forest fires which is said to be stretching through the northern Angeline Vine Province is second only in importance, and in their burning.The third forest fire band of the Province of Calverinia is that already spoken of which traverses the Calverinia east from northeast to northwest.This series of gigantic forest fies is however much more fr broken and interrupted than the other two, and a greater portion of them are great smokers.

Beginning in the north with the forest fires of Greens Junction and Gladys Territory we pass northwards by way of the mountains to the Ba Bengall States.Thence by way through Evangeline St Claire and from allthis band two branches of forest fires are proceeding to the westward, one through central eastern Calverinia, where all the fires are now general, and the other through the north the great majorit majority of these fires being smokers, though a few are blazes.The Fires on the eastern coast of Calverinia may be regarded as situated on another branch from this bigger band.The number of these fies do not exceed fifty.

From what has been said, it will be seen that the terrible forest fires of Eastern Calverinia not only usually assume a terrifically long wave formation, but nearly the whole of these dreadful conflagrations have been seen to form up into soothing infernal regions along three well marked seas or bands, and the flaming smoking branches proc eeding from them. The first am and most important of these bands is said by one of the news papers to be nearlyy ~~1000~~ 1,000 miles in length and with its branches contains more than one hundred and fifty enormous sister conflagrations, the fiercest has burned along an eight thousand fro mile front in six months and includes one hundred immeasureable conflagrations, the third is much more broken and interrupted, extending already to a length of nearly two thousand miles, and contains about fifty immeasureable seas of fires.The Forest fires of Northeastern Angelinia States, with Bengall State, Angeline Vine and other Eastern Provinces may be regarded as you will as forming a forth and subordinate band. Thus children of The smiles we see that the surface of Calverinia and her sisterProvinces seem to be covered by a new network of great forest fire lines all of which traverse intheir sinuous lines of waves with a general north and south direction giving off branches because of the winds which often also run for hundreds of miles and sometimes threaten to to form a connection between the two great fire bands.

To this rule the movement of these immeasureabl e conflagrations and their accumulation alongcertain well makred bands there are two very striking exceptions, which children we must now proceed to notice, and we'll all understand how far the destruction of our forests have proceeded up to thismonth.

In the very Center of our Calverinian country there is the largest andmost unbroken forest land of the Nation, and should those fires come up to here there'll be a fire that'll draw the attention of the whole world.The progressive movements of these dreadful conflag rations has not reached this far yet.The f ras forest fires do not yet appear within sight of this region but it only seems to be on very doubtful evidence, and many have gone out to do all sort of work to prevent the Red Plague from spreading here.The only accounts we have of the danger threatening are contained by the facts that the fires are reallly moving in that direction. The existance of these dreadful fires coming tward that way ofwhich only obscure warnings had reached the forest rangers appears bto be completly established by travlers, signal stations and by observers on high observatories. Three Forest fire storms appear to be moving tward that locality, and other forest fire phenomenea have been stated to appear in sight in the great forested plateau of Central Calverinia.The efforts of many scores of thousands of forest fire fighters, and the prayerful hop hope that the winds maintain a westerly direction is only that the blaz e will be held back .The second exceptionally endangered spot is that of extreme Central Calverinia, right in a territory where we are now.While the Evangeline St Claire Territory fires have already advanced into an unbroken ocean of fire, and threaten the edge of the loftiest forests of all Calverinia, the forest fires of the Trinoque districts have fortunately advanced in a northeasterly course and thus you have been able to travel on without much hinderance though a branch of it struck the forests recently near Lebanon.All in that district is said to beone of the largest forest fires ever r agin g raging and some observers said the smoke from the wo thousand feet of flaming clouds must be rising from 22,000, to 33,000 fathoms up ward tward the sky in such unbroken clouds as to shut out all daylight over the country in the far eastand the clouds have culminated into such enormous masses, that if the wind is east, the whole sky even to the Western sections of Abbi annia is covered, or the sun doesn't shine over the whole country and into the Mic-Whirchian seas, or if the winds are west, the same is in that direction.This forest fire horror is said to be surpassing all the rest in horror and height of flames and smoke from the immeasureable turpentine forests that are burning.Thus forest fire is unsurpassed probably by any other fire on the whole scale."

"And we are close to it in this territory?"asked Jane Mellfort, while all the other child scouts looked aghast.

I "Indeed we are.With the exception of the two main isolated seas of flames of other blazes, and of this big one regingup from The Evangeline St Claire, and Trinoque districts, nearly all of the other fies in the country are raging near the limits which seperate the greater blaze by gaps.The fact of the general proximity of forest

fires to the main endangered section is one which has frequently been pointed out recently to investigating geographers of the Abbieannian Geography or Geographical Societies, and may now be regarded as being throughoutly established as the fircest conflagration raging ever known on record.Many of our grandest mountain chains covered with forests is lying parallel to these advancing seas of fire.This too is strikingly exhibited by the great fire masses which lsmoving across the extreme eastern forests of Galverinia in the Donohue and Bicknell Provinces.The Bondon Hills which consisted of forested mountains to their very summits are not yet in the path of the conflagration but are in grave peril.At m ny many points however,,, along the sides of these grain chains of forested mountains we find that such forests exist that while make fine fuel for the adfancing "Red Plague from which ernormous waves of fde can burn.These forests too cover great tracts of level country.The fire is already especially raging in marked size in the Angeline Run River forested plain of Northeastern Angelinia State and through other sections but this fire is traveling just now southward.Also in this and the adjoining regions of Angeline Vine State of Concentinia,, an ernormous tract of forest country is threaten e threatened,and this c forest covers enough coun try surface to a larger area than France and Great Britan combined.

The Angeline Run River cuts through this endan gered fnest in a series of beautiful pucturesque windings and stretches, in small gorges and shallows, and the thickness of the forest is so that you cannot in many parts get through except by roads.If thks This blazes up there'll be some fire.Looked at from any point on its surface one section of this forestedplain appars as a forest of those strangely beautiful Parsley appearance but the forest are all of Tuspentine sap and Heaven help the country if the blaze reaches here. Thus uniformity had been produced by no doubt manyages of tree growpth and if the fire would come up it may liter ally roll over the plain in an undulating contour or in successive waves of flame that may heaten the heavens as to dry up the upper atmosphere and give us no rain at all or cause such rains as to wash us out of existance.

The forest fire so far have either rolled up the mountain sides or has followed the streams as the waters of a l k lake follow its promentories and bays. .Similiar conditions exist along the whole eastern Galverinia territory, and of many localities the flames are said to be ragingupward to such a height and dimensions as to overlook and dwarf the mountain ranges by the side of which they rave race and leaup.Elsewhere we can find still more striking examples of parallelsim between great mountain side forest fires, and the fires traveling along the level forested lands, folloing the line of fde to the great eastern wave which extend so far while traveling north ward.There are som some other fde bands which exhibit a similiar parallelsim with mountain chains, but on the other han d, there are smu smoky and smudgy forest fdes between which, and the nearest mount ain axis no such connection can be traced because the whole territory is obliterated in great seas of rolling smoke towering far into the sky and across the country in unbroken seas of cloud. There is one other fact concerning the mode of distribution of forest fdes upon the surface of our Galverinian country, to which we must allude.By a study of the evidence presented on the advancing side by en dless high walls of impenetrable rolling clouds of smoke, flaming seas, and terrific heat, and other phenomens of a similiar kind it can be shown that certain wide i areas.of the forested lan d and of the mountain ranges, are at presence menanced by the great fdes.And the observation of the Forest geologist prove that similiar movements of the progressive forest fires have been going on since the first days they started to become so immense.No Now children as Mr Hendro Darger has so well shown in his investigation work on "Galverinian Red Plagues" if we trace upon a map here on the wall the ae areas of forested sections of Galverinia which are in the path of the terrible conflagration we shall find that nearly all the dreadful ~~conflagration~~s conflagrations are ragin g upon rising areas more than in levelness.Nevertheless all the fires have a significance that is well worthy of fuller consideration.There are facts kn .. which point to the cause of this - state of affairs.It is not uncommon for small fdes to be formd by the bigger ones when great windstorms are raging in the fire districts.These are undoub edly the start of new ones caused by winds t a carrying into the air the burning embers from the parent fires.In fact such child fires soon grow into parentkind of their own.It is believed by geologists that such a system of fdes,

fires are ranged along similiarlines as others are, though there are at present ernormous breaks between one of them extending for thirty miles but along with these immense forest fires there appear in place of them sumtimes scenes as of powerful eruptions of a whole country side.The greatest of these fdes is that to which we are so close.It doubtless marks the line of m ighty fores of conglagrations or con flagrations which have been in rage since September 1912 last year."

"Oh it ain't that"answered the girlscout Mildred to general Arenburg."But I've learned that general Clancy had planned to have some Glandelinian spies pay a great price to anyone to have you and all of us put out of the way.They are crazy with the desire to kill you because general Hanson thrash Clancy at Lebanon, and you take Manleys chances towin the conflicts away from him, and his armies face unusual disaster.Maybe he has paid others too, maybe Manley paid Clancy to do it too if he dares.I don't know.But general Manley and Clancy swear that they will get you yet.Ad And general Calmannia Shoemannsias out of the game for a time."

"Where are their armies now?"

"I do not know just now"answered Mildred."I guess they have retreated southeastward or westward to concentrate or get under cover somewhere near the town of Maris Kornmann. And I want to tell you something more general."

"What is it Mildred."

The rascally Glandelinian general Manley promished ten thousand dollars for this job of stabbing Gertrude and Penrod."

"Promished to pay who?"

"That boy scout Gerald Starring."

"What else did you learn Mildred?"

"That darn Clancy promished general Lethance two hundred and fifty thousand dollars for a terrible job of getting enough men to work hard enough to force a great forest fire heading northward from the Lebanon territoryuptward your army."

"What's that?"

"For to get 10?000 men to sent the forest fire this way."

"So that's the plan of the Glandelinians is it?"demanded the general furiously .

"Yes indeed Yor Your Excellency.I and my band of girlscouts with one boys captured three fellows in the act of trying to start a new one close by near the south shore of the Mic--Hollester Run River and from the explosion of a shell aimed at me I fell into the water and almost was drowned."

"Mildred will you sign your name to that.?"

"No sir.Not now I want.You want me to be detected.You frustrars those rascals first"replied the little girlscout. "To morrow we all want you to head northward for Abbieann."

General Concentinian Arenburg thought this was a characteristic occupat ion for himself to takeup since it had before afforded him several months of idleness since he had not for a long time been engaged with the enemy, and through the fault that so far all enemy armies at his approach would run away like a fleeing rabbit .

"You have your big raft close by?"he asked remembering his plan to occupy the northern shores near the flood remaining at Abbieann...

"Yes sir"Said Mildred.Everythin g is well furnished on the big raft."

"Could you take me and all my generals on board the raft to morrow when the army starts on the move. "

"With Gertrudes permission I could sir if there's no fire menanacing us, as the stream runs through dense forests you know. But we got to go while the winds on the northwest else we can't make the territory by water at all in this dreadful forest fire weath r weather. We got to leave at four in the morning...!!"

"I can't get my staff generals ready by then.What time would we start on the raft later in the day."

"Not till ten oclock in the morning maybe."

"What time will we get there?"

"Depends on the spp speed of the advance of the army.But we got to keep our eyes open for the fire. The Professor told of this late morning of the danger in the Classroom of your headquarters.We're apparently in the path of the worst blaze of all."

"Be ready with the raft at ten then"said the general with decision.!

It seemed to be practically his last hchance for six mon ths of ever reaching there if he didn't take the opportunity to start now.

Therefore he was determined to go forward, even if he had to start at dangerous times.He sent a messenger with a note to his higher general assistant general Jude asking him to get all his staff general officers on board the raft before ten oclock.Then he wrote his daily wireless Massageb message to Violet, and her sisters, and also to Jennie Turner. He mentioned his projected movement northward but nothing else just then excepting hislove for them, and his hopes which were weighty enough. As he entered the military telegraphic office to have it sent on he saw a bunch of fellows disappear from sight around the corner of the place after they had looked at him very curiously . He had also several several times noticed a certain v furtiveness in their regard but had each time ascribed it to imagination and dismissed the matter.This time when he saw them rush off he was tempted to draw his pistol but didn't have the chance quick enough. He was comingout however when he saw a boyscou boyscout standing by the officer.

"Gearal Dupond says he's ready to move forward sir."he said.

"Tell him I'll ride down and speak to him."said the general.

He rode tward where that gen ral had his own headquarters.It was a triflying trifling matter about which he wanted to see general Dp Dupond.Dupond was sitting on the front steps, talking to general Sladerlinia. As he approached general Aronburg saw the two cease their conversation and look at him.Then Sladerlinia after saluting rode away to his duty.Dupond who had just recieved the message from the boyscout stood motionless where he had been waiting.General Aronbu g Aronburg became suddenly conscious of an atmosphere of danger.When he reachd Dupond, the old general eyed him with a searching and warning stare.But now the eyes that blazed a foot from his own did not relax their gaze.There was a warning there, immediately, and friendly however, something that the general was aware of though the face was immobile.It flashed through general Aronburgs mind, that the general had recieved som sort of warnin g from sladerlinia, that probably they must know that the Glandelinian armies were gone mad.Disregarding the captian generals look General Aronburg explained briftly the matter on which he had come.All the while he spoke general Dupond continued eyeing him.

General Aronburg wondered what was on the generalsmind.

"Well is that clear?"he inquired.

"That much is clear."answered the general somewhat reluctantly.

"Well wht's the matter then?"ge general Aronburg demanded sharply.

"Suddenly he perciaved that the old generals face was twi ted with passion.His expression was so fanatical that general Aronburg thought he was going to attack him.But the face resumed its mask again, and with a salute and a word"Look out for yourself general you're in grave danger, swung into the saddle, and urged on his horse.At a distance he halted.

"Be careful general. "he said. "Watch your step.You're shadowed by secret enemies, and some of them are Glandelinian boy and girlscouts in the ranks of ours."

Sladerlinia's horse had halted next to two trees.As Dupond crossed the road tward his command, general Aronburg saw Sladerlinia on the road.General Aronburg moved by a sudden impulse rodeup to general sladerlinia and accosted him.

"General"he said"There is danger lurkin g for our armies.General Dupond told me so.I didn't know whether you had knowledge of it or not."

General Sladerlinia lookedup.The little mans face was like a thunder cloud.He clenched and unclenched his fists fiercely and muttering.He stood still in confusion for an instant for general Aronburgs approach seemed to have surprised him.

"We won't let the enemy get ahead of us."he cried and the tears began to stream down his cheeks."Look out for shadowers.They m an to assassinate you ."

And saluting he rode awayslowly leaving general Aronburg utterly nonplussed at his behavior.

When general Aronburg driving furiously homeward reached his head quarters he saw the solitary figure of Marie Stanck seatedoutside the door.He let his horse rest for a breathing spell before continuingup the hill doffed his hat and saluted her. Noone the generalknew had ever been able to force a smile from her lips.And too he knew that all Glandellinian generals dreaded this girlscout Mary Stanck, the Glandelinians had hated the presence of her nose, but himself had never been aware before of the presence of that little girlscouts figure upon the porch or steps before, which had been alwas there always there

whenever he rode back and forthto his own headquarters/. Some of the other generals had forgotten to tell the general Aronburg all that was soon to come to pass.But the menance of mad danger that the christian armies were facing was spreading in such a way th t that showed it greater than usual.General Jules Dupond neveron e of many words however knewmore than most other generals, he was general Aronburgs advisor and always gave himwarnin gs not bytttt by words but by looks. During the past week tooduring some of the past adventures on the raft or on shore Mary Stanck alone had been terrified at the way a strange sor sort of Abbi annian soldier always looked at her, and sometimes at the rest, and the way he examined the raft and counted the numbers of the boy and girlscouts and so on..From his ways he had never meant at first very much to her, and now she was suspicious.While she was sitting here her mind went traveling back to her earliest memory. She was in the little villiage of Growton with her parents, wtching for the return of her brother and sister from school, and her fathers brother, and often had come along a certain man that had warned her parents to flee from the territory as the enemy was advancing.The tragedy she remembered occured during her fathers absence..The young man who was hermothers cousin was laughingly inviting her mother to go for a buggy trip.At last her mother had consented.The trip was a longone.Mary who had fallen asleep, was awakened by the sound of her mothers screaming, and saw from the win dow the young man brought into the house covered with blood.At first she did not understand all that had happened at that time, and her next me ory was of a hospital in Calverine and her mothers and fathers tear stained face, and a sense of great unhappiness..She remembered standing beside the hospital bed on which her wounded and dying mother lay, and the mortally injured mother gripping her hands fast in her burning ones was telling her over and over again and finishing with--"Never forget how your dear mother and young cousin died Marie.Remember it and never forget.And carry it with thee through life.Now Swear by the Vigin to never forget.The frightenedlittle girl had sworn catching the words from her mothers lips.Since then she had remembered the whole thing for it had become engraved upon her memory forever.But it was long before she understood its meaning.Then she remembered her fathers cruelty to her not from pure senses but that the loss of his wife so tragedly had driven him insane and haknew not what he was doing.After that he died in his ravings after trying to stab her.The sight of her dying mother, and of her fathers insanity had in flicted a wound in the childs soul that never healed. This was the cause too of her entering the army as a girlscout hoping, ardently hoping to see some day the Glandelinian scoundrels who had killed her mother and her mothers cousin so brutally for she had recieved their descript description from her mother.N She never pretended to have forgotten as shemight well have done.she looked back on an early child hood that had because of this been a torture.

The news of it all had brought the very community to her sympathy. Her loss made the little girl many warm friends ever where..One of the boyscouts by the name of Jules Pedro had come to know her well and had gotten the secrets of her sad life from her.To day Mary watched the christian cavarly soldiers that rode thr to and fro down the road.At night while lying awake she had dreamed of seeing many Glandelinian s generals surrendering to the spirit of her fathers.Mary longed to see the time she could discover the murderers of her father mother and cousin for they had a hand in it too on him as they had indirectly caused his death [illegible]

When she had learned of the Foriegner Glancy taking leadership of a vast Glandelinian army she [illegible] him.She had never though that an Irishman would side with the foe.She came to declare Glancy with the qualities of Satan himself.The boyscout Pedro had formed an acquaintance with her.He had the intuition of a goodly boyscout who helps his girl friends through thick and thin.He listened to her confidences [illegible] given to one who by his wandering life, and through the tales that he told showed him to be the sort of boyscout that all could trust.Pedro listened to the sad story of her past life often andunderstood the poor little spiritual drama, and he was capable of understanding, and he decided to help her find her mothers murderers..At last it seemed she was getting her chance.P One of those whom sh her mother had described as ne of the murders had recently been eying herintently from a secret place and she had known it.Had he dared comeout she's have shot him right where he was and explained [illegible]

Im the meantime the famous battle stricken region of Lebanon which is now so const nconstantly threatened by the worse forest fire on a/l all record, was endangering general Hansons army so that he had to abandon his dead dearly bought fields and retreat for better quarters or safer places before the conflagration would come up. A large portion of the population of Lebanon had fled by now, and from other recently flourishing citds and towns in different locations. However so little at this time was the terrible nature of the dreaded conflagration approaching that way understood, that many of the inhabitants of these towns s still remained, though the sky had been growning darker every day and thw glare of flames nearer every night.

The conflagration through which rece tly recently stated which Violet, and her sisters had gone through had threatened the city. The on 1 way the people of the city had recieved the alarm was suddenly on that dread day of the mornings battle of a terrific rush of seas of smoke and fire seemingly to belch from all the landscapes of the country and from the slops of a forested hill. The city of Lebanon was fifty miles away and yet if when the inhabitants went on house tops they could see the flames rise high into the sky. The flames spread out like a vast white hot pall. For many hours this nad went on, and the ernormous quanties of smoke rolling upward, together with a deluge of water that suddenly fell because of some mysterious burst of a river levee procue produced torrents acrosss the country side which carrying onward many burning trees overwhelmed everything in their way. A city sixteen miles away was speedily rendered uninhabitable becase of the terrible heat felt so far away, and also from two others, while at Lebanon the temperature was nearly a hundred and thirty five.

There was one peculier disaster of extroardinary and almost ung unbelieavable kind that occured because of some mysterious explosion that was produced on a hillside because of the fire. A big city over seven miles away was rendered absolutely uninhabitable and was destroyed by the deluge of falling stones, but two others, Crania, and .Latoria was filled with a flood of water mud and sad sand which came apprently down the side of the mountain and covering them up entiely. The latter city was several miles nearer the hill and was almost buried in rubbish of a,l all sorts even from the burning forest debris, besides of burned foest ashes and an avalanche of loose stones and big boulders. In succeeding explosions caused by the blaze which scientists couldn't makeout as to its cause much debris slide down mountains as if they were pouring rocks from eruptive craters, and the smoke clouds were so dark overhead even as far northwest as the ciy of Calverine Greenburg that much fear was caused in all parts of that country. The three cities effected by the mysterious explosions caused by the flames might as well have resembled Herculaneum and Pompeii. Fifteen thousand inhabitants perished and many of those who had managed toescape were more or less injured or prostrated by the fierce heat.

Violet, and her sisters, to whom general Concentinian Aronburg considered himself indepbted for the account of the great fire as it threatened the city of Lebanon and all the neighborhood three days after the battle, were at the time of the occurance of the passage of the great "RED P LAGUE" resident for the time being with general Hanson Vivian in the main Capitol building of the c city so bravely saved from the enemy, outside of which on the western suburbs lay his victorious christian army under the command of general Leon Meldon Bicknell one of the great christian commaders of his day. The account ofone of the Vivian Girl Princesses, and signed by the signature of all, and Jennie Turmer too, was quite a narrative of the singular progress of the forest fires and its warnings, as a record of the fierce fight agains the flames in vain by the army when surprised and of the death of many trapped in the flames, and too it is of very great interest as yoilding the impressions of the observers.

The description which follows was telegraphed by the Signal Station at Lebanon. The letter was given forth to general Aronburg entire, and of good examples of description showing that though little as they were, Violet, and her sisters seemed to have the tarlet of professional college teachers from their strong desire of schooling, and good behavior in the school when they went. The letter is as follows;;;

OCTOBER THE 8th I(1913.
TO HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL CONCENTINIAN ARONBURG.
ABBIEANNIAN ARMY.
ABBIEANN TERRITORY. SIGNAL STATION IO.
FROM
The Princessses of Abbieannia.

"I have recently recieved your request for the safty of your armi s that we from time to time ifpossible should send you or your boy and girl scout regimental leaders an account of what we observe while we are away locally. I have already recently sent you an account of the battle that was so brilliantly fought here in order to give you a more exact relation to it, and which from the results der deserves my acknowledgements, and that of my sisters, for if this battle shallsome day be celebrated by your pen, or Gertrudes, whom I'm glad to hear is recovering nicely, the glory of it I and my sisters are well assured will be rendored forever utillustrattillustr ous he celebrated for its record and it will forver be also illustrious. And n otwithstanding that general Hanson licked a general who becase of his Nationality thought could never be beaten, which as it involved at the same time a most beautiful country side into ruins, and destroyed so many lives seems to promise the cause and general Hanson himself a everlasting remembrance, notwithstanding he has himself composed many and lasting works on his own experience in this dreadful and devastating war yet I and my sisters are persauded the mention of his brother too in our own works and will hope to greatly contribute to eternise their names. Happy I esteem those, to be and so do my sisters whom Our Blessed Lord has distinguished with the abilities either of doing such actions in war which are worthy to be so often related or of relating them in a manner worthy to be read by all the word, but doubly happy are they who are blessed withboth these tarlen ts in the number of which many ofour generals including even yourself are justly to be ranked. It is with extreme willinglingness that I therefore, after holding council with my sisters execute the writings of our experience durin g the "World End"as we may call it and should ind indeed have claimed the task if you had not en joined it.

After the enemy had retreated from the territory, general Hanson with party of his army at our request took possession of Lebanon and the main army remained without on the west side. On the seventh of this month, about two in the afternoon of a very hot day for the season, and absolutely sunless and some what dark, my companion and dear friend Jannie Turmer was sitting by a window writing some account of her own experiences, when to rest her eyes she lookedout the window, and suddenly desired general Hanson who was at the table in the same room to observe an ernormous cloud which appeared to her of the very unusual shape and size of the rolled and simultaneously straightened out form of false Cirrus betokening the approach of a thunderstorm, except that it was of a brownish black color.

Before this he had just returned from a scouting tour with half of his staff and a large body of cavarly, and had then come in to write a message to one of his higher staff officers. He immediately arose looked out the window, and then went up on the roof of the building whre he could more distinctly observe this very uncommon appearance.

At first he thought it was some great volcanic eruption of unusual extension. Ad too it was not at that great distance discernible from what line of low forested hills the ernormous cloud issued, but it was found to be asc n ascending from the lower extremities of the Bombon or Bondon Hills. I cannot give a more exact description of the figure of the cloud which we ourselves saw simultaneously than by comparing it to the huge rolls seen by or in big storm clouds on a summer day which extended itself at the top into a sort of long heavy bridge, p occassioned, I imgine either by the sudden gusts of wind that stretched it out at sucha lofty height, or the cloud itself being pressed into that formation by its own immensity, and expanding in this manner, it appeared sometimes bright below as if pierce by a strange ruddy light that seemed to danceup and down, and sometimes fuller and darker.

As At first not one of us had the idea of a forest fire in our heads despite our experience in a small branch of it during the morning of the battles conclusion. Nevertheless whatever we believed it was at first, the extraordinary phenomenes excited the curiousity of us all and we decided to take a nearer view of it, for it continued to grow bigger and bigger and seemed to come slightly nearer.

At our advise general Hanson ordered a strong body of cavarly to

accompany us.We gave Jennie Turner the liberty if she thought proper to attend us.She rather however was nervous and afraid about that cloud, and declared she would rather continue her writings, for she said, we had given her the writings to do and she didn't want to put it off too long.But s we saw she did look a occassionally at the cloud before we left as if she was sort of apprehensive and worried.As general Hanson and us got onto our horses in front of the house, and waited for the body of the cavarly, that was to accompany us,,, a message rode up hastily with disptches, and recieved word that all the people of the smaller towns west and south of Lebanon were terrified at theimminent e peril from the clouds foreboding apparance, and the message entra entrested his aid in this extremity.He got on the house top alone this time again while waiting for the cavarly, and looked steadily and long at the scene with his powerful field glasses.When he came back to us he himselflooked the same as Jennie Turner did.

"What is the cloud!"Violet asked.

"A big forest fde is heading tward those towns"he answered.

He accordingly changed his first design, and general, what he began with a curiousity he decided to do now with a heroical turn of mind and ordered quite a strong force of the fleetest horsemen to accompany him.He ordered a squadron of 10!000 to 10,000 men forward, and with us went himself at the head,,, with the intention of not only assisting the people of those towns, but to give help to forest rangers that might be in the neighborhood for the population was quick thick in that region. Wagons with blazing munitions w re sent forward, and a lot of men with saws,axes, and other means for branching in front of a forest fire.I was somewhat a doubting "Thomas" and so were my sisters, for if a forest fire was as immense as that cloud seemed to tell not even a big rain would stop its progress for us ...!!!! When reaching a town fromwhah the pipulation population were fleeing in the utmost terror he urged the troopers on tward the point of danger, and with so much calmness and presence of mind, as to be able to direct them tward Lebanon, and to make and dictate his observations upon the motion and figure of the dreadful scene.We were so nigh close to one of those distant hills as horses can go fast that the smoke fog borne tward us on a southeasterly wind grew thicker and thicker the nearer we approach ed, and we were so in danger of gettingourselves lost in that stinking fog which hid all the scene properly, he stopped all of us to consider whether he and us should turn back again to which his retainer advised him.However we ourselves were against turning back, when believing the conflagration was quite a long distance off.We believe that Fortune and Honor favors the brave and we decided to get to one of the threatened towns.We heard froms telegraphic report that most of the population had already started away, for though no one at that time were in any actual danger, yet being within view of it, and indeed extremely near if the conflagration c should certainly be approaching that direction, they were all determined to leave while there was yet time, and before the forest fire "hurricane"arose against them. We reached the town of Glendale and found the population there though they remained in the greatest consternation. His cavarly encouraged and exhorted them to keep up their spirits, but to also make preparation for flight tward Lebanon, and the more to dissp dissipate their fears he ordered with an air of unconcern the cavarly to help the townsfolk get their belongings on their carts an d wagons and to loose no time.

In the meantime we observed, the conflagration flamingout in several places with much serious violence and fury, with the darkness of night coming on so early that afternoon contributin g to render the dreadful red glare still more visible and dreadful.General Hanson in order to soothe the apprehensions of the people and to assure them it was only the burning of the forests far away, he greatly aided to prevent a panic,and evidently succeeded in gettingmost of the people started on the way with most of their belongings in theirpossession and hardly nothin g of valuable sorts left behind.Then while we had them all on the way and the cavarly soldiers directing them I and my sisters, and general Hanson consulted together whether it would be most prudent to trust to the ravines or to fly with the population to the open fields as to find our way back to Lebanon in such intense darkness seemed absolutely out of the question. In this distress, we resolved for the open fields as the less dangerous situation a resolution which the population were hurrsd into t it by their fears, y the general and the rest of us believing we were not in the path of the fire storm embraced upon cool and deliberate consideration.

We all went forth then having wet pillows tied upon their heads with roper, as this was our whole defense against the storm of heat that beset us on all sides.I should not wonder if it was not half darkness thoughout the country everywhere else but here indeed there was a much deeper darkness prevailing than in the most obscure night we have ever seen, or ever caused by those Typhoon storms we have seen and experienced which however in some degree was dissipated by the glare of the distant fire, and by torches, and other lights of various sorts.

We all thought it much safer to go down d further and find our wayvto the Ventura River to observe if we might saftly put out down the river and reach Lebanon by that rout.During all this time we had left u our friend Jennie Turner at the city.But this has no connection with what we had been observing.

I know this letter which in compliance with your request has now it seems raised your curiousity to know what terrors and dangers attended us all, while we went down the river tward Lebanon.Well though our shocked and terrified souls recoils, and even rebels, my writings shall te ll you all.::

We started down the stream(should scream to think of what happens) and the cavarly persued their way along the shore as scouts.We thought therefore it was secure and therefore we landed in a little clearing, ate a small supper, and frontence retired for the night leav ing guards on duty to warn us if anything out of the ordinary happened.

There had been for many days before some warnings of the progress the unusual conflagration was taking northwestward, which the less surprised us as they are extremely frequent reports, but the noise of wind was so particularly violent that night, that they not only swayed the trees as ifone of those so called "Typhoons"was coming on, but seemedindeed to threaten total destruction.It was the approach of the Fire Hurricane.My sister Jennie flew to me and my sisters where she found me rising on the purpose of awakening them and the rest.We all remained awake now and on guard.At this time I kn ow not whether I should call my behavior in this dangerous juncture courage or rash ness, but I took up my Dairy, and amused myself with by the help of my flashlight writing the accounts of our experiences in this day and night, and even making extracts from other experiences as if all about me and my sisters, and all the rest had been in fullsecurity.While we were in thisposture, w one of the cavarly officers joined us, and observing me sitting with my sisers with a dairy in my hand and writing in it, greatly condemned my calmness at the same time that he reproved us all for our careless security.Nevertheless telling him to mind his own affairs I still went on with my dairy.

Though it was now no doubt the approach of morning if we remember any more mornings here since darkness started from so much smoke so many weeks ago, the light was exceedingly faint and languid, the trees all around us moaned, screamed and roared and twisted and writhed before the fierce glae of hot winds, and though we stood upon open ground, there was no remaining there now without certain and great danger as the wind had increased in force, n and smoke became heavy and smothering, and so we resolved toquit the territory.The population which fled from the towns followed us in the utmost consternation and as to a mind distracted with terror every suggestion indeed seemed more prudent than its own pressed in great crowds about usi in our way through the clearing tward the river and the bridge across it.

We fortunately entered a very huge clearing when we got across but being got to a convieneient distance from the other clearing we for a moment stood still besides our horses which treme trembled in fright in the mist of a most dangerous and dreadful scene while we were pelted by broken branches twigs, and bunches of leaves torn from the trees by the terrific windstorm.Far to our rear what astonished us a great long wall of the queerest colored smoke seemed to roll back upon itself, and to be driven high above into the heavens into the most grotesque shapes.In another direction a black andmost dreadful cloud, exceedingly large burstin g seemingly with an igneous serpentinelike vapor darted out a long train a fire,v resembling sheets of red lightning, but much m larher and which rolled queerly and brightened sometimes to yellow.It was no doubt clouds of flame mingled with the clouds of smoke.

Upon this the cavarly officer whom I have mentioned addressed himself to me and my sisters with great warmpth and earnestness"If every on e else of the population of these towns are safe by now"said he" they certainly wish you Princesses to be sotoo, but if ev ery one have perished it is the desire of every one that you might survive them, why therefore do you delay your escape back to Lebanon anylonger.!"

However not only could we refuse even then t think ofour own safty even though we would be uncertain as to the safty of the rest, but we feltpositively sure that no mater how threatening it was, the con flagration was not coming our way.Hereupon disapointed the cavarly officer left us.Soon afterwards the great cloud of smoke now towering far overhead seemed to descend slowly and in rolls and cover the whole landscape.General Hanson felt sure the fire was moving off in another direction and strongly conjured me to climb a tree and see which way the flames was advancing, but not knowing the consequences I did not desire to do this,and sent a soldier who knew how to climb a tree to do it for us.Finally we started moving onward, and taking my youngest sister by the hand I led her on, she complied with great reluctance and not without may reproaches to herself for retarding our flight.Some ashes no doubt borne by the strong winds from the burning forests began to fall upon us though in no great quanity.I turned my head and observed behind us in the sky a thick heavy smoke which came rollingupward like a huge thunderhead and spreading over all of the sky.I proposed while we had yet any small amount of lightto turn cautiously out of thehigh roads lest we should be accidentally pressed to death in the dark, by the crowd of refugees that followed us.We had however scarcely stepped out of the pathway when sudden darkness overspread us, not like that of an approaching Typhoon or when there is no moon at night but of a closet when it is all shut up and all the lights are put out.Then we were startled almost out ofour wits by the shrieks of women, and screams of frightened children, ad the cries of many men, some calling for their very children others for their parents, others for their relatives, husbands or wives and only distinguishing each other by their voices one lamenting the fate befalling the country, another that of his family, some wish ing to die to getout of the dreadful scene and to heaven, some lifting their hands to God in prayer but greater parts fearing that the lat last eternal night had come, which was to destroy the world.Among them were some who augmented the real terrors by imagin ary ones and made the frightened multidues believe that even Lebanon was in flames.

At length an unusally strong glimmering row of lights appeared and we observe a long wave of fire going tward the north to our right. However the fire raged on at a great distance i om us, but not withstand ing the glare we were still immersed in thick darkness our selves.

I and my sisters and even general Hanson hi self might boast that during all this scene of horror not a sigh or expression of fear ever escaped from us had not my support been found! in that miserable though strong consolationthat all of Calverinia seemed to be involved in the same calamity eastward, and that we could have been imaging we were to be perishing with the word world itself.At last this dreadful darkness was slowly clearing by degrees, and soon it became twilight but no sun appeared, the daylight was only faint, as well night time is coming on.We had a desperate ride and tramp before we with as many of the refugees aspossible could make our way to the city of Lebanon, where when we reached it we refreshedourselves as well as we o could and yet we passed an anxious night between hope and fear for the forest fire horror still continued northeast of us while several greatly excited people in the city ran up and down heightening their own and their friends calamities by terrible and no account predictions.However we and the general notwithstanding the danger we had passed,and that which still threatendd threatened uw should the direction of the wind change from southwest to northeast had no thoughts of leaving the city till we should recieved some account of the fires.And now if you desire to read this narrative without any view of inserting it into your history of the wars progress of which it is by no means worthy you may do so, but you must impute it to your own request too general if it even shall not deserve the trouble of a letter.

General Hanson took a drink of cold water and then threw hims lf down upon a bed for the purpose to s,ee sleep for the hot night.

As soon as it was light again, which was not much either the third day after this melancholy incident, the forests were stillall smoke as if the whole country side was in frightful eruption but what made us a little light was that the wind had turned west.But this has no con nection with how far the fire progresses after this as your inquiry went nofurther than concerning whether Lebanon escaped or not, with that therefore we or I will put our end to the long letter.Sufer me only

to add that I have faithfully related to you what I and my sisters and general Hanson and all who followed him were eye witnesses of, or recieved immediately after the conflagration approached so near Lebanon, and before there was any time to vary the truth.You nevertheless will choose out of this long letter such circumstances as shall beroost suitable to your purpose, for there seems to be a great difference between what is proper for letters, and histories.

YOUR FRIENDS . VIOLET. AND HER
SISTERS.
JENNIE TURNER."

~~FARWELL~~
FAREWELL."

In this account of this letter(beter) which was written by Violet and her sisters we therefore of the readers can surely recognize,, the continula progress of this forest fire horror since it started in 1912, the agitated winds produced by the great conflagrations, the flames and smokes making scenes as if there were a million volcanic eruptions going on simultaneously, probably attended by many other unusual phenomen and other terrors . But it seems likely that the mos memory of the Vivian Girl Princesses, or rather the information communicated to general Aronburg by them regarding.the closing scene of their experiences was not all together put in to the letter as they had had not time to write more.They did not state of the rocks of mountain slopes that ran down like lava because of the heat of the flames, and of the great explosions that were produced.All those who were there observed phenomena which required the belief that the worlds end was approaching, but there is no mode of proving whether Lebanon city and the forests in its territory were to be entirely safe in the future or not.A change of wind alone would decide the matter...!.

The story b in the letter told by the Princess Joice Vivian and signed by her sisters and Jennie Turner was the only warning upon which general Aronburg could rely upon General Aronburg once said that during the progress of a fire, the smoke sometimes assumed the format ion of a multitude of huge men and animals, and sometimes of those of weirdly shaped fishes, children, boys and girls, sometimes in the sky sometimes below the horizon, while a great hissing sound was heard as if a "Lake Micha Michigan size of grease and oil was burning atone time.How terribleindeed must have been the impression upon the minds of those who might have witnessed wchs great forest fire fromafar off. Scenes worse than the story of the Last days of Pompeii were observed and the scene should be a popul r popular synonym for the infernal regions. .

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE AWFUL FOREST FIRE
IN THE MEANTIME, AS IT WAS HEADING TWARD LEBANON,
AND TO THE IMMEASURABLE FURY IT GREW.(NOT SLOW)

As it consists of the probable main events of the wars devastations is of especil especial interest as being the main continual disaster of the war that devastated so much country throughout the easternportiond portions of Calverinia---all the other smaller forest fires being in other localities--and for the maf famous sea of ashes smouldering and being left smoking like so manyin fernoss adt after the passage of the main fires.Before this it had been reported that the great forest fires had been slightly checked in its course, but since then it has frequently shown that the fires had only grown worse and was giving a more vigorously display of its advanci advance.

During the time of the battle of Evangeline St Claire succeeding the destructive events described progresses of the awful conflagration were of occassional occurances, though of no great magnitude despite the fury of the conflagration from the terrific fight it recieved fromso

many fire fighters and forest rangers and whole inactive armies of soldiers, and drafted male citizens joining in.But throughout the long intervals when the fire seemed to be gradually checked it was noted, that other forest forests forests were aflame. In the early month of August a little after the battle of Evangeline St Claire, when it was at first believed the conflagration then raging tward Mic-Whirther Run was being checked, a startling evidence was given that there was to be no decline in the progress of the forest fire"system "of Calverbila. This was the sudden spread of the forest fire tward the west, and thecontinuepopulation of the town of Trinoque fought desperately to prevent the conflagration fromcomingupon their town.For about three days prior to this event the district had been threatened by the advancing Red plague, which on August the seventeenth and eighteenth became more menancing, and only a counter direction of wind held it from progressing forward too swftly, while the population"suffered a swath Turkish bath"from the heat wavesproduced by the fde even at that distance.A low elevated shore of the ne river ten miles south of south of Trinoque looked as if it was vomo vomiting fire and smoke.

The fire was striking tward that hill. It was in this territory that the inhabitants men and women and elder children even wentout to combat the conflagration by felling trees, digging trenches, and smothering ground fires produced by the heat even from that far distance off.Their desperate work was however a success; they didn't check the progress of the fde, but caused it to change its course, and the city was saved.It is a note worthy thing that since this time there was no more threat of the flames from that quarter.

But then Evangeline St Claire was in danger.The first recognized appearance of the conflagration was when Manleys army was routed by it as mentioned in previous past chapters.This conflagration was added by five other conflagrations, none of them however of great energy for a time but they were beyond control just the same.It then rained and smoke covered the scene as if all that country had become a vast crater vomoting smoke.high enough seemingly with the purpose "To blow smoke into the moons face" This was followed through some unknown cause by an explosion of terrible violence.Almost in a moment the green mangle of woodland and shrubbery in that district was torn away by what turned out to be a blast of abandoned munitions left by the enemy on retreat, and death and destruction left where safty had seemed assured.The fire branches off into seven district conflagrations because of this explosion, and swept rapidly onward leaving a sea of smoking ashes of and of smouldering forest ruin along their paths.The Two towns were more or less overwhelmed by the molten rocks r produced by the heat and which went down a hillsides.Great torrents of water also poured out from some constructed dam whose walls were undermined by the shock of the explosion adding to the work of destruction and not heading tward where the fires were.It was estimated that eighteen thousand inhabitants of fair good size towns were killed.

Indeed what made the horror all the greater was a frightful eror in judgement, similiar to that of the Governor of Martinque at St Pierre.The Mayor of the town of Sandy Ann had refus to believe that the disaster was heading tward the town and prevented the people from making their escape untill it was almost too late.Not untill the conflagration was actually a mile away was the order for departure given.Before the order could be acted upon,a terrific torrent of water poured into the crowded streets from the bursted resivour and overwhelmed the greater majority of the inhabitants inhabitants.

The water in the flood was not deep enough to have drowned very many persons, but the temperature of the water was to the scalding point, and many were parboiled to death.In the violent paroxysm of the explosion of munitions set off by the flames the whole top of the hill was said to have been blown away.

The fde then was not far from the Ava Maria Heights but now burning forward more slowly and casting up still more immense masses of smoke and at night the red glare could be seen and would grow stronger every now and then on the cloudly columns which hung over the conflagration conflagration and be easily seen five hundredmiles away.

The popo population of the town of Handyknol flocked out to fight the flames reaching the forested portions of Capri Quarry and Ravine Clan .They overcame a smallconflagration in advance of the main one which leaped a breach formd by the rangers, but a portion of it crossed Hedda Creek and started to run up a small portion of the Ava Maria slopes.The fire was fought at that angle by means of trying to divert the couse of a mountain river upon it, but finally the flames

grew to wh a measure that they were were said to have leapedone thousand feet and caught the forests ahead as fast as straw would ignite.The progress of the fire ceased in the location of the river which was too wide for the flames to cross, but at eight a.M on that day on the 19th it burned through at a different place and the flames then gained more headway and on this occassion that vast phantom of smoke extendies extended its awful menancin g shdow over Evangeline St Claire at a distance of still 150 miles from the city.

One of the Rangers observed the progress of the fire tward the North Bend of the Evangeline St Claire River and believed the stream here was too wide for the conflagration to cross.While occupied in viewing this wall of leaping fire rolling as if the flames were smoke clouds, the observing ranger heard a violent noise as flames make when catching a great mass of trees at one time, saw a whole wall of trees turn into a mass of fire at a distance of a quarter of a mile in a new direction right across the river, and then like a hurricane of fire roar on tward him.Dense clouds of the blackest smoke darkened the air, loud thunders came from burning trees as they fell by scores and as it walled tward him at a rush he being on Horseback took to precipitate flight.The heat was parching and made his clothes smoke.

He rode across the stream in order to make himself all wet wa which was his only safty.He escaped and his account is no doubtmuch too lively and instructive for his own words to be omited.

"He said to general Hanson who had been his rescuer;

"I was making my observations so as to fight a spot best suitable to get my men to breach the conflagration, when on a sudden about eight oclock, I heard a violent hissing and snapping sound from a new direction, and at a sport of the forest on the opposite side of the main conflagration and not far from the spot where I stood perhaps two miles, I saw the forests burst into flame, and with much noise, and the flames leaped many feet high, and then lo like a rolling up wall rolled directly tward me.In an instant a sea of black clouds of smoke caused almost a total darkness, the falling of trees made noise like thunder, and the smell of the burning pine trees was very offensive and stifling.My assistant and guide, became alarmed and immediately urged his horse into flight, and I must confess that I myself was not at my ease.I followed as close as my c horse could run, and we galloped for manymiles without stopping, and I was apprehensive the fire might either overtake us or cut offour retreat, would it would easily have done had there been any wind at the time.

I also feared that the heat of the flames would detatched some of the rocks from the [illegible] and let a flood of water upon us, besides the burning embers being blown tward us by the strong breezes and falling upon us like snowflaj snowflakes were of such a sie as to cause a disagreeable sensation in the part upon which they fell.After havingoutdistanced the fire, and after having given our jaded horses time to regain their breath I thought itmost prudent to leave the territory and return to the town, where I found the population in great alarm at the certain progress of the fire.

About one oclock that afternoon another branch of the forest fire burned its way through a thick heavy timber forest where trees were too close together to admit of any light in the summer time, so that the conflagration was soon as great on this side of the river, as on the other.I observed on my way to warn Evangeline St Claire city of the danger, which was less than two hours after I had escaped the fde that persed me persued me, that the conflagration had already covered over t[illegible] miles of the very forested road through which we had traveled in our flight showing how fast the flames were progressing.This wave of fire was more than two miles in breadth and how extended it was I couldn't tell.Besides mysterious explosions which were frequent, there was a continued strange hissing and rumbling noise-- supposed to arise from the actions of the overheated atmosphere nodoubt.The whole neighborhood was suffering dreadfully from the over heated atmosphere, and the cities of Trinoque and Evangeline St Claire, and even Ophelia were in the extremity of alarm, the churches were filled to overflowing, the streets were unusually thronged with processions of Saints, and of the Blessed Eucharist and of our Blessed Mother, and all sorts of various Ceremonies were being performed in asking God to quell the progress and fury of the dreadful conflagration.They feared more the "Fire Hurricane."

During that night the occassion being critical and the sky seeming to be afire itself, a huf horde of Glandelinian prisoners held in strongly guarded public houses attempted to escape from sheer fright, and a mob of people finally set fire to the wooden apearture

of the entrance of the Cardinal Archbishop because he was so afraid or f refused to bringout the Relics of Our Blessed Lords Crucifix. Smoke of great abundance came into the city of Evangeline St claire sometimes like a fog.In the midst of these unaccountable horrors the mol became very tumultious and imaptient; and finally by force obliged the Cardinal to bring out the relics of the Crucifix, at the extremity of Evangeline St Claire in a Religious Procession of great Solemnity, and it is well attested here, that a strong northwesterly winds became to blow, and grew to a fierce strong cooling gale, that the progress of the conflagration ca ceased in that direction the moment the relics were said to have been brought in sight of the flames.The fire was said to have changed its course of progress about that time after having threatened the city for about six hours. The city was cle ared of smoke but for a time the danger came to an end.General Hanson Vivian also witnessed this conflagration and its progress.He wrote to General Concentinian Aronburg at the time of the whole scene."

To Hansons eye sight it seemed to be a wave of fire ascending two miles high, while the sky was heavy with smoke and flames.

He ca claimed it was the more formid able and stubborn conflagrations he had ever seen.It was in some respects unlike many others he had narrow escapes from in the past and being some what peculiar as to the spot of its arival, the temperature the flames caused at a great distance away from the conflagration; and the course of the sea of fire.He observed the characteristic phenomena with the eye of science and his account contained manyinteresting stories of it afterwards.

Gaeral General Hanson remarked certain chances in the character of the motions of the progressing conflagration during this six or seven hours, threatening danger to Evangeline St Claire, which led him to some particular conjecture of the true cause. .The fire at the time of its beginning to threaten the city of Evangeline St Claire(I declare) caused great consternation throughout the whole territory.During the progress of thesterrible conflagration as it went north of Evangeline St Claire the weather west of the blaze was tranquil while forest fire hurricanes raging amidst the fire zone.And ever since any of these big fires started over the whole country hung the thick dark smoke cloud(proud) and at a great distance seemd to heighted up into a flickering aur oral arch by the glare of the flames below blow the clouds.The very waters of the eastern sea far as they were seemed at times to reflect the glare glare.Nearer to a town south of Trinoque in flames and clouds of black smoke with falling houses presented a dark and tragicial foreground heightened by the roar of the conflagration and the groans and screams and lamentations of the whole popul ation. The heavy clouds of smoke borne over the whole country gathered in the early morning into a mighty shdow as far north as Abbicania and the neigh boring seas and over the seas the sun rose pale and obscure, and a long dim twilight continued for days.Such were the strange phenomena even tothe states of Abbicania.They were matched by othe r others on the eastern aspect, not visible at Abbicania, except by the reflection of theirlight in the atmosphere even at such a long distance.The seas of flames on thisportion moved northeastward, and the extreme length of this great forest fire was not less th n three hundred ~~miles~~ miles.The progress of the western branch of the fire ceased to go northward on the twenty five of August and turned to go straight northward, and h the heat of so much flames finally produced heavy rains but these didn't quench the flames at only and quadrupled the amount of m smoke and forest fire gases.

Among the notable things also which attended the conflagration that struck Trinoque at last it was recorded that metallic and all other substance exposed to the flames were variously affected.Silverware in houses were mel ed glass became porcelain, iron swell d to four times its volume and lost its texture.Brass was decomposed, and its constituent copper crystallized in cubic and octahedral forms aggregated in the most beautiful branches.Zinc was turned to bl blende. .Far from the conflagration the Evangeline St Claire River was found in a boiling state with myriads of cooked fishes floating on its surface, and no boat could go on the water on account of the melting of the pitch on their bottoms.The heat of the flames were said to have generated heavy rains, and large tracts of country were deluged with continual rainstorms with thunder and l ightning.Most of the rains fellcutside of the fire area, but where they did fall in the burning country they made terrible smoke and did not quence the fire.

Immense injury was done to rich territories of trees by the flames and by hurricanes produced by the flames, and the towns of Somona Ottajano, and Bosco were deluged by heavy rains produced by the heat which swept along cinders, broke up the roads and bridges and over turned trees and houses for more than fifteen days.The darkness produced by the s o smoke when the fires were turned into smoking inferno smudges by the rain was so intense as Evelus for hundreds of miles over the country side.

Hanson himself ade mate approximate calculation of the enormous progress of the conflagration and states the results as equal to what of the burned area would cover a size ofone of the quarter sections of the whole landscape of forests throughout the whole nation. There were never on record anywhere in the whole world since the history of the whole creation in which forest fires ever made any such spread in any known country from Aquadico to Eup Europe.The fde progressed on more slowly when passing the territory of Evangeline St Claire and a portion of the forented region of Ave Maria and Tune heights were being en enveloped.A great land of forest fire fighters gathered in its path to try and retard the blaze up the slopes, but a sudden explosion of ammunitions left carelessly by one of the fighters in the path of the pl fire killedthirty five of the Rangers and wounded a hundred.The fire spread on scattered upon the forests by the explosion which witnesses said threw rocks and burning trees to the height of four hundred feet, and the explosion had been moviolent th that fearing the Ave Maria heights had become a volcanoand broken into an eruption the whole countryside fled panic stricken to Evangeline St Claire and Maria Kormonn cities.Everybody in the territory among the men concentrated their efforts against the advancing flames but it seemed of no avail.

With the marvin such frightful processes, it may seem strange indeed that so dangerous a neighboring country as Calvarinia should be still inhabitated.But so it is.Though Abbicann, La Polema, and Min-Hollester Cities still lie under water, and many otherplaces devastated,despite the fury of the enemy, the dreaded conflagrations the people still remain. It is thus that the righteous but bold Calvarinian people in their eagerness to suffer for the sake of Our Lord,and to defy the dreadful foe dares the most frightful perils and even venture into the most frightful and most threatening situations, seeking to do any thing at no matter what the peril and difficulty to see the Glandelinian enemies humbled before, the world. Despite all they go through and have went through the danger and horror is soon forgotten,,, ,, and no threat of the perils of the fires immeasurable war seem cap able of restraining the activity of the Calvarinians.The enemy fear the citizens of Calvarinia more than they dod the christian armies.

The Ave Maria Heights are the must formidable of the great Mob Bondon Hills range and is a little over two to three thousand feet above the level of the sea.All portions except where the battle of Evangeline St Claire was fought is most des densely wooded.The forests are almost endless in this territory beingm ostly Turpentine pine but there are also the oak, chestnut and all other various sorts of trees.In this forest region are high grassy glades, forest debris and leaf much many feet deep which afford rich fuel for the approach ing flames.The great extent of these forests would soon exert a remark able influence on the forest fire in its general conglomeration, for once the blazes starts up the slopes in general the situation indeed for the whole country would be a very gravecone.(Serious menance to the Calvarinian country entirely beyond measure).

.The destruction of towns because of this forest fire has been numerous, records of them extending back since the beginning of the conflagration, while so far unrecorded ones doubtless took place else where but there is no trace because of the sea of smoke overspreading the whole country.After the beginning of October 1912 and more especially later after the breaking forth of the battle at Cedernine, the fire turn ed in localities where country or forest villiages and towns were more further apart.There seemed to be a great phenomen in the character of the forest fires; for so often loud explosions followed the progress of the flames, and the smoke appeared like ashes and sand and rock sebris making appearances of volcanic eruptions.The symptoms that warns of the near approach of these conflagrations are generally immense clouds of smoke rolling forward and the sight of flames that generally alarm the surrounding country as far away as one hundred miles, and so far these raging forest fires have given the whole burning territory the name of "Val Demone, as being the abode

of the internal regions and their pirits. The flames increased on the slopes of these hills, but just then opposing currents of winds were b blowing across the hills and were sufficiently powerful enough to retard the progress of the flames, but the flames though with an uncommon efforts managed to slowly progress forward just the same, and advanced swiftly through the sportions of the forests where the counter currents of winds offered the least resistance with a grand and most,,, terrific effect, the roaring flames reaching tons incredible height, and the fire hurricanes a r spreading ignited tree foliage and burning embers in every direction .

This so far was becoming one of the most memorable progressive movements of the dreadful conflagration.The main arm of the fire began to burn up the h forested slopes in a fashion as if the mountain had opened an enormous fissure and was eruptio erupting there with a thousan times the violence of Krakatoa, its length being fourty two miles, its average breadth six miles, and the height of the flames seen five hundred milesunknown.The heat it threw was fierce and storms of cyclonic cyclonic force orginated from it, and terrific rainstorms but far off from the territory of flames.A torn burst on the summit of one of the imperiled hills but made no effect.The progressive of this frightful part of the conflagration was observed by men of science from various christian countries.The account however from which we select is that from Hanson vivian to emperor vivian by telegraphic mail. He said the first sign of the approaching blaze that he noted though he was more than three hundred miles away was a bright light on the darkened clouds of smoke in the sky far above.six conflagrations he saidmust have started on the slopes in a line with the main blaze and emitted vast columns of seething flames, accompanied by mysterious explosions which could be heard fourty miles off.Tward the break of morning when there was then only the coming of twilight with the sky black in the direction of the conflagration it appared as if a swarm of craters had opened on the hills and w r were in full eruption.

.He had wished to go near enough to view the great fire and he therefore did so, though it took him four days journey on fast horses to come as near as he dared.As he reached there he saw the flames from a great elevation he was on which f presented a front as far extended as he could see move forward like an advancing army , and it burned tward a small village in a valley which was speedily destroyed.

From fierce winds blowing and carrying sparks seven new fires broke out ahead of the main, on and in three days united with it forming a greater conflagration than ever.All this time the terrible fire continuded to head for the great Bondon hills and the Ava M aria heights destroying another little mountain villiage.The original bigger blaze m eeting with some sort of effective resistance somewhere divided into three new conflagrations one of which destroyed the villiage of San Sebastion, the second, Sunbeam, and the third the forested borders bordered farm lands about the town, and afterwards the villiage of Rotiono.Fourteen villiages were altogether destroyed before his very eyes, and the flames literally rolled on tward Trinoque.At Septernia two miles from the city the flames were slightly checn checked by a big break in the woods, and when the flames reached the eastern outskirts of Trinoque it accumulated without progression into one mountain of rising searing flames with a roar like artillary, and overwhelmed a f part of the city into total destruction.Another portion of the same wall of flames struck the city on the southwest.
The next three hours the roaring flames reached the Evangeline St Claire River where it was broad but it crossed in a roaring inferno of flame.The conflagration had moved at the rate of fourty miles in a day.

On reaching the stream the fire crossed and dashed itup in a long wall of fire, and from the heat the water,, of course soon began to boil violent and huge clouds of smoke stream across adding to the thrilll of the scene.

Tward the end of the day the flames that had been advancing on the west side of Trinoque again advanced forward and branched off into the city after partio partially destroying the Benedatine Monastery of St Agnes.Attempts were made to form high breastworks to arrest the progress of the conflagrations but to no avail.Water

An attempt of another kind was made by the head forest Rangers who took up five hundred and fifty men with him having previously provided themwith skins for protection against the fierce heat felt at even two miles enough to singe you and with allsorts of weapons to try and form a strong wide breach in the path of the "Red Plague". The men finally managed to check the conflagration in their own direction

but a section of the conflagration immediately turned its course and rushed in the direction of Evangeline St Claire,where upon fifty thousand men of that town alarmed for its safty took up tools and weapons and helped fight the fire in that direction so desperately that again it changed its direction.....Where the fire had burned over far in its southern rear it had been found three months afterwards that the ground remained red hot beneath its surface and great qu a quantities of steam escaped after a rain.Anoexplos on explosion occurred when the munition plat of Trinoque occured and the debris and rocks and earth materials build up by the blaste during this explosion in the city were of considerable magnitude, and one huge rock was about fifty feet in size and thrown a mile from the scene of the blast and it penetrated the street into which it fell to a depth of thirty feet.The small branch of fire that threatened Rome grew at length fifteen miles while the average width was between two and three,, miles, so that in a short time in progressing it covered fourty square miles of forests.Among the villiages burned by this great branch of the fire was Mompilliori.It is not by fire and smoke alone that the forest fires were ravenging the hills, and plains, and the vallies.The forest fire in traveling up the forested slope of Mt Catherine caused a great deluge of water.This mountain is 19,000 feet high above its base not counting sea level and was considered a extinct volcano.Half way up to the slow line this big volcano was or is heavily timbered.On the 2th of September two waves of the forest fires burning their way up the slopes grew to an enormous perportions and throw up its slopes of the snow covered mountain so much heat that the snow was melted in a hurry.The consequence was therefore that a great torrent of water soon rushed down the sides of the mountain carrying with it vast quantities of sand, stones, forest trees, volcanic cinders,and blocks of lava with which it overspread th the flanks of the mountain and the plains beneath in a frightful deluge worse than even the bursting of the biggest dam in the whole world, and the floods devastated everything in its course adding to the terrors of the approaching conflagration.Also the water was so scalding hot that it gave forth great clouds of steam in its approach.The whole of water was estimted at11,16,000,000 cubic feet it forming three channels six miles broad and in some places thirty four to fifty feet deep and flowing at the rapid rate of twomiles a minute at its fastest.Indeed all the winters snow on the top of so great a Calvarinian mountain as Mt St Catherine could not have caused such a flood,and it was considered that from the fierce heats of the raging conflagrations racing up the slopes that very flamesmust have reached up somewhere and even melted old layers of ice which had been preservedunder coverings of volcanic dust.Where They swelt however these floods did cut great big gaps in the forest fires by tearing the trees down like the tornado but most of the trees carried along with the trees were still burning and except in their path the floods did not hardly retard the progress of the fire in the mountains district at all.The floods however breached them so that the fires had to burn in three different directions. The result of the flood to the fire presented some strange peculiarities.Nearest the point whence the biggest forest fire ascended and spread, the cutting apart of the conflagration caused three large new ones to form and illuminated the night sky so that it was seen afar off.Shortly afterwards there began a little further on the flank of the mountain another conflagration fromwhich a sim similar result took place and still further up there soon appeared a fifth, which there burned a roaring cloud of fire which s rapidly spread itself over miles andmiles of forest trees. During the first twenty twenty four hours of its progress the fire traveled nearly fourty five miles, when it reached a great accession or temporary check.

The three original fires soon again became united intoone large conflagrwtion conflagration, fromwhich as from the other two mout two conflagrations above thei there poured upward a vastly augmented wall of flame enveloping as it seemed all t of that portion of the mountain.It was then that the flood reallly occured.....

During the progress of the flood it directed its course toward a certain c sectio section of the mountain where it opens into a large ravine of some sort miles long and where there is a deep st e steep perpendicular precipice.Arived at this point the torrent of water leaped over the precipice in a vase v cascade, and with a loud thundering noise, and to make such noise as to awaken an alarm that the mountain had broken into an eruption at this very place and in the wooded region.

The progress of the forest fire tward the Bengall State Forests were first witnessed by a party of English Tourists, who were ascend ing a high hillwith the purpose to get a view of the destroyed sections that had been devastated by the Abbisann Explosions.As they got up half way to the top of the hill they noticed the sky overh ad was enveloped with a heavy smoky black cloud as if a great storm was approaching, though weeks before they had noticed there had been ni not even the slightest amount of sunshine, and the weather nevertheless was ter ribly hot and what they thought at times strangely foggy. As they observed this strange phenomena a vo viol nt violent wind storm arose, which forced them to shelters themselves beneath some masses of great rocks to avoid the flying stones and other debris.When the mysterious storm subsided they returned to their destination fortun ately without having been injured. In the course of the ever increasing darkness a great glare was observed by them in the direct east, and by a long wave of deep white hot coloring of a glare they at first mistook it for a great molten lava flow going down a far distant hillside.They were astonished.They af expected to see "it" flow down tward the base of the hill, but the upper part of the hill though forested was still in darkness.They discovered the far distant glare to movepard instead of downward.At th that distance it seemed to move upward slowly at apparently a snails pace, and they again took the chances to go up anothe another hillto observe the phenomena [illegible] with their field glasses.

At first even then the slope of the hill did appear to be enveloped by a molten lake but they heard no loud explosions.The glare moved stillupward and tward the flank simultaneously and continued to increase in size and to form into the forests of the huge valley beneath.It seemed to have many forms of glare rixingupward at at last they discovered it was fire.This scene was to them one of the grandest of all scenes of raging forest fires.More than 2,000,000,000 acres were burning within their view at one time.Their attention was arrested indeed by the strange phenomena present even though to their idea it was more than a hundred miles away.They believed the total height of the flames was one hundred thousand feet one thousand feet, and the rear portions of the conflagration was should two thirds of that unusual height.They declared it was being the worst of were forest fires ever raging in the world..They believed the fires may have been r beginning before September 1912, that unless real coun try wide resistance is given the conflagration it would never cease, although it may vary in intensity from time to time.It was observed too that the violence of the progress of the forest fires had a certain dependance on the weather---being almostmost intense when the barometer islowest.They viewed the conflagration for a long time from theirposition so high being able to look at it down from above.Even when viewed in that manner the blaze presented to them a very striking appearance, and the flames seemed to be constantly risin g and falling at intervals.Sometimes the rising clouds were of various colors and rose with a decrepitating noise tossing as it seemed high into the air clouds of sparks.They could also hear a loud crackling noise.

There has been in other chapters previous in the various volumes been described the terrible work of the Abbisann disaster of the past few months, and of the great ravages of the unusually continuous forest fires, from the early part of the year of 1912 down to the present in the story up to the month of October 1913.Battles, lightn ing, and the enemy is blamed for the conflagration,and onlyone is guilty of the cause for the main thing in this story.The forest fires are all incendary except one fire, and that fire doesn't exist.

The forest fires as discovered by the spying efforts of g Violet and her sisters wer e not originated either by any of the Glandalinian generals. They ignited them of course but the whole horror was planned without exception by only the high members of the Glandalinian Kingdom, though the King dis didn't seem to have a hand in the council as he was absent at the time.But whether he later approved of it or not, the story itself doesn't and will never say.But nevertheless we'll make him take the blame ne just the same as he could have easily have frustrated the plans of his lower rulers.

The conflagration itself if it ever was a true one was the most frightful conflagration ever written in history or ever occured or can occur in reality...LWW For over three months after this great outbreak, the nations of the whole world had been ome comparatively quiet on the subject rarely believing indeed that the forest fires did really exist, thinking that maybe perhaps the darkness of the skies over the whole of Calverinia as reported was because o ly of excessive cloudy weather, but it was not untill all the reports began to be verified by all foriegn correspondents and war swepped men that ever everything began to come to a realization and therefore in this story all S Church Services in mornin gs and evenings, sundays or week days were spritily offered for the ending of the horror and the speedy demolition of the Glandalinian armies in Calverinia.

Tward Late September 1913 the great forest fires became more threatening than ever, and a great wave of flame began to make its way up tward the forested regions of East Bengall Stat s.It was in the middle of the first week first week of the month of September that these in dicatio in dications rose to the extremely dangerous point, the spread of the conflagration suddenly swelling from a river of flame to an ernormous ocean of fire, pouring in a hellish flood of flames through the once beautiful forests, and meeting the other smaller conflagrations,s that had been burning a little in front of it.while this went on the weather itself remained very quiet there was not a breath of wind, and the huge clouds of smoke rose higher in the air, while from it a darkness soon to become terrible indeed indeed began to descend upon the sur rounding fields country and towns.

Dangerous as the great forest fire was every at any time, the population of the threatened vinicity dared all the perils produced by it in their attempts to divert its dreadful course.The people were even ready to dare destruction for the hope of winning the fight against this over powering "Red Plague" of the forests. Yet all this very locality for hundreds of miles was now an immense field of terror and death.Onward tward vineyr vineyards and villages in the huge clearings advancing the dreadful conflagrations in ever increasing vigor, but they advanced slowly however, and from their homes fled many thousands of the terror stricken women and children, frantic with horror and dsmay dismay, suffering terribly from the heat waves and the half smothering smoke.Indeed a great number ofpopulous villages and forest towns were threatened by the lurid fire waves, the most endangered being the very city of El Verso which had recently been greatly devastated by the past ravaged floods.Tward this devoted city raced steadily the irrestible flood of roaring flames.The soldiers of various standing armies, hundreds of forest rangers, and the men population of the city itself, and many other volunteers and even Glandalinian prisoners had been [illegible] to the front and sought to divert its progress in that direction by digging a wide ditch, by making wide clearings across its course, and throwing up a high bank of earth and fighting most frantically brush and ground fires started by the fierce heat of the main conflagration, and even bursting the levees of streams toflood the territory but they worked in vain.Trees were blasted to earth, even the fire departments of the city tried their best, but the demon of this fiery destruction was not to be robbed of its prey.The wifre wave advanced like a most colossal wave of fire and kep pi keeping steadily on tward the fatal or ill fated town.

Seeing that the Red Plague couldn't be stopped one thousand rangers worked like mad fiends to remove from their forest Cant all the high explosives n in time toavoid a dreadful explosion. The fire came fire came on with the roar of a volcanic eruption, the ditch was crossed in a sea of flame that leaped hundreds of feet high, the fire roared wickedly across the huge clearing now brought forth by a fierce gale of wind that carried burning embers far and wide, fires started even in forests ahead of the time, the first house a xo wooden con e convent was reached, and soon burst into flames despite the efforts of the fire fighters to stop it, the roaring fire crept on to the next houses in its way, the piles of still remaining wreckage of the late flood demolition was soon a mountain of fire, the town was soon all going on the fire side, and only then did the despairing people desert their homes and flee for their lives carrying the little with them which they could snatch of their treasuered possession, and to catch trains going north which was their only hope of escape as the fire raced onward thirty miles an hour.

General Hanson Vivian who was present at this scene, and whose army of soldiers not watching the movement of Gladelinian armies had joined desperately in the fight against the flames, thus described the flight of the terrified people to the Vivian Girl Princessesin a letter which ran as p follows;

"Dear Vivian Girl Princesses;

The horrors of the disaster is well of note.I saw women and children and infants whose very mothers carried them in their breasts or in their aprons fleeing in an endless procession while the men folk were out desperately fighting to stem the rush of the Red Plague.Dogs too and cats were on the carts and wagons,and sometimes even chickens, tig tied together by the legs andpiles of mattresses and pillows and sha shapeless bundles of clothes. Street cars were crammed full of people who even rde on their roofs, trains were crowded and what was stra stranger still animals of the burning forests had fled into the city deers, rabbits, every animal including bears and even forests snakes all seeking an avenue of escape and paying no more attention to the pnic stricken crowds of people as if they were not in existance.

All were white with terror.Under the lurid glare I saw one old lady lying on her back in a wagon ghastly white, and if not dead already of fear and heat and suffocation from smoke and the tufett ing of the windstorm certainly almost gone.We ourselves could hardly breath, and the flames of the forests before the town went reached clear across the sky in terrific sheeted tongues sheering through the clouds of rolling smoke making a strag strange rushing snapping andunu undulation so sound.It was on A sunday that this second timeill fated city of El Verso became a pre prey of the dreadful vi fire pestilence.During that night and following day the crisis seemed to have come.We were in an forest Rangers Observatory on a mountain side.At midnight the situation seen from the observatory was terrible.The forces of many explosions no doubt made by rangers in their desperate fight tosave the town were ,e let loose and the wind rocked the observatory that we could scarcely stand on the floor.The roaring of the fierce flames even though far away and passing us harmlessly bywas deafening there was varies of hissing sounds, great crackling and snapping, the display of hurricanes of sparks and embers borne by the wind was terrifying, and constant claps of thunder followed the work of the fighters who were blasting to tear huge rifts in the forests to gap the fire.Shortly after three of oclock in the morning the fierce energy of the mighty fire culminated in that location.The whole city was on fire.The town had in its center a huge munition factory n and thus burst open with a shock like a tremendous earthquake, and with a deafening roar, and flamingdebris seemed to be hurled half a mile into the air, while a dense mass of smoke seemed to be hurled three or four times this height.Rarely had a more terrible Monday been seen.It was as if the very demons of earth and air and flame were let loose w and were to destroy Our Lords very creationitself.

This frightfulprogress of the forest fire, was the worst of the dreadful display that I had witnessed, but I know the flames progressed further and further on elsewhere never diminishing in intensity.The smoke came in suffocating clouds and the scene resembled that of typhoons I've seen with you in other times."

Hanson vivian."

Of El Verso nothing was left but a few buildings which could not burn because they were fire proof but their shapes were disfigured by melting to some degree from the fierce heat.Another branch of the fire reached the outskirts of the town of Beppo Bosco, and a third stopped at St Anns Forest Cemetery and went in another direction because of a gap there too large to leap.Those towns fo rtunately escaped, but millions of acroes of forests in their neighborhood were destroyed by the sea cloud of flame.The Turmar Railway lines was ruined and the railway station of Beppo Burned.Another eye witnessed told of wat he observed on that fatal Sunday and Mon day;;2

"On the road near the Ventura section I met countless hundreds of families in flight, carying wat few possessions they had time to save from the towns.Indeed the scene of collasping wagons, fato fatigued horses and fainting women from the heat were frequently seen. When one reached the scene of the approaching wall of fire a most stupying su stupifying scene indeed presented itself.Froma point on a long forested low hill between the towns and smaller cities I saw four

dreadful and wildy raging conflagrations, one of which was four miles wide and fatt over fourty miles long and it was a burning slowly and fiercely onward devouring vineyards and all trees and high grass in its path and sending up volumes of smoke enough to put the worst active volcano to shame.I witnessed the destruction of a farm house surrounded by a fierce forest blaze.It was enveloped on three sides by the conflagration.The whole atmosphere far and wide seemed to be absolutely incandescent for an incredible distance and the heat was terrific.Indeed the whole seen was wreathed in the biggest flames ever imagined and a perpetual roar and snapping and terrible hissing sound was heard Ever and anon the top of one forested hill was encircled with fire that danced in and out of the smoke clouds as if there was a vivid eletric phene phenomena going on and so force was the blaze rushing up its slops that it appeared like an uprush of liquid fire being all revealed in the most magnificent awfulness.with a wind beginning to ru rise the fires redoubled their onrush ad and women and children fled precipitately for any shelter they could find from the conflagration, while the men themselves were fighting as hard as they could to divert the course of the dreadful red plague. The flames had crossed the Ventura road behind them and was rushing on at hurricane speed.

The great loss of life was due however to the vast fury of the sudden rising of the fire hurricane which brought almost the same conditions as destroyed the city of St Pierre in Martinque island.The violence of the hot winds tore off the roofs and buried the occupants within the ruins of their blazing homes. In all the neighboring towns buildings were destroyed in great numbers by the winds before the fire reached them an early estimate being that fully fifty five thousand houses had been partly crushed or utterly destroyed before the con flagration struck the towns.On the Turmerann ia side of Ventura Road where the flames were at their worst all the towns and villiages were totally burned,and the city of The Turmerannia was left a smouldering blazing wreck.In the big city of Mildred Greenburg two hundred miles two hundred miles west of the conflagrations because of an east wind the smoke fog was so thi k thick that those who could afford it wore caps and goggles and gas masks, while the people generally sought to save their eyes and faces from the heat waves by the aid of "Haloween Masks and umbrellas.The drivers of street cars and elevated roads still surviving the flood wreck were obliged also to wear masks of some transparent materials under the vizors of their caps.Though so far away the heat in the city was terrible.Tar melted on the roofs, people sweated as if all were under Tur Turkish baths and the suffering was immense.

In the city of Evage Evangeline St Claire there were two special great disasters attended by serious loss of life because of the terrific winds then prevailing.On the ninth of September while a congrea congregation of two thousand or more packed the St Michales Cathedral in praying for the ending of the conflagration horror, the violence of the winds ripped the huge roof off from the building, and sent it sailing like a pivot into the air.The wreck wrenching was so violent that from the shock one of the walls crashed in and fell upon the worshippers below, and not one of them escaped alive.The only ones who escaped and yet were seriously injured were the priest and the five alter boys.The second disaster on the same day andone of the same character but far worse took place at the city of Ava Maria.

Just previous to it the whole population had been marching in marching in religious processions through the streets in the face of the fierce wind storms to render thanks to God and His Blessed Mother for the apparent cessation of the progressive forest fire in the direction of the town.Motley but picturesque processions were these indeed, headed by so many alter boys carrying candles, which burned simply in the full glare of distant fires, and bearing aloft images of Our Blessed Mother, of Our Lord, crucifixes or of saints clad in gorgeous robes of expensive blue purple or yellow satin.Their joy was suddenly changed by tidings of a frightful disaster superintended or produced by the heat of the forest fire.

A full grown tornado of hot winds revolving in a unknown speed along in a terrific funnel cloud tore to pieces a good section of the town strewing the wreckage along the whole Ventura road, and more than three thousand people were kilde killed and ten thousand hurt hurt or burni buried beneath all the debris which began to catch fire. This section of the town too had been crowded with refugees from the burning burning towns beyond all women and chiodre children.With scarcely a

warning, the tornado struck, there came a frightful noise of wind, a still more frightful crach of torn and splintered buildings, and a dense cloud of dust and smoke covered the scene after its wild passage from out of which far and wide came heart rending screams of agony.The news set the people frantic with grief and indignation/. Screaming and praying in their intense excitement, they rushed for the stricken districts endeavoring with frantic haste and desperation to remove the heavy masses of wreckage from beneath which came the appealing calls for help many of the rescuers sobbing aloud as they worked.It required a large force of citizens and strong women to cary carry on more systematically the work of relief.Of the whole population in that section only twelve proved to be the only survivors all the rest were killed or so badly hurt they wouldn't live.Among these were many children.The Mayor of the town directed the work of rescue, while his wife and elder du daughters and son assisted in the care of the injured.

As the wife of the citys Mayor bent in the hospital to give a cooling drink to a badly burned little girl she suddenly felt a kiss upon her left hand.Looking down she saw a woman kneeling at her feet, who grateful gratefully said"Your Excellency, the little dear is all I have.I am a window as my husband was killed at the battle at Cedernine.May God and His blessed Mother reward you."

While this scene of unspeakable horror was taking place in Evange line St Claire and Ava Maria town, the fate of the villlages and towns grouped around the [illegible] as hopeless as ever.Early on the 10th of September the force and fury of the forest fires had diminished because of the desperate fight the conflagration recieved from so man men, but later the same day because of rising easterly winds began to advance again, and the terrified inhabitants feared that a catastrphoe like that which all other towns had met was about to visit them.The forest fire which reached the St S Anns country Grave yards and diverted its course because of resistance there by thousands of men turned in the direction of St Phillips town.A violent storm of wind accompanied its onward approach, and the towns of Santa Ann a, St Anns, and Glad Glady's Junction, and Clam Harbor and also Saria felt the force and heat of this wind which brought so much smoke that the people stuffed cotton in their window sahses to keep it out. A typical case was that of Glady's Jun ction.Though for two days the place had been deserted, a few ghos ghostly figures could be seen at intervals when the flames of the fires illuminated the scene wandering desolutely about, hungry and thirsty, their throats parched by smoke, dust and heated winds, ystunable to tear themselves away from the ruins of their late comfortable homes.So deep was the smoke murk as far north as Calverine that railr railway travel was utter impossible.

A party of officials made a tour of in spection near Evangeline St Claire by wagon visiting a number of the city, but were prevented by the state of the smouldering roads from reaching others.Ava Maria was cut off from all communication and tr v travel, and a heavy dark cloud of smoke followed the officiasl officials in their retreat. At Beppo Turner the smoke was an ocean of rolls.The smoke was carried over hundreds of miles of country in the most dense s mass in the sky and over landscapes, and nothing was vislbe even tward Calverine but the smoke sea.Even as far as the city of Calverin e so far north the air was almost unbearable, the heat intense, and few could long bear the dangers and discomfort of the situation and an exodus of people started from that town to try and escape the awful smoke and heat.The greatest thickness of the smoke far outside the far fire zone driven forth by the winds was encountered in the vinicity of Marie Osborne City.Here large countrysides was thickly fogged in, and everybody were being forced to wear gas masks. Soldiers had been sent there with military carts, carrying provisions and surgical appliances, with orders to lend their aid in the work of relief, but they found it impossible to mke their way through the dense smoke fog, and the tales of horror and heroism that they had to tell resembled those in the pe poems of Dantes Inferno.

N ear the town of Cross Creek which was burning, efforts were made to remove the children and women in covered wagons and box cars, but when these had gone a hundred feet, they could not get through the region north of Sun Beam Bean Sunbeam Junction because the fire was leaping across that territory and coming tward them in the same fashion as Violet, and her sisters had experienced during the battle of Lebanon.This caused a panic among the children especially, who exc expected to be overtaken by the frightful blaze and they fled

in all directions in the darkness and blinding smoke.Searchin g parties were immediately sent after them but in spite of continuous shouting and calling no trace was found of the littleones, and numbers of these children really perished having been overtaken by the disastd disaster they fled to avoid.Had they remained where they were they all would have escaped.

Map of their charrt charred little bodies had been found buried in the ruins ofthe smudge of the fire swept forest, and the scenes when the little victims were recovered were often piteous and terrible. Thepositions of the half chared bodies showed that the little victims had died in flight while in a state of great terror, their little fea faces being convulsed with fear.One forest ranger rode his horse through a smudge fire callingout for the children but in vain.

Another rescuer was rewarded by his cries by hearing a mans reply from a half burned shanty in weak tones, and springing from his horse, he floundered through the still smoking ashes of the forest in his high boots to the smouldering walls of a big shanty from which the voice seemed to come.As he made his way through the soft smoking treacherous layer of forest debris which surrounded the destroyed habitation, and with difficulty worked his way tward the smoking build ing the soldier shouted words of encouragement, and climbing over a heap of slightly smoking charred ruins, and braving a toppling wall still ablaze entered the building.In the ruins he b found the bodies of three charred little girls andone boy.Near them was a dead woman and a man barely alive, whoyby almost super human efforts for hours had succeeded in freeing himself from a mass of fortunately unburned debris which had fallen upon her him.The soldier picked the man up in his arms and carried him to aplace of safty.It was found that both his legs were broken, and that he had been badly crushed about the body and slightly burned about the face and the hands and feet.

Some extroaordinary escapes from death and the forest fire took place. A man his wife, and his family of six children all goils were rescued after having been lost in a ravine and surrounded by the ragig hell for fifty six hours. They were terribly exhausted, almost dead from heat and suffocation, and were reduced almost to skeletons.A little riverlet in the center of the ravine was the only means that had enable enabled them to endure without perishing so long.General Charles Brown one ofthe greatest and best abled bodied christian generals of h the army and nation, who happened to be on a furlough at the time of the outbreak of the great conflagration in his own territory went with a party of officers and a number of Gemini members as near to the scene of the "Worlds"End"as they could approach.From his graphic story of his experiences which were sent to Violet and her sisters Jennie Turner had cp copied some of the most interesting details of their letters at their permission;

"We caught a wagon train for the town of Mic-Clure picknell, three miles northwest of Ev Evangeline St Claire, and east of Rosa and Topsy, and ten miles from the southern surburbs of the great fire sweep which destroyed the city of Trinoque n early to a total.We had a magnificent view of the great forest fire eighty miles away,the neares nearest we could approach as to go any nearer would have been certain death even at that distance because of the heat.Rising high into the sky from horizon to horizon the vast mass of rolling tumultous clouds of very flame was bea beautifully accentuated by the full glare of other fires, and the smoke itself above the flames shifted momentarily into new forms and drifting northwestward in low black clouds reaching to the western horizon and summing various reddish and pink colors.At Evangeline St Claire we ranunder this black terrifying pall, apparently many thousands of feet above us the solidity of which was soon rev ale revealed in the fires glare.The torhces of the wagon guards addedbto the effect, but greatly relieved the smoky darkness. We had reached Evangeline St Claire at three on the morning very oily indeed. There wasclittle suggestion of any horrible disaster as we rode through the town to the regions where the fire had raged and was stilll raging only as a huge smudge making a rolling smoke sea so extensive as to reach from horizon to horizon.The brilliant glare of the fire even though so far away lighted up the region almost as bright as the rising sun and gave us a superb vie of view of the rolling clouds of smoke, all forms being that of caluliflower from the base of the wall of cloud but rising and expending and curling far above for many thousands of feet with a profile like a monsterous rolling false cirhus cloud in the heated summer time.

But however nothing in mythology ever gave a suggestion of the awful fascination of this awful force of the uprush of heated air produced by the flames, presenting the sublime unusual beauty in color and form above, but below the glare of the Infernal regions.

We reached a secrion section of country through which the fire had already passed.It was as if all the world of people had effectually cried out to arrest the terrific hurricane of flames which had raged up to the St Anns Cemetery,cand which pitilessly almost melted the ~~Statu~~ Statue of the Blessed Virgin and another of St Ann, with which the people of the city had tried to stay the Red Plague, as at St Catherine the Image of the Sacred Heart was said to have stayed a similar fire storm from movingupon Lo i Lucillie Rickson S town.

We a proached to the edge of the smoking in ferno of debris. It was like standing withinnhalf a mile on the edge of the enormous mouth of Hell.A hundred million volcanic eruptions combined into one couldn't make so much clouds of smoke.We could see dimly the extent of the destruction beyond the barrier of smoke wall which had stoppd at the edge of the Graveyard because of its size, and because the flames here had not been able to leap the gap.A better idea of the surroundings was obtained atedawn from a abandoned railrway.We saw southwestward or eastward rather what was left of Trinoque, a great square stone church and a few row of app arently fire proof structi structures inland in a sea of smouldering ruins of houses. N orth and east and south was that terrible wall of heavy smoke in side of which rose a thousand patches of flame in the form of swamp miasma.All was smoke, smoke, smoke, and stillmore smoke with n o where the familiar appearance of goodly landscapes of beautiful forests of trees, flourishing towns and villiages.even from this smudge though we were miles from it the heat was terrific.We ate a hasty lunch before the hour of sunrise, though there was no sun,but continued gray darkness with blacknessoverh ad overhead and with a littlemore comi ng l of light, wl which was only as a twilight the great thrill of the scene was still more revealed.

The column of smoke extendinglike walls so far and near as far as eye sight could reach from northto south and in the south seemed higher and more massive rising as high asone could look up into the sky and retaining its rolls at the up er sections but in biger forms. Each portion of the clouds had a concentric motion and new aspects.. The southern wall floating on the tops tward the west showed exquisitive curved su rfaces, due to the u per moving cur ent current.It was like the decoration of the side of a great sarcophagus.As elsewhere a heavy yellowish white cloud hung over Evangeline St Claire city and territory and hides the flaming hilling country, I counted myself very fortunate indeed to have seen all day from leewardthis huge spctacle of changing undiminished but horrible beauty. beauty.

The ammount of ruined land of forests in the path of the forest fire within my view e extended far beyond my calculation.Fancy so much forest land far down from the beginning point of the forest fires now left nothing but seas of still smouldering or dead ashes and half burned trunks, while elsewhere the forest fires still raging onward distrubiting to other forests the same fate and you will get an idea of the desolate impression of the dreadful scene va forest tragedy colossal to immeasureable size and most heartrending. .Like the disaster to Abbieann and elsewhere it is enlisting the sympath sympathy of the civilized world.Yet it'll take time for such a calamaity to be realized for the ammount of forests already burned over is over I,000 miles, and the fires have only begun.Two miles below Evangeline St Claire city we struck the edge of the vast smoke wall, and our wagon driver begged us not to go any further on or we'd be into the edge of the conflagration.We had not the ha heart to proceed on so we started on the return journey.In many places northwest o f Evangeline St Claire cities of temporary shelters had been built by the various roadsides in forest clearings like cities of childrens playhouses.Here women and children were huddled with their bedding, nawat awaiting the coming of what supple supliss they could ex ect expec t. All the men population in the districts were largely occupied in their efforts to fight the tremendous conflagration.Many two and four wheeled carts and wagons loaded with forest fire fightin g equp equipment were making their way along. In another clearing was a large encampment of soldiers with low abesto tents..Near another large clearing cut through the forests in course white l inen shrouds were the bodies of thirty three women and children who in fl ight through a burning sector lost their lives. Of all the refugees every one

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of them were sad, but nevertheless did not compalin in fact for so excitable a people they were indeed unusually calm."

In the meantime the Calverinian Government through the urgent request of Violet, and her sisters were doing all it could day after day to alleviate the horrors of the situation sending money to be expended in relief work, despatching high officials of the government to give aid, and encouragement by their presences, and men from hundreds of northern and extremely southern Calverinian cities, and many more towns, and even ab older boys, and more hardier women were flocking out as volunteers to aid in the great fight against the red plague, of the forest. Often violet, and her sisters had been near the scene of destruction since they returned from their short captivity from the region of A Angelinia St Claire, and wherever the tim was they were not in the armies they were among the refugee refugees lending their own personal assistance to the work of rescue.Obliged to l eave their carriage, which could not move over the smouldering debris chocked road, the Vivian Girls with difficulty went forward on horseback, the animals sometimes in the burned districts floundering through four feet of ashes and burned trees and limbs stumbling into holes, and half blinded by the smoke and whirling ashes sent into the air by the winds.But these horses were used to every thing and did not fear fire which was an exception.But they were trained to brave these things.D r During their journey tward Evangeline St Claire they came upon the Mayor of the town. of Trinoque.

"How in the world did you escape from there?"Jennie vivian asked him.

"I put myself in to comparative safty."was the repl y.

"You did!What do you mean."!

"Realizing the danger I left Trinoque while the people still remained. I wasn't foolish."

"What"cried Jennie with a flush of anger."You a Mayor of a town too cowardly to share the dangers of your people while wecurselves go through adventuss that no one cares to hear about.I'll see to it that you'll be removed from office.The idea.A coward for a Mayor. Not in that heroic town."

Reaching Evangeline St Claire the bravelittle Princesses did what they could to expedite the work at centrail points of disaster more than a hundred dead bodies being taken from the ruins of the Cathedral in their presence.They stood with set pale faces watching the removal of the vistims vi tims and directin g the movement of the workers and even joining in at times themselves.During their visit to the front they inspected the tem o temporary camp hospitals in which the soldiers and nuns and priests were caring for the burned injured and suffering, speaking kindly to the poor victims, being like little angels among them, giving them what comfort they could and asking what they could do to relieve their distress.Every request or dire desire was recieved by them with syp sympathy and orders given to have it fulfilled.A pitiful scene took place when they were around the bed of a poor little boy whose right leg burned so bad had to be amputated, and Violet bent over and asked what she and her sisters could do to comfort and aid him in his affliction.

"Send me my father who is servin g as a soldier in general Vivianannas army"said the poor little boy.

The Vivian girls were visibly affected,vand promished to do so.

While they went from district to district they inspected the places where the refugees were housed doing what they could to improve conditions,and to add to the comfort of the sufferers. While there they decided to make an automobile visit to as far as they could approach to the ruined town of Trinoque, but the motor broke down, and they were forced to return on foot, walking a distance of twenty miles through the smouldering forest fires left by the passage of the main blaze days before, and displaying spower of endurance despite their discomforts and sufering and hardships of hungr hunger and thirst that surprised the natives.By Friday September the Thirteenth the danger to Evangeline St Claire was practically at an end for good.The main forest fire horror had passed on northward leaving behind it an immense smoke sea which spread like a thick heavy curtain over all the sky.The whole country lay buried in darkness and obscurity, clothed in a dense pall of smoke.At Calverine three hundred miles north of the fire horror there was nosunshine, it was as dark as a dark rainy day but some distance south hung a dark sombre veil.Even as far north as Abyssi Abyssinkile more than

two to three thousand miles away there was sunshine, but its light fi trickled through with a sickly glare.The sky had a yellow color and sometimes even dunnish or brown and at times pale cream and other colors.At the city of Bonbon six hundred miles away from the forest fire but west of it the gloom was so deep every time there was a east wind or southeast, that telegraph poles twenty feet away could not be seen.Breathing was difficult, and the smoky atmosphere made the eyes water.At Mildred Greenburg however a favorable west wind had cleared the lower atmosphere of smoke but the sun did not shine and it was very dark.Everybody in many cities and towns of Calverinia and Abysainkile too wore goggles, masks, and eye screens, the weather was terribly hot.It was believed there were sme six hundred thousand men at work against the flames ditching, making wide clearings, blasting , counter firing and doing everythingpossible to stay the progress of the conflagration.There indeed were grewsome scenes close to the forest fire zone.At Beppo Junction soldiers carried on the work of rescue when the flames threatened there.It isinteresting to learn that six or seven members of the Gemini stood heroically to their post of duty during the whole scene of the advance of the forest fire.Gingigore, Whilliam Schloder, Dargar and many others.Though the observation post occupied by them was exposed to the full heat of the dreadful conflagration raging thirty miles away, they remained undaunted at their post throughout that week of terror.On the fourteen of the month some of that Abbieannian venturesome fraternity the news paper correspondents, reached the observation point of the Gemini, and heard the story of their experiences.For several days Dargar and his followers had been cut off from the outside world, and threat ened by the conflagration, their rations consisting of bread, cheese and dried onions, untill on Friday a hardy guide was induced to push through the remains of the burned landscapes to them with some provisions.During the progress of the disaster the Professor had kept at his observation, taking observations day and night and making calculations in the midst os the of the inferno.roughly dressed helooked like am American Western Cowboy after a hard ride in a dust storm.The portico where he stood was half scorched by the heat, but as far as eye could reach an ocean of ashes, still smouldering tree trunks denuded of their branches were alone visible through rising fogs of clouds of smoke, while the main conflagration seen now far to the north.The monsterous path of the fire sweep was enveloped in a cloak of white puffy and rolly smoke as if it was the sky hidden in a sea of storm clouds.As the correspondents ascen asc n ascended the mountain that had partly escaped the worst of the conflagration they were surprised at the apparition of burned tree trunks still smoking, the smouldering of ground degris and the desolation left by the passage of forest fires.They were also suprised by a nanother apparition of forest rangers who had been recently trapped by the forest fires, and who suddenly emerged from somethinglike caves.One of the Gemini completed his record of boldness by going to a point far too close to the conflagration at the imminent risk of his life from the heat to observe the conditions then existing.

Therefore the reader can be well ~~informed~~ in informed that the eastern parts of Calverinia down up from the southeast is being one of the most disasterious burned. countries in the whole world in this book from the story out, whether the reader can regard the number of terrific forest fires concentrating in so ernormous a space of forests or the extraordinary destructive fury of the conflagration.Forest fires are raging elsehwr e elsewhere but not to such a proportion..Of forest fires of each more than a hundred miles in extent and up to a stretch of three hundred, to twenty miles in width or even to fourty there are no less than thirty six of them.The fire burnin g across the Mic-Whirther Run Terriroity, and through the Mic-Hollester Run regions heading for the Main Red Riding Hood Woods being much the worst of them known.In all I,000 minior other forest fires are burning.The Forest fire however heading east of the Abbieann territory rival all the others in size and magnitude, and are more continuous in their progress and moreintense in fury n and the heat they throw, and the range of hills already traversed by the flames is far greater than the Rocky Mountain range going through five western States.The Northeast branch of the Bonbon Hills indeed is not yet traversed by the conflagrations, while one quarter of the Vivian Hills appear as if they were all in violent eruption from unusual strong subterranean forces, and make the smoke clouds of the eruption of

Krakatoa and other volcanoes simultaneously appear like a smouldering shoestring in comparison..Therefore these fuest fires, which IO? IO,000,000 men, and even rainstorms and floods does not subdue because of the terrific heat as being the most terrible disasters on record.The h heat was felt five hundred miles away has driven people tothe north to escape the effects.The city of Calverine even now in October where at this time the highest temperature is fourty in the shade, is still at I34 degrees and people are fleeing for cooler regions with the suffering of thousands of prostrations and deaths from the heat.The usually cold climate of the Calverinian country for its winter seasons produce vast quantities of snow and ice which covers l all mountain ranges and fill up the cracks and valleys in their sides.Therefore whenever the winds were were on a southeasterly course, the intense heat even carried hundreds of miles to the northward rise to high into the atmosphere makes the temperature even over the snow covered mountains at an elevation of fifteen to eighteen thousand feet as hot as the same heat waves are in the low lands, and vast masses of ice, great fields of snow, and deluges of water roll down the hillsides into the plains creating unusual floods and driving the inhabitants before the torrents.Some of these torrents produced by the highly reaching hot waves tear up rocks in their course and devastated the surrounding country for miles.

In many sections the forest fires were accompanied by dreadful floods proc produced by meltin g mountain snows caused by the heat and flames.The heavy clouds of smoke was seen at Calverine to rise by day from the so far distant forest fires, and by night the red glare could be seen. puring one dreadful heat wave in September caused by southeasterly winds coming off from the forest fies, deluges of water rushed from the heights of the Volcano Mt Calverine bearing along whole fields of ice, and rocky fragments of every size torn from the flanks of the mountain itself and currdd to the huge Norma Run River making in it into a raging flood.But the most remarkable thing is the dreadful progress of the fie duringthe later part of September up to the time of the battle of Lebanon. Of this a last extended description is.worthy of being given in this last chapter

On the eighteenth of September the forest fire was then racing for the Lebanon region sixty fie miles northwest of Evangeline St Claire(I do ~~d~~declare).It was preceded by a long series of mysterious explosions which was said to have been heard at a distance of one hundred and fifty miles.

The fie was then raging northward and the advance guard was in about a number of smaller ones but winds then raging formed them into the union of an immense wave racing northwestward from the parent blaze, which crossing and burning on both sides of the St Anns river or wide fr creek not only drdd it up because of the dreadful heat but dried the sands on the river bottom to a depth of ten feet.On advancing across a huge ravine the fie came to the margin of the big Sanders Lake which lay in the course of the river.Here it was arrested for a while, it seemed now as if the many thousands of fire fighters here had a dh chance to outwit the blaze--but the fire gradually encic encircled the lake and then went onward resuming its advance till it reached a wide long clearing.Had it not been for the terrific heat of such high reaching flames it might have been checked at this clearing, but too for another reason fo unfortunately the wifre wave was too far extended by this time, and where it could not eat its way across the clearing by burning along the ground rubbish it burned its way by flanking attacks, and soon the fire enveloped the clearing on all sides.

Embers in the meanwhile formed another immense wave of fire which advanced with great rapidity tward the forests in which at the time of the Lebanon battle, the Vivian Girls were having their adventures, and ultimately combined with the first wave to form a more huge wall of fire now rushing on twenty miles an hour.When the left wing of this fresh wave of fire reached . Turner Creek twenty miles south of the Lebanon Forest regions, it again struck a long wide clearing of the forests(these were natural clearings not made by fie fighters) and a portion of the fire couldn't cross and was forced to burn up the channel of that stream tward the Lebanon forests.Had this clearing not interfered with the fire the flaze would have gone on its regular course and the Lebanon forest would have escaped.

After persuing its course for several hours, the main body of this conflagration reached the Lebanon forests, and then it was that Violet and her sisters had their stirring time in the forest bla blaz blaze as previously mentioned during the battle.After going forth the wildly raging flames reached another clearing this made by figh ters, but the flames leaped this gap and the fighters were trapped in a huge ravines and fought for six hours for their lives with the in in ferno roffin roofing the sky above them in roaring flames.After this it still continued up the chann el of the stream and began coming tward VanturaxRoad and river which it followed untill it threatened Lebanon itself.

Three days afterwards brought fresh acessions to the immense ocean of fire still pouring onward over the lan d.The fire in heading irresistibly tward Lebanon despite the inhabitants of all the men fighting it desperately continued on and there seemed to be no hope whatever.put the flames as usual struck another Natural opening in the forest in that locality, and as this opening was some four miles wide, and ten long, and there being no way for the fi es to cross as there was no ground debris in the clearing fortunately, the flames which had pe persued a northwesterly course, was forced to take a new direction tward the straight west and east and then to the northeast, where it struck more denser forests than ever.Here it persued a cowse similiar to that as before but on a more winder d and extensive scale, filling ravines with the blazing debris of trees and spreading itself out in fron t of Lebanon into grea er greater oceans of fire than ever, and Lebanon was almost surrounded.The Clearing however was in the direct way of Lebanon and if the wind didn't change direction Lebanon was safe though the inhabitants suffered frightfully from the heat which bursted all Thermonieters in the city.The fury of the cln flagration continued to rage around the city and so ernormous was the conflagrations that according to a careful survey at a great distance the whole together would form a mass of fire at once the full size of the Mediterranean sea in length and width.Of the two arms of the fire the greater was that size, and the the less half as wide but three times longer.The height of the flames could not be estimated, but some eye witnesses testified that the eastern wave of the fies attained on the forestedplains a breadth of height rather from twelve to fifteen thousand feet in height, that of the other was only about half as much.Though because of the clearing the fire was some ten miles away from the city, wooden houses on the surburbs went up into flames from the heat and threatened a conflagration in the city. Hansons army had also fought this, Manleys army had ran before it ran before it not daring to fight the blaze.The devastation directly wrought by such an immeasureable conflagration was not the whole of the dreadful evils thr they brought upon the unfortunate land and its inhabitants even far from it.Partly owing to the sudden melting of the snows and glaciers on higher mountains even not in the path of the fire by the heat waves brought up to them by winds, partly owing to the stoppage of river courses because of the damming up of the river by other disasters of thepasth immense floods of water deluged the country far from the neighborhood, terrific cycloinic cyclonic storms originated, cloudbursts, hurricanes and fierce untimely out of season eletricial storms, the floods and winds destroying many villiages and a large amount of agricultural and other property.Twenty big towns were overwhelmed by the raging raging flames or overwhelmed so by the heat as to burst into flames twenty miles away while the clouds of smoke hurled upward by the draught of the flames covered the whole of the skies over the Calverins seas, and the smoke on several occassions were dfifted dfifted over considerable parts of the far Mormonuia and Protestantia nations, and even obscuring the sun way down in Glandelinia and giving the sky a strange wried and gloomy aspect.In certain respects they reproduced the strange phenomena of the explosion of Krakatoa.The strange red sunset phenomenes of the latter were produced by the smokes of the gigantic forest fies so far away.The whole world itself was astonished as the phenomena was seen in many countries.

Out of five hundred thousand persons who had been driven from their towns and villiages by this "Red Plague, fifty thousand perished by flames, smoke suffocation, heat prostration together withII,I[illegible] head of cattle, hundreds of thousands of sheep and hundreds of thousands of hornes, and various will animals of the forests by countless numbers.

This dreadful destruction of life was caused partly by the directio direct action of the forest fies, partly by the noxious vaports or fumes the fire emitted over so much of the landscape, by the heat, smoke, and windstorms, partly by the floods of water, partly by the destruction of the herbage by the heat and sunless weather, and lastly in consequence of the drying up of so many rivers which formed a large portion of the drinking water for the people and animals.

After this frightful progress of the forestvfires, and its serious disterous effects the whole population of Calverinia became apreh n apprehensive because of the terrific speed of the conflagration.

Mt Joan Volcano which had been the most frequently active volcano of Calverinia, which had a record of fourty two terrific eruptions was soon becoming enveloped in the flames which caught its forested slopes and the people in its neighborhood at first thought these mountains had sprung into eruption again. The first inkling of the report that the fires had struck up to here was conveyed to even as far west as Dondobia Abbisannia by darkness as intense as night.This palpable hint was soon confirmed by a direct news from Calverins that the forest fires had assumed an ernormous size.

On the Twenty fourth of September a severe windstorm followed the same night by fearful noises alarmed the inhabitants of the towns near the volcano of what was to come and they fled.About noon the next day with a dreadful hissing noise the fire poured forth west of the Volcano and rushed for the forested valley.This torrent fortunately burned forward through the northern and northwestern sides of the huge mountain.The inhabitants of the villiages at its base were driven before the conflagration, but several of them were overcome by the heat and perished before they could escape.The whole mountain was enveloped in smoke clouds and appeared in as fierce an eruption as Krakatoa itself.Even here all menvinhabitants of the threatened towns and villiages fought desperately to try and stay its pr progress but in vain they couldn't face the fierce heat ten miles away.The rivers became schot as to kill the fish, and to be even impa impassable on horseback or in boats of small size.Explosions from some where occured and made detonations so loud as to be heard over the whole territory.Two new conflagrations were formed to the east of the mountain which was eighty seven miles around its base then another on the northeastern, and the other on the extreme eastern slope of the huge forested cone.The fire however didn't burn around to the extreme north of the mountain slope but went its usual northeast course.The volumes of smoke risin g from the conflagrations assumed the very appearance of the flames themselves and ascended to a score of times the height of the 19,000 foot volcano.The mountain when active never had assumed dangerous proportions, and at the very outbreak of the disaster the majority of the inhabitants close to the comparatively safe volcano knew what was the trouble and had immediately fled screaming to every body"Run, Run the forest fire.The Forest fire."

The rivers of the volcano on the north and burning sides were flooded by the melting ice and snow which had accumulated on the mountain.The floods however did no extent of "harm"to the fires and the waters in reaching fifty miles from the base of the mountain still were so scalding hot as to raise great clouds of dense stream. or steam.Fortunately owing to the nature of the district through which the flames passed, there was on this occassion very small loss of life as every body had been warned by the rangers a day or two before the fire came up .

The forest fire horror too was remarkable for the eletric phenomena which the rising heat produced in the atmosphere far of course out of their original course east or west or other directions.The most violent thunderstorm ever on record for hundreds of years with terrific showers of rain and hail, and wind were frequent accompaniments of this progressive disaster everywhere, even over the fire districts, and the very condes condension of the smoke clouds was so sudden and violent that great qun quanities of eletricity were developed though there was no rain.

The Conflagration around Mt Joan was indeed the most furious action of the flames around any mountain ever on record and to a distance of three hundred miles the effects of its heat was astonishing.

At Calverins so far away by this time of the month smoke filled the air above the city so thickly that the sun could not penetrate them.The flames burst forth at first in three distinct great conflag rations and after ascending the forested slops of the mountain and joining with the main wing of fire rushing past the volcano to the

east and west the flames soon united seemingly in the air in a troubled con u confused manner. In a short time the vo, whole mountain and others forested ridges near it appeared like bodies of fire extending the conflagration in every direction and rushing upward. The fire continued to rage with unabated fury un till the s darkness caused by the quanities of black smoke from other section s of the blaze finally obscured them, at about eight P.M. smoke at this time became very thick in the sky as far west as Francis Atlanta. Twenty eight miles west of Mt Joan a violent whirlwind believed to have been caused by the heat ensued, which blew down nearly every house in the villiages and towns carrying the roofs and lighter parts away with it followed by electrical storms and dashing rains over the whole country side far west. In the city of Joan its effects were much more violent, tearing up by the roots the very largest trees, and carrying them in the air together with men horses, cattle and whatelse or whatever else came within its influence. This account for the vast amount of floating half burned trees seen on the bigger rivers later. The whirlwind lasted about two hours. Of all the villiages around the territory of Mt Joan, Joan city though partly destroyed by the windestorm was the onlyone remaining. In other sections no vestige of a villiage was left and a great loss of fire from wind and fire occured. From the most peculiar and particular inquiries and investigations made, there were no fewer than one hundred and twelve thousand inhabitants in the territory at the time the forest fire came to Mt Joan of whom only five or six dared toremain behind. All the rest had fled. Still onward the forest fire went.

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STARTING OUT HOLE HIS ADVENTURES... ..

SEVERE as his burns was , which he recieved when he rescued the great general Aronburg from the ravaging forest fires, which took a series of chapters, to relate his adventures through, it did not, because of his strength take long for him to be on the road of recovery. The general himself was more severely burned than Starring, but all the time since his rescue however he did not relinquish the command of his army either on in camping or marching. Of course Starring being faithful to his friends, Violet, and her sisters,,,,,, did not intend to give up his adventures, especially when for them he had decided to try out his luck in secure the information which they too had been after. While lying in his cot had heard lots recently of the disasters of the past, the predicted progress of the enemy, the so called victories at the battles of Evangeline St Claire and Big Girlknool, and so on.

The news of the floods had bothered him a good deal, and so also the awful forest fires he had heard of, which had been consuming the vast forests since June 1912.

While on his bed he had taken a map given to him by Jack Evans Evans and had traced through the news the r progressive movement of the fire since its start. Of any serious nature, the towns of polores, and ostellio Junction were the first hit in southeastern Calverinia. Second came the destruction of Irlenetown and many other plane places too numerous to mention here, with up to this time over five hundred miles of vast forests burned. Right after the battle at Nelkingburg or Cedernine, the fire a sea of destruction stormed up to Cedernine Creek, passed the city of Nelkingburg, moved on to Collyer and talStanck and destroyed them.

To prevent his army from destruction general Hanson Viviani had been compelled to throw his whole command into the conflict against that seething hell as o it roared across the stream and headed for Big Betty Fees and struck a portion of Meadow Pine Run.

He was worsted in his conflict against the flames but his desperate aggression enabled hi his command to retreat. The fire prevented the victory necessary after the battle as it enabled the enemy under Manley and his commanders to escape from general Vivian.

From here it mood moved for Angelinia Agatnia threatening the town or city twice but changes of wind fortunately made it go elsewhere. In this section Angelinia Agathias and other big towns were devastated. Evangeline St Claire right after the battle was threatened , and Manleys armies and also Vivians near Sound pond now were in danger. This fire also struck Conventinian Concentinian Aronburgs army, in which which fire hurricane Starring saved General Arronburg from being killed.

10,000 men of Aronburgs forces lost their lives in fighting the terrible " Red Plague."

There were many other points through which he was able to trace the r progress of the enormous forest fire, but big as the fire was so far, he was more interested in the results of the other disasters of the past, especially the flood.

He mused on the situation for quite a long time and then was suddenly aroused by a guard entering the room. He stood at attention untill the general sitting up said " Well?"

"General Arronburg is coming sir." he said, and saluting he left.

In a few moments the general entered with his arm still in a sling, but no longer in a wheelchair.

"Read this news in the paper " the general said and he handed walter the news which he glanced over for several minutes in silence.

"Well" said Walter." we have literally a plague of great floods, forest fires, explosions and everything else. it is surely shocking, and it makes me more determined to find out who is really responsible. And I'm going to do it if I have to go the through hell for the purpose."

"But you are not in no condition for such a trip." said general Aronburg. "You know how badly burned you are. Better be careful. You know how Gertrude took care of you. And yet she had to go away now to rejoin the Vivian Girls who are going to make the same attempt them selves. But you beter listen to reason."

"Yes but suppose they do not succeed. It is the most dangerous and difficult mission they too have undertaken and they'll only succeed by a miracle. And you must know also though they don't know it, that this forest fire is touching the region of Imperial Valley and heading for Sound pond and general Manleys army will be hit. If it is then the fire will frustrate their hopes to win. Then the Glendelinian army will have to move off with such haste that they'll never have the a opportunity to be succeed in their purpose. So I must try my best too."

"Well you are the kind who will have your way." said the general looking troubled. "I thought your trail in this experience would have changed your mind. But I see it don't. But I do not like the proposition at all. The enemy is dangerous by now, and I must warn you by now that the enemy know that many are trying to find out all about the causes and the originators of the flood and other disasters, and they are surely either on the lookout or are so quiet that they won't allow any of their conversation escape to even any of their own under officers or any one whatever. Every one suspects general John Manley is at the bottom of this, but

no one can prove it as no one has any evidence. An, one who could really get that information for the Vivian Girls would surely recieve a unusual reward. I therefore hope you God's blessing and good luck. If you do continue on your quest, but nothing can be done without his help you know." The general was then silent for several moments as he pondered over something and then he continued;;;;;;

" I have marched my armies through the wilderness of this war torn world, and though so far I have not been in any unusually sharp battles, I have once lighted on a certain spot, where once in the war I was seriously engaged, and that was the battle of Jennins turner. Ne o Never during my advance , no matter where I forced my armies on did ever dare lay myself down for at least an all nights sleep. Often I've slept on my horse while I roder rode on . Every movement of my armies on the march was a bad dream. I've seen the Abbieann flood though , said nothing about it. My army was near by, and saved a few from floating house tops. The way this war is going on and with me not yet as seriously engaged as I desire, I feel like a man clothed with rags, standing on the street begging. I feel like I had a great burden on my back. But I cannot battle the enemy. He won't fight me. The glandelinian generals who I have persued and tried to good into a battle run off. From all that has occured in Calverinia and elsewhere since this cruel war started I have wept and trembled.

I have written out a sort of book, and wrote therein of what has occured, and have a long list of disasters. Many times I have broken out into a lamentable cry; when my generals questioned me about the I situation. "What shall our Government do in this case. I cannot help it."

In this plight I have continued on the march, refraining myself as long as I could, that none of my staff, or retainers should ever percieve my distress, but I could not be silent long, because my sorrows, excitement and troubles increased, my sisne sense of upending disasters stalked in the open air, wherefore I at length told the situation to all the officers, and I said to general Viviennn. "Your Excellency, I said," Our country it seems from these disasters, to be undone, especially by reason of this burden produced by floods epidemics explosions, and terrific fires, , that this burden lay hard pon upon the nation, and I have also been been informed for certain, that if something is not done sooner or later that this our states of Calvernia and others will be burned up in all her forests, in which fearful overthrow, all our armies shall miserably come to ruin, except the which I see not yet some way of escape can be found by the quick mobolization of the whole nation against wicked Glandelinia...""""AT this my generals and all other officers, were sore amazed, not that they did not believe what said to them might be true ,but because the menance seems so great. Now my dear friend , Wat walter starring, they all think because of the adventure you are continuing on that some frenzy of distemper has got into your head. Of course for me too there were times of great trials, the nights had been as troublesome to me as day during my marches and campaigns, and most of the time instead of spending nity nighttime in sleeping, I in thinking of these fierce disasters have spent the greater parts of the days and nights in sighs and tears. I tell you my boy the situation is growing worse and worse. Ever one of my officers is beginning to be hardened against your intentions. No matter here you faith might be you sure won't succeed. The Vivian girls have been in Manley. camp a long long time and they never made an inch of ground in their quest, and never will. If they can't win you cannot either. Therefore take my advice and give it up. It's too dangerous."

Walter starring however did not intend to give up hopeless as the case is. When the general had left he began to ponder over the situation and condole over Calverinias misery. When recovered sufficiently well he would walk in the Company Streets, reading and sometimes praying, and thus for four days he sep spent his time.

When again he was walking the company streets full, recovered from his injuries. Starring was reading a map of Calverinia, and also greatly distressed in mind, and as he continued to think it over he burst out crying. "What shall I do. Give it up, or continue on. If some one does not succeed how can Calverinia and her sister states be saved from total destruction. I'm sure the enemy has won the war already."

He then looked this way and that way as if he would make up his mind to start, yet he stood still, because he was not well enough to go yet according to his doctor.

Finally another officer was coming tward him, but an officer of inferior rank, but his friend, and after saluting he asked;

"Your Excellency for why do you look so worried. Why cry."?

General Starring answered; "Sir I percieve by this map which tells of the disasters of the past that Calverinia is like a prson condemned to die on a cross, and after that to come to ruin. I'm advised against continuing on my quest, and I find I'm not willing to do it,, nor able to be sure whether I'll succeed. The enemy knows about it that many are trying to investigate those responsible for the flood, and they do all in their power to prevent such news leaking out."

"Then said " said the offi er. "why not willing to give it up. since yout your adventure will be attended with so many evil perils."?

"General starring answered;

"Because fear that this burden that is so heavy upon the Abbieannian Government, to care for the refugees, to remdy the dangers and to investigate floods and fires is like sic sinking some one lower and lower than the graves, and also if I give up my purpose, Abbieannia will be like ne sinking to total ruin. It not entirely victory hit, Glandelinia at least really is on top. and sir if I get not fit to

continue the quest because it seems or is so difficult, I am not fit I'm sure to go back to my commands, or face the Princesses, I'd rather go to judgement, and from thence to a frightful execution, than fail, and the thoughts of these things could make any one cry."

"Then" said the officer "If this be the situation, why remain here remain her , idle?"

General starring answered. "Because I do not wish to go now untill the doctor says I'm well enough to proceed."

General starring then walked away.

The next day he was looking over another parchment roll, on which was written statements and lists of the floods past, what they did and what other floods in the future will do. Another officer standing near starring was looking upon the general waiting for orders, as he was to accompany the general with several others as a body guard. Finally when the general was finished the officer asked;

"When you a start on the adventure, where will we go."

The general pointing with his finger at a dense forest said;

"Do you see yonder woods?"

"The officer said" no".

"Then said the general;

"Do you see yonder hill top pur partly clear of firests?"

The officer said;

"I think I do."

"Well keep your eye on that section, and map it up for to morrow morning we go there directly, so that we shall see a good view of the country. First I wish to go up there to see whether our section is cleared of the forest plague. The fire frustrated my first effort. Up there I'll decide best what shall be done."

So on the following morning they started. They had not gone far from the camp, but soldiers and and officers percieving it began to cry after them begging them to give up the foolish attempt and return. But general Starring thundered back.;

"I'll not let anything make me give up my purpose." so he looked not behind him but continued on tward the forest. Many o soldiers came out to watch them go, and as he went off some, quick their heads, some called them fools, others prayed, and others cried after them to return, and among those who did so there were two that were resolved to fetch them back by entreaties. The name of one of the officers, was Martenson, Janes, and the other Lieutenant Gantorio, both lieutenants, one the first Lieutenant, and the other the Second.

Now by this time Starring and his followers about ten had been gone a good distance from the camp, but however these two officers were resolved to persue them on horseback which they did, and in a very short time they overtook them. Then said general starring;

"Boys why did you come?"

"We wish to persuade you to return, to go back for us. If necessary let us go with others in your place. This is no mission for a general Your Excellency. It's too dangerous."

"That can by no means be" said the general. "We all dwell in a country of Hell in destruction, the State where was born the worse war on record. I see it is to be so, and the country dying sooner or later, will be one in the power of Glandelinia sinking lowa lower than the grave if I do not save her. This country from the forest fires and other disasters puts me in mind of a place burning with fire and brimestone, floods of hot water and eternal darkness, as it had been so dark so long because of the smoke of the forest fires. Be content Lieutenant, and go along with me, but I'll not turn back."

"What" said the lieutenant "Are you still intenthon going on such a dangerous mission?"

"Yes" said general starring "for what we can o accpl accomplish is not worthy for out cause if we do not try to succeed. Our cause is not worthy to be compared with so holy a cause if we do not have brave officers. If you will go along with me and my followers, and hold it, and help me win the quest you will share in the same reward, for what I do, and where I go is enough to make a good history of heris heroism. Come away with us and prove my words. I'll win yet."

"What are the informations that you succeed, since you leave the safty of a strong strong christian army to find them.?"

"I seek to find out who made the floods, who ordered them, who defiled the country by these disasters. It is more difficult than any quest made but those who diligently seek for it will win out. They must or the cause is lost. If Violet, and her I sisters can not succeed I must."

"Tush" said Lieutenant Gantorio. "Away with such foolishness. It is too dangerous. "Will you let us go in your place or not?"

"No not I" said the general "Because I have set my mind upon it. I'll go and succeed or perish."

The other lieutenant then said to his companion;

"Come then, Lieutenant let us turn again, and go back. If he must go he must, but we'll continue to pray and have Masses offered up for him. It seems impossible but it must be done. But I'll bet they'll meet up with a company of those crazyheaded coxcombed Glandelinians, that will take a fancy to put them

out of the way, I did not a more danger is than those I wiser in their own eyes, than seventeen men than can render a reason for going."

Then said the other lieutenant"

"Don't be discouraged, if what the general says is true, the things he looks after, if successful is safe for the nation, my heart inclines to go with thegeneral."

"What more fools still.Be ruled by I wise reason, and go back to camp, who kno s who knows what dangers lurk in these dreadful woods.Maybe a forest fire will come up. Everywhere there is danger.Come back with me and be wise for Heavens sake."

But general Starring said;

"Nay but come with me lieutenant, there are such successes to be had which I spoke of, and if victorious in our quest o many more glories besides, in this world and the next for so holy a cause, If you believe not me, then try and be confirmed."

"Well Lieutenant James" said the other" I begin to come to a point,I intend to go along with the general, and to take the chances and cast in my lot with him ,but your Excellency, do you know where you can secure such information?"

"This map directs me to find one of the Glandelinian armies under Johnston Jaxen Manley, and we can find instructions by the way."

"Well then general I'll go with you."

Then they went on.The other lieutenant shaking his head sadly said o nk himself.

"I might as well go along too for I won't forsake a general under any conditions."

Now Starring and these two lieutenants went talking on, and they began their discourse thus;

"Well Lieutenant James now that you are persuaded to go with me, how do you fare on the news.Had even general Arronburg himself but felt what I have felt of the powers and terrors of strong Glandelinia, and of what is yet unknown concerning what may happen to our cause, he would not thus lightly have given me the wrong advice. Glandelinia is,Pple Glandelinia IS winning the war for sure.Any one can PROVE it."

"Come, come general, since there is none but us twenty officers here, tell me further now what the things are, and how the country and its cause is going to ruin and whether we are going to avert the coming disaster."

"Well" said general Starring, I can better concieve of them with my own mind than speak of them, but yet since you are desirous to know, I will let you read some of the news when we secure a paper somewhere."

"And do you think such news as that of the enemy being already on top, and winning the war are certainly true.?

"Yes verily, for it was given out in news by many war correspondents and generals of other armies that cannot make a mistake."

"Well said.What things are they?"

"There is an endless horror caused by the enemy already still going on, and Vivian Pickey cannot be captured, Manley is still confronting General Vivian at the vinicity of Evangeline St Clare, the Nationals could not drive the enemy, from the territory of pig Girl knool, and des pite the difficulties that have been produced by the big flood, general Izner Heidi Myletze with an army of 345,000,000 men and hundreds of thousands of artillery, added with nearly 45,000,000 cavurly is heading for Dorothy gale and Angelinia Agathia to strike us a vital blow."

"Well said.And what else sir.?"

"Myletze will fight like a fury for there is a crown of glory and heroism to be given him if he wins, and he will not allow himself to be defeated.Of all Glandelinia generals no christian general can beat him.None ever did yet."

"This is very discouraging.And what else sir?"

"Angelinia Agathia though saved from forest fires by flood, is not safe from the enemy, there is crying and sorrow everywhere, and Calverinia is down and out."

"And what company shall the victorious Glandelinia Myletze have in Angelinia Agathia if he captures her."?

"There he shall be in possession of Emperor Vivians Palace if it survived the flood, rumors are that the very seraphims and cherubims, creatures that will dazzle your eyes to meet or look on them fear Myletze.There are tens of thousands of the Gemini who have gone beyond that place, to view Myletzes advance.None of them are doubtful but fear sure Myletze will carry the place as the floods rendered its mobell zation camps almost useless, half the army is elsewhere that should at defend both places, every one in that vinicity is fearful of more greater disaster,.In a word we shall I fear see Angelinia Agathia in possession of the Glandelinian hordes, there we shall see horror upon horror, we shall see men women and children cut in pieces, burned in flames, eaten of beasts, drowned in the still remaining floods, because they are of the christian side.Oh we'll get it hot. I KNOW it."

"The hearing of this is enough to make me feel discouraged to break ones heart.But are these things really true and not exaggerated.Cannot be possible with our cause so righteous a matter.How shall owe get proofs that this is a fact.Our cause almost as great as the cause of Our one True Church in this coul country, should be be prevailed against.I cannot believe it."

"Why all the newspapers of the country recorded everything that is going on, the truthful substance of which if we truf truthfully be willing to believe it, will wake us up, and have means to prevent the disaster before it is too late. A country in a righteous cause loses freely at the beggining you know, though no one knows how the worm will turn.By being careful we can in the long run change

these conditions.Therefore my quest must and shall be a success.If I fail, or violet and her sisters fail, then all will really be lost."

"Well sire said the lieutenant, glad am to have had the chances to hear of these things before it is too late.Come on let us mend our pace."

Now just as they had ended this talk, they drew near to a very miry piece of ground that was near a stream close to the forest, and not hardly seeing it in the dim twilight they suddenly stepped into the dangerous bog.Here therefore they struggled for a time, being gravionsly covered with the mud dirt, and they began to sink in the mire.

"Ah general" said the Lieutenant."Where are we now.!"

"Truely" said general Starring "we are in a bog."

"Is this some of the tricks of the enemy you told me about" said the lieutenant angrily."If we have such ill speed at our first setting out, what may we expect between now and our journe s end.I tell you sir, we must keep our eyes open.This is a starter you know.If I can get out with my life.I'll help you out."And with that he gave a desperate struggle, and got out of the mire.For a moment the general was left to tumble in the slough alone, but at the advice of the lieutenant he still endeavored to struggle to the proper side, so he and some of the officers could reach him, the which he did, but he had gone so far that for a time they could not draw him out.But some of the others then came up on the run, and asked the lieutenant how he and the general had been mired."

"Sir" said the lieutenant we did not see it in this darkness."

"But why did you not look for the road."

"We were so deep in an interesting conversation, that we did not watch where we were going and fell in."

"Will help you get him out.Here your Excellency grab hard hold of this branch."

"The general did so, and finally they drew him out, and they retreaced their steps to sound ground, and the few least big affected by the accident continued on their way.

Then despite the adventure the conversation started anew.The other lieutenant said;

"Sir wherefore since Calverinia is a heart of Abbieannia is it that means should not be made to prevent all this, that all sections of rivers should be mended and guarded that the poor inhabatantants could be more secure from the destruction of tai their homes?"

"The situations cannot be mended, said the general."This si such a situation as cannot be mended witnout the necessary means, it is the purpose of the enemy to see to it our plans cannot be carried out on that line, and therefore the floods and other war horrors have co ntn continued.For still as even our overnment is awakened about Calverinia's said condition, there arises in the souls of all of our Government Officials, many fears and do doubts, and discouraging apprehensions, which all of them get together, and settle in one place, and this is the reason no attempt to prevent the disasters can be made.It is like trying trying to fill in the slough of Despond we read of in the Pilgrims Progress.It is not the pleasure of even our main Imperial Government in Abbieannia that this situation throughout Calverinia should remain so bad, all officials, have sent many laborers by the direction of his majestys surveyors been for these last tw l twelve months of awful war c war disasters employed by all means known to try and prevent these awful scenes by even tricks on the enemy, if perhaps the situation might be mended, yes and to my knowelage, and of general Vivian and others, the enemy have as to say frustrated thousands of millions of cartloads of instructions, plans, and so on that have at all seasons been brought and made out from all places of the Emperors dominions(and they can say they are the best plans to make good the ending of this awful war situation of disasters--if so these awful conditions might be mended--but the disasters have continued on still, and so will be keeping on, despite that all have done what they can.You k o Know the situation of our forests.True there are or had been by the direction of the Emperor some strong bodies of tropps troops placed on some leeves, even through the very midst of the heart of the war zone, but at such times as the levees do spew out filth, these guards are hardly suffucient, they can be of so purpose, notwithstanding the efforts made to keep them there, but they ha can hold their own when the ground is good.

Even because he stood for all of this, some called Emperor Vivian a wise man for now compalining, and some called him a free fool for hazarding all this for a cause he was not sure of winning, others did mock at the results of the disasters, saying surely since he begin to venture into the war, I would not have been so base to given out for a few disasters.And every one throughout the nation derided the Glandelinians all over."

Now just before they had entered the woods, they espied some one afar off coming through an open clearing in the woods to meet them, and their hap was to meet just as they were crossing the way of each other.The man were the uniform of a glandelinian soldier but he was not walking like such a man.This man, then meeting with general Starring and having some inding of him and his followers) followers, for the general setting off from general Arrontorgs array for a certain purpose was noised much abroad, not only in all the christian territory, but also there was danger of it lurking through evil sources.It was general jaw Evans in disguise returning from a scouting tour.He was alone and he knew of gulters intention.

ze knew that no one could keep him from his purpose deep is warning after warning. he halted an halter zere up and said;

"how now general starring, whether away after your adventure of the forest fire?"

"a starring adventure indeed as ever I think my christian general had. and whereu you ask me to where I'm going. I tell you sir, I am going on my quest of which you are well aware of, for in this as I know well, I shall obtain something in the way of news that shall put Calverinia and her sister states in a way to be rid of her burden of disaster horrors, and a chance of a throwing out of the enemy."

"has there a confidence in ze mission. General Arronburg, meem tell you meem ver dangerous. mayee never success."

"Yes I know it is dangerous sir, but you know Calverinia is so laden with this burden, that the Governments cannot take the means to succor all those who are needing, and I think if some one does not find out who is really responsible all this cannot be stopped, and even the war will be lost. The Vivian girls sent me, and it is my duty to perform the mission even at the risk of my life if need be."

"Well" said general Evans, "will youse hearken to me. If I give ze , ze good council?"

"If it be good, I will, for I knowing our country stand in need of help, and good council will help me perform my duty."

"I would advise ze then that you go home now do your duty as I see I am fit to help the country to get rid of ze burden with ze all next, for the Government will never be settled in ze mind, till zen, nor can we all enjoy the benefits of the blessing of ze holy Peace for ze country, which we wish God bestow upon us?"

"That is what I seek to do." said Walter Starring, for something meant to come, which seems impossible to be done to aid the government ease the burden of the war torn states, but with all communications cut off by fires, floods and other disasters over the powerful American government cannot do it, nor is there any man in the country that can aid our government to take them a burden of horror off antiquating shoulders. Therefore I am going this way to resume my quest as I have told you before I and general Arronburg were injured in the fire, that I may find out who are responsible for the horror."

"Who did you go this way in the start of your adventure?"

"No one. I planned it myself."

"Well Walter set ver fooling council ye have yourselffe. There are not a more dangerous and troublesome way in ze world than see zat into which you have planned to go; as which ze seel find if ze go on taking ze own council. you ask me why. Well I wool say foist. Thou most meet with some things as I make him ze perceive already, for I see meem ze dirt of some tog see upon youse, but ze tog ze run into see a ze tegging of ze trouble that do attend those that go zat way. Of course we all like ze exciting adventur, but not ze adventur with ze fatal result. hear me, I am older than thou, I am more experienced with ze country, and ze enemy, have been in ze peril mine self, thou art like to meet weeth in ze way, weariness not good for your undertake, faintness, embarrass, hunger, unnecessaries of ze perils, nakedness, dangerous togs, forest fires, and in a word untimely death, and never accomplish your mission. These things are certainly true having been confirmed by many testimonies. To risk perils unnecessarily see a sin, mortal probable if ze adventure bringe ze death. and why should a general like you throw or cast hi loomself away so careless by giving heed to your own council, when ze know nothing about ze country. Why man, tware that mill you intend to go see wan teeg forest fire, ze nee hellfire approaching like ze crazy tidal wave I saw meem for I went ze way to scout, and behold when I got nard by ze beeg hill top, that I looking tward ze southwest was ze soll sound, afraid to go further, lest the cloud I observed seem to be something solid and to fall on my head. Wherefore I stood still and beheld ze biggest or ze worst fire I have ever seen it. Meem was extend as far as ze eye can seen it, and zar also came flashes of ze fire from zom ouder hill top, making ze scene resemble ze beed mountain spitting volcanic clouds and ze arm and ze molten lava lava. I am ze brave man myselffe, but I for a moment at ze scene got scared, I did sweat and did quake with ze beeg fear, and I fa. fell on my knees and prayed like I have prayed to God and Hees Blessed Mother in all my life.. If ze go zat way you'll meet with ze fire. Let ees coming like ze beeg hurricane. and on ze adventure no matter where ze go do not forget to always, always ALWAYS PRAY"

"I know sir, and this burden of the States over the condition of Calverinia is more terrible to Abbieannia than are all these things of which you mentioned nay I do not care what I meet with in the way if I can also succeed in my mission and stop these dreadful disasters made by the wicked Glandelinians,."

"How come eet you heard of all the news of ze disasters in heem ze foist place?"

"By reading all newspapers. And Violet and her sisyers sisters told me."

"I thought so." said Evans Evans. nd And it has happened that many others have attempted to go on such adventures, but it seems like meddling i wiz things too high for them, and they run all chances of different peril, regular desperate ventures to obtain they knew not what, and never succeed in their efforts.."

"Well' said Walter"I know what I would strive to obtain. And that is the knowledge of those who have caused the disaster."

"But why will youse seek for information ziz way, seeing so many dangers attend it when you could commission ze others to go on ze same errand? Especially snce since, had youse but patience to hear me, I could direct youse to a means of obtaining what youse desire without so much dangers, that youse will in ziz way run into if you are not careful. You and the remendy is at hand. Besides I will add that instead of those dangers, youse will meet with more success."

" Pray sir I pray open this secret to me."

"Why near yonder villiage (The villiage of Seltorm) there dwells in his headquarters general Francis Vivianna, a very great christian officer, and a man of a very good name, that has skill to help men and spies off on such adventures as thine are, Yea to my knowledge, he has done a great deal of good this way, a ay besides he has skill to do all he can to aid y those on a quest to success. His army is not far off as he is approaching to join general Arronburg. To him you should go, and be advised and helped presently. His army and the town is not quite a half mile from this woods but to the east, and if he should not be in his headquarters himself, he has any one of his staff who can same summon him, they will do it. There I say that youse may be eased off too much peril. "

Now was Starring put somewhat at a stand, but presently he concluded "If this be true which general Evans has said my wisest course is to take his advice, and with that he said to Evans;;

"Sir which is the quickest way to general Vivianias house?"

"Do you see yonder low hill clear of woods?"

"Walter answered" Yes very well."

"Well" said Evans" Tward that hill you must go, and you'll come in sight of the army. The first house you come to in the outskirts of the town is his own headquarters. Here I,ll give you a pass written in my own handwritting y so that you will be admitted without trouble.". "....."

So Walter turned out of his way but he was about half an hour of walking with his companions through briar and brush before he came within sight of the distant camp. He was admitted when he showed the guard the passess pass, and soon he was in the generals headquarters. The orderly after saluting bid him wait untill he summoned the general.....

Finally he saw the general coming to meet him. After a salute between the two Walter told of his mission and why his mission, and as he spoke the general appeared to have a severe and dreadful countenance.

"Well sir why do you wish to continue on such a quest?" said he. At which words general Starring knew not what to answer, and for a moment he stood speechless. Then said general Viviania;

"Art thoug the general that the Vivian Girls commissioned to go on this mission, and who saved general Arronburg from the forest fire at the risk of being burned to death?"

"Yes your Excellency I am the man."

"Did they not direct you a way to general Johnston Jacken Munleys army?"

"Yes your excellency."

"How is it then, that you are so quickly turned out of your way. For you are far from your destination."?

"The forest fires persued me for a hundred miles and I found temporary shelter in general Arronburgs army before it too was st struck. Many of th his officers persuaded me that I might find you who could direct me an easier way."

"Who was he?"

"General Jack Evans. He got me to yeild at last, so I came hither ."

"What said that general to you?"

"Why he asked me where I was going, and I told him."

"And what did he say to you then."?

He asked me if I knew of my danger, and I told him. And I told him how the situation in this story because of the war stands."

"And what said he then to you."

"He told me he would show me a better way, and short not so attended with difficulties as the way sir that I started myself in, which way he said would direct me to you for proper information and advice. So I believed him, and turned out of my way into this. I came to you because I know not wa what to do. He warned me that he fears I'm in some danger at every step."

"Then " said general Viviania. "Remain seated for a while untill I ponder it over."

General Starring seated himself as directed. Then said general Viviania;

"See then that you do as I say. Do you refuse anything offered for your success now. If you allow the slightest opportunity to ca escape you all will be lost. The main thing is during your adventure do not lose faith in prayer and in God, for if you draw back or lose courage, you'll surely fail. Thou art the man who is running into this great and lengthy adventure, therefore do not lose faith in your prayers to the most High , for you can help the Abbieannian cause crush the foe, who has rejected the council of the blessed Lord even to the hazarding of the perdition of the whole nation. some day it will be woe to Glandelinian,. for she is under ..."

As general Starring still stood at attention, general Viviania continued...

"All manner of floods and horrors have been committed by the enemy, all manner of worded and blasphemies have been said and committed, and terrible deeds have been done to children in massacres that no one is alowed to picture. Your mission which Violet, and her sisters have sent you on is a hard task indeed, but if you continue not to be faithless in God help and believe you will certainly succeed. But you cannot do it alone. Give more earnest heed to the things I shall tell you. I will show you who it was that advised you to come and interview me and whom it was also to whom he sent thee. The general that met thee is one great

master of Abbieannian and christian armies, the great and hon-rable guardian of the ,ivian girls, and rightly he is so called, and who i' was also to whom he sent these f.r my advice...He savoured only the success of ar holy cause for the sake of seeing the child slave horror stopped, therefore he is feared by the enemy no matter where he is seen to go, and partly because through him they cannot get at ,iolet and her sisters as they would like to, for he has and can save them through all perils, and because he is of such abullity that he will seek to pervert all the attempts of the ,landelinians to capa capture them.Now there are three things in this generals council thou must utterly obey, take heed of;

I "Do th not head for that forested ridge he spoke of and warned you against.It's nearS ound end and a fire hurricane is sweeping on for it.When he met you he turned thee out of the way on time, nay in the nick of time.

2.His laboring to render the adventure more safer for thr thee, so it will be a success.....

3. And his setting they feet in that way that lead to the right source and away from too much fire plagues of the forest."

First thou must take his advice, when he turned thee out of the way of the great forest fire on toime, and you must consent to it too, because if you reject his council, then you might as well also reject the council of God for the sake of a Cowardly action. From my own camps is the right road.To this pint he had turned thee, to bring to thee better council.Therefore do not reject his turning you at of out of the way of the forest fires, for we all abhor unecessary perils.Yet be careful gh what you do for they say it is as hard to enter johnston ,anleys lines as a sinful soul striving to enter at the straight gate, the gate that leadeth unto life overlasting.Thou must also abhor the meeting of any strangers whom you do not know or you cannot trust.Besides he that will go on an adventure and throw away his life ruthlessly shall be a suicide.I say therefore be on your guard and avoid all total strangers.Thirdly you must not fail to continue on the way he advised rhee thee, and for this thou must consider to whom he sent thee when he sent thee to me, and how your success in finding at the clues you are after, in case ,iolet, and her sisters do not succeed themselves will have means to take the heaven burden from the shoulders of ourA bbieannian Government.

He who sent you to me for better direction and adc advice, is one of the best generals of our side serving upon or under ,mperor ,ivian.Calerinia is like a person in bondage with her children, and is in a mystery the most war devastated country ever recorded since the world came into being or existance...Now if she is so badly devastated by floods, forest fire,s and what not, and partly in possession of the enemy and all railroad and other communications cut off how can you expect the Abbieannian ,overnment to do anything what should be done be when flood and forest fire prevents all means of rescue and relief.No one has been able to restore Calverinia to her normal condition.No country was ever put into such a situation as this one, nor even is like to be.You cannot be merely justified by accomplishing your mission, for by that deed alone Calverinia cannot not succored, Abbieannia cannot be relieved of her burden which calverinia had placed upon her shoulders by means of the disaster.Therefore general gvans who knows all this is your adviser , and by his advice and mine you will be able to work wonders for the nation, and cause Glandelinia to meet a great downfall yet.

Otherwise believe me there is nothing in all this noise that thou has heard of all efforts being made to stop these disasters, but a design to beguile the Calverinia country of her safty in this war by bringing on so many disasters.Q"

After this gneral C Viviania pointed tward the hill tward which Sturring had meant to go, and the hill on one whole side looked as if it had turned into some titanic volcanic eruption.For a moment this new scene almost made his hair stand up on end.Then said the general again;

"As it seems Calverinia and her sister states for no reason at all seem to be under a curse, whether it be of some heavenly visitation or not.But ,landelinia is the curse."

"For a moment Walter Starring felt discouraged, he felt or looked for nothing but death for the state of Calverinia, and began to cry out lamentably to God to saved the country and its people from the horrors of these war disasters, even cursing the time in which he had witnessed one of the disasters himself, and calling the government officials of the state a thou and fools for not being on the watch and from carelessness allowing these disasters to occur..He also was or felt greatly ashamed to think that spies used so frequently by so many christian generals, and the government of the various states could not have discovered the making of these dangerous mines that produced the disasters, and that through such carelessness the Government of Calverinia should have the almost prevalency as to allow these these things to go on unhindered.After musing for a while he again said to general Viviania;

"Sir what think youIs there hopes? Will there come a time when this will be all over and ,landelinia driven out of Calverinia.Or does it seem she is abandoned like a child runawayslave.Is she in condition like some fool whose sin is not repentant and not therefore forgiven.?"

The general was silent for a moment then he said;

"The danger to Calverinia and her states is very great, for because of the enemy she is ravaged by four kinds of disasters three of which as are the greatest floods, fire and explosion, yet you or the Vivian Girls alone can do something to

bring redress.But before you leave here go ad and speak to general Hansonia about your purpose and he will give you a few pointers on how to start on your way softly.Take heed however that thou do not turn to the wrong course, lest thou run into the path of the forest fire and perish.That is a greater foe than flood or the enemy."

And he directed him to general Hansonia, and after he had kissed Walter ,tarring, he gave him a good smile-the while and big him God speed. So being in a hr hurry he went on with some s haste, neither did he speak to any soldier or officer by the way, and when any one asked him a question he refused to answer.He seemed to go ahead like one who seemed to be treading on some kind of forbidden ground, and could not under any conditions believe himself safe, till he was before general Hansonias headquarters.He showed the guard his passe, and he was admitted and told to wait and the general would be summoned.

At last there came a tall grave person in a pirncely uniform to the reception room, who asked, who he was, whence he came and what he desired at so untimely a hour.

"Walter answered;

"I'm general Walter Starring.I am on a mission for the Vivian Girl Princesses.I have come from general concentinian Arronburgs army, but am going to find my way to general Johnston(Jackass) Manleys lines that may find there is there can be clues as to what caused the disasters, while ,iolet, and her sisters are trying their luck in general ,ohn Manleys armies.I Would therefore sir since am informed that you can direct me a safer way around the fire plagues, know whether you are able to do it for me.#.0. 4/4_"

"Ihm willing with all my heart." said the general.And with that he opened a little side door, and as general starring was stepping in, the other puled him in quickly. Starring asked;

"Why did you pull me in so quickly like that."

"The general answered"Not far from this headquarters there have been many strangers call on me of whom I do not like the looks of and do not want them to spot you. They might shadow you." Then when they were secretly together, and the general had.... drawn the shades and lighred the candle, he asked him who directed him thither.

"General Evans directed me to go to gneral general Viviania and the latter bid me come to you, as did, and he said that you sir, would tell me what I must do."

"As long as you are well known by all of us Christian officers and soldiers, we will always have an open door before theeeee thee, and no one not known to us can be allowed in here with us untill our meeting is over."

"Now I will begin to reap the benefits of my coming hazards. Hope our Blessed Lord helps me to bring it to a good success."""""""

"But said general Hansonia"How is it you came alone?"

"I have an escort but I did ot permit them to come with me in here."

"I see.And how is it thatbyour purpose have been recently so strongly advised against?"

"Because none of my followers saw the danger to the country as I saw it.Evans fears for the nation, he did not advise against me in my purpose but delayed for for fear of peril too much in the Mic-Hollester Woods which I have left."

"Did any one of them know of your coming here besides your escort."???????

"Yes all of general Arronburgs army knows of it, and at first many of their officers called after me t r to turn back against, but I listened not and came my way.The Vivian Girls sent me and my mission must be accomplished."

"But surely did none of them follow you, to ask you to go back?"

"Yes, two lieutenants, and then they too changed their minds and accompanied me."

"But why did they not come through?"

"They did come through.We came up to a bog of some kind in the dark and we were caught .One of the lieutenants got out, the other too, and both being unable to pull me oug out got help. I wanwanted colonel Hando to accompany me also but he did not desire to come, saying it is more dangerous an adventure than going through a battle."

"Well "that is strange" said General ,ansonia"Alas poor foolish colonel.Is our countrys cause so small esteem with him that he counted o it not worth runing the hazard of a few difficulties to aid it in crushin g so vile anenemy as Glandelinia?"

"Truly" said walter, "I have said the truth about my adventure, and I have a good word to say for general Jack Evans. I in the nick of time turned out of a path I was heading through being persauded by the arguments of General Evans himseld."

"Oh did he light pon you again.What he would have had you sought for safty at thebest time.Evans and concentinian Arronburg are both of them the best men to advise for the right thig thing that they can see be done.But did you hesitate to take his council?"

"Yes.I thought that big ridge tward which had gone as far he I durst untill he stopped me was a good observation point.It was sir as he was up there himself, and believe.me sir as he told me a big firecwas raging south of it, and moving through the Imperial valley tward Sound ,end.Therefore as the hil is in its path and it it is thickly forested with turpentine trees I was forced to stop ad and seek your advice."

"That forest fire is and has been the death of many already, and will be the death of many more, tis well you heeded his advice for know the ridge you mention and a good part of it is alreat ablaze.If you had not heeded his advice, you would have been caught in the path of it, and you know f how fast it moves up a slope.".".....

"Why truely" said Walter I surely do not know what would have become of me if I had went there, or if general Jack Evans had not happily met me again as I was musing in the midst of my thoughts, but nevertheless it was Gods mercy God's mercy that he came to me again, for else I would ot have lived to come here.But now I a come, after after such an experience I did have in the past still more fit for a bed than for anadventure, or than to hue stand stand stand talking with talking with a general.But oh indeed what a favor this indeed is for me, that yet I'm still still livingto gain admittance here."

"We make no objections to any one well known to us, noth notwithstanding who they are, as long as they are not glandelinian spies in disguise, and there fore my good sir, come a little way with me and I will teach thr thee about the correct way you should go.Look before thee, do you see yonler narrow road.? that is the way you should go.It will lead you a good distance off from the path of the forest fire."

"But" said Walter"Is there no chance of the forest fire changing its course as they are likely to do, and are no turnings or indings which by a stranger may lose his way in time of peril?"

"Yes " said the general general, but there are many ways, and they are crooked and wide but you must follow what you think is the safest."

Then Walter asked him further, if he could not have means for good and proper o communications that would be necessary to transport in case he did find out m something important, for as yet there was no means of communications thereof nor could he by any means get any such communications without help."

"Well said the general"As to that it cannot be done, its your burden to bring back the information yourself its safer, and you'll have to bear the burden of that work, untill thou comest to the lines of general Viviens, or to Violet, and her sisters, for they a alone should recieve the information you are seeking for them.But before you will leave leave here I will show you something that should be of some profit for you in your adventure."

so he gave a command to his orderly to light another candle, and when the orderlie brought one the general bid Walter Starring to follow him, which he did it.He led Starring into another private private room, and big the orderly open another door door.When he had done this, the others drew back a curtain and Walter saw a large map of Calverinia and in the center of it the country almost had the formation of a cross with some one on it crucified.The map had a very grave appearance, this being the fashion of it, it was bordered by pictures of women and children who had pleading eyes lifted up to heaven up to heaven, other scenes were of great fires and floods and volcanic blasts of explosions, the world was looking on h in abject horror, it seemed as if everything on the map pleaded with or to Heaven and God, and on the top of the map was a crucifix with our Lord crowned with thr thorns hanging thereon."

Walter was astounded at this and he asked after pondering on it for several minutes;;;

"What is the meaning of this kind of map?"

"It is a scene of what a grand and glorious state like Calverinia had went through through for the sake of the cause since the war began.Every scene on this map map shows the horrors of the disasterous war, and where you see women and children with eyes lifted up to heaven, the floods raging everywhere, and the forest fires in view, it is to show you that this is whatGlandelinia had done for some vile purpose, even as also though sees the women and children plead for succor from heaven, and whereas you see the world looking on in horror, and that a scene of our Lord Crucified is above it, that is what in causing the horrors Glandelinia is signified as doing the same to God once over again.Now I have showed thee this map first to inspire you in your duty to your country the princesses and your home, therefore do not yeild to any impulse to back out.And also the cruficied One you see on the map is the one who is to t be your guide in all difficult and dangerous places you may meet with in the adventure especially, dangers from forest fires, wherefore take good heed to what I have showed you, and bear well in thy mind, what you have seen here,,, lest in thy journey thou meet with some secret and disguised enemy who know your purpose, and pretend to lee load thee right, but their way goes down to capture and brings your death as a spy."""""Then he tok took general Starring by the hand, and led him into a very larelarge room which was full of plans and maps, which had never been used, the which after the general had had reviewed hd called je he called for his orderly to place in order.Now as he began to work a cloud of smoke entered an open window that both the generals and the orderly had almost been chocked.The window was immediately closed. Walter finally asked;

"But are all these plans and maps for."

"General Hansonia answered;

"These recently in a generalbig haul were captured from various glandelinian camps, towns in possession of them, and so forth by spies and th e Gemini, and most of them proved that of all nations Glandelinia is the most defiled.He who brought the first of the strange maps is general Bargar the famous Geminilead Gemini leader, but the others that brought the rest were spies and some of his members.I have hoked them all over believing they too would contain some clues clues as to the origin of the disasters, but not so .Now whereas though see

that so soon as the first began his sweep of the raids, the glandelinians in persuit did so fly and rush in all parts over the country that for a long time the countryside of them could not be cleared, that even the whole land was almost chocked by secret persuers and trailers and what not, this is to show thee in one way what dangers you face in your adventure at this time, instead of ma making it softly, for the enemy do revive, put strength into and increase the number of searchers, even as they forbid all strangers to leave in their own camps.Later on I'm going to burn all these before they are recovered by the enemy." Then the general again brought him to another room, where in one small bed were two children a boy and girl.They were asleep but looked as if they had been injured by something.Then Walter asked;

"What has happened to these children?"

The general answered;

"They were among refugees who fled before the forest fires last week.The one who rescued them wished me to have them stay till they recovered, for their parents are in the lines.This is to show that because of the fires what ever a forest fire does even to little children the enemy are fully responsible for."

Then a Red Cross came in with some medicine, and awakening the boy had him take it at which he mounted and then lay as if exhausted on the bed.Then Walter being being moved with pity said;

"Expound their condition more fuller to me."

"So the general said;

"These two little children are two little forigners who have resided in the town of Seltorn with their parents, an Abbisinnian father and a English mother. Theyall had a wild run before the conflagration but the children fared less luckil, luckily than their parents.For as here you see the condition of these two children, many things like this have happened all this year to others, they have gone through the first of their own experience now, it is evident the way things look they'll not escape this coming year either, for the situation for Calverinia is not good.But as you see they have been badly burned, so it has happened with many women and children in the path of these forest fires."

"Now I see what the Glandelinians do with their fires."said Walter."First their fires burns the people out of house and home and then threatens many with death.Yet I'm sure in the near future Glandelinia will not have much reason to laugh at us, because she has Calverinia overwhelmed with disaster, as some day we will have our turn to laugh at Glandelinia because she trys to best us with disaster , for first must give place to last, because Calverinia must have her own time to come to give back to Glandelinia her own share.Therefore it is said that the " worm always has a turning".

"Yes it might come true.Any one getting last generally gives place to the best for there is nothing else to succeed, he therefore that had torn a land with horrors of disasters must needs have the time come to h share its own misery in return.Therefore now Calverinia recieves the worst things, but soon she will be comforted, and Glandelinia will be tormented."

"Then" said Walter. I percieve it is not best for me to fail in my mission, but succeed under all difficulties."

"You say the truth" said General Hansonia"For the things you need to accomplish are important, but the things you would not accomplish are disasterous.But let us hope this will not be so yet, since these disasters are so havoc making, and again because so much of our cities and towns are laid under water, and such vast territories of the country are laid waste by forest fires, therefore it is the best to continue on till you succeed one way or the other."

Then the general showed him a picture of a forest fire hanging on the wall, and of a large force of men making a desperate fight against it to turn it either aside, or overcome it, yet in a second picture it showed them retreat ing with the fire striking across the breach they had made.

"This strikes me as a forest fire beyond control." said Starring."

"Yes that is so." answere general Hansonia."This forest fire appears in explanation as the work of grace that is wrought in the heart, because like grace the fire grows and grows and burns hotter and hotter and fiercer and fiercer , that not even the devil and all his angels can put it at out.All the conditions of the forests do what can be to maintain the fire, just like the work of grace is maintained in the soul.A forest fire once getting far advanced gets beyond all control.This is true with those now raging.All attempts have been made by all, cities are sending out the men not in the army to help the rangers in their battle against it against it, all attempts have been made to extinguish them, or turn them aside, but the nature of the forests maintains the fire already sweeping vast territories of the country by the means of which notwithstanding all the fire fighters can do, the fire rages on more terrific still."

General Starring was greatly delighted by the pictures of the forest fire, and he examined the formations of the numerous men pictured there striving to repulse the advance of the fire.Elsewhere were many men in asbesto suits fighting small brush fires.Now was Walter somewhat amazed, as he looked at the other people where it showed the forest fire fighters starting back as the fire crossed the breach, while others still were hacking swaing and sawing and cutting down trees furiously.Then after these had cut their way through, and

with the fire raging; on it showed also that they could not do anything to breach it here either. Later starring found himself face to face with a man sitting on a chair. The man appeared to be very sad, sitting with his eyes looking down to the ground his hands folded together, and he sighed as if he was heart broken. Then Walter wondered ;"What has happened to this man, and he then said;"Who are you?"

"The man answered"I was a fugitive from enemy fire, and flood."

"How came you here?"

"I was took in. I was once a fair and flourishing home owner, a had a beautiful wife and children loving in mine eyes and the eyes of others, fair for heaven too, and I had joy in the fact that I had such a brautiful home."

"Well then why are you here now."?

"Be cause I am nothing that I was once before ".

"What was you before?"

"I was a happy man."

"What was your trade."?

"I was a flourishing Layer, and now I am a man of despair, of sorrow, and feel like a prisoner who is shut up in an iron cage. I cannot get over this, I cannot. I'll, oh I'll go crazy."

"But " asked Walter, how came you in this sad condition."

"The Glandelinians did it. I lost my home in the flood and my wife and children have perished. Oh good God, the Glandelinians have laid the reins pon the lock of their lust, they have committed terrible murders, they have sinned greviously against the light of the word and goodest goodness of God, they have grieved the spirit, they have massacred hundreds of thousands of little innocent children , they have insulted God and His Blessed Mother and they have c gone from them, they have tempted the fe devil and he is come to them, they have provk provoked God to terrible anger, and He has left them to a terrible fate, they have hardened their hearts so that they cannot repent, and I will be an avenger. I have asked permission to join the army and am waiting to get my admission papers. Oh 1811 I'll plump the Glandelinians full of lead. Oh I'll be avenged."

"Then said Walter to General Hansonia;

"But is there no such a thing as hope for Calverinia. Many men are a case like this, even women."

"Ask him" said general Hansonia."

"Then " declared Walter"Is there no hope for your war devastated state, but that her population may be kept in an iron cage of horrible disasters and be depaired unless something can be done to stop the enemy and know the reason why the disasters were made and who did them?"

"No none at all. We are whipped."

"Yes but do not you have faith in our Blessed Lord. Our Blessed Lord is very pitiful and he will do all he He can for your cause. Of course we all know the nature of Glandelinia for all time. She has cri crucified our Blessed Lord to her self afresh, has despised His Person, his His righteousness, and have spilled anew h His blood over the country, have lone despite to the Spirit of His Holiness in r profaning his holies, have shut themselves out of all His promishes,, and surely though Glandelinia seems successful there remains for her now nothing but threatenings, dreadful threatenings, fearful threatenings, of certainly ertain judgement, and fiery indignation which will enable our cause in the long run to devour Glandelinia as a she devil."

"But how did the flood bring you in this condition?"

"Why my wife and children perished, for the lusts, and wickedness of the Glandelinians when they made the deluge. All the memories of what these disasters bite me and know me like a butning worm."

"But cannot you not go back and investigate and find out if your loss if reported is really true?"

"It is true it is confirmed. I was at their burial after their bodies had been recovered. No words of any me has given me encouragement, nor can all the men in the world let me out of my misery. Oh eternity, eternity, how shall I grapple with the misery that these hated Glandelinians have brought pon me upon me. How I'll rail them when I face them all in eternity. I'll be a witness before God and all his His angels."

"Then said general Hansonia;

"Let this poor mans misery be remembered by thee, and be an everlasting caution to thee. This ought to goad you in more determination for your quest."

"Yes but this is fearful" said Walter. "God and His Blessed Mother help me to p be successful in my adventure, and that I too shall give Glandelinia all she deserves for making so many like this man a life of such misery. Sir is it not time for me to go on my way now. It must be getting late."?

"There is one thing more I like to show you, then you may go."

This time he led the general into a room where an officer was writing on a piece of paper. General Hansonia said;

"Sir tell this man your surprising experience in your race from a terrific forest fire."

"With pleasure. sit down general and 1811 give you a good lengthy detail. I went out on a scouting tour four weeks ago for the purpose of learning why the enemy were moving their camp so suddenly to another quarter. As I had gone a good distance, behold the heavens grew exceedingly dark, black, also somewhere

I fancied I saw lighting flaces flashes and heard thundering somewhere in a perfect salvoes, in a most fearful noise, that it with a strange heat, and a scrily touring wind put me into an agony. I looked up at the sky and saw an awful sea ofcloud rack at an unusual rate, while far off I heard strange murmuring and other sounds, attended with a thousand hissing sounds, the distant heavens seemed to be all in flaming fire, and the horizon as far as eye could see were as ina burning flame..

Whatever was coming appeared as the advance of a terrible tripocal tropical hurricane, while for a time the whole countryside was being enveloped in palpable apalling darkness, the land and sky in the distance becoming one immense huge rolling cloud of various shapes and blackness, yet shooted with intense flashing lights, where the helpless forests and hillsides momentarily was expected to founder out of side in this scene, while a wind was blowing in which it seemed to me that the forests would be torn to pieces.

.Darkness, flashes of redish light, strange whirlwind and blackness of the skies. It was a terrible scene and terrified I wondered whether the end of the world was coming. Daylight all was gone, as if darkness in the soul, a noise as if floods of blasphemies as from the vaults of hell seemed to sound from that direction, so filling my mind and overwhelming the heart with the horrors of it, the extent and fiery force, as if God in His wrath had given the world a time of disaster.

I thought it was the approach of a terrible mighty whirlwind. It seemed as if it was the valley of the shadow of death, and now clouds of smoke and flame as from the bottomless pit, envelopping the hills, and demons sputtering sputtering their blasphemies of fire. It was so blinding and distracting that I felt as a if a demon was wrapping his filthy black wings over the scene, and in the distance I could have imagined the noise of fiends flying in the far away darkness. It gave me a morbid state of mind, so terrible that any one who ever experienced the like, almost starts back from even pressing prrusing the record of it record of it, lest its horrid fascinations should wshould come over him again, a state of the soul where the attempt to throw off and exclude a horrid thought or image only fixes it and bodies it forrh forth in more palpable and hedious reality, so that as a murderer persued by conscious the soul can only fly swiftly not daring to look behind. The scene was frightful and malignant.

Then I realized it was a forest fire. I knew it was by reason of a most flame big flame that issued up from the tops of a long forest of trees, but a good convienient distance between me and my observation post. I heard it also roar as if a tornado was coming, and the scene was so dreadful that I fancied it was the bottomless pit opening just beyond where I stood, and as if out of the mouth of which there came in an abundant manner, smoke and seas of fire with hedious noises. I then saw many districts of forests at once catch afire, and the flames appeared as if carried up into the clouds. Knowing I was in the path of it I finally left the scene and fled. But I could not outdistance the fire. It came roaring on with unbelievable speed. As fortune would have it I reached a deep ravine into which I plunged and no sooner had I reached it the fire swept past the ravine, making it above have a sky of thundering flames. The only way I saved myself was to stand waist deep in a long stream of water at the bottom of the ravine. Rocks on the edge of the melted frr from the heat of the flames, and so terrified was I from the scene that I felt as if I could have hid myself under the mountains. I felt felt as as if I was under a burning sea of hell fire. That I escaped with my life from the fire was a miracle because a maze of burning branches and even trees would fall down into the ravine and I either had to fight these blazing embers or dodge them as they fell. And After the fire had passed I had to remain there in that blasted ravine for two days and nights untill the forest debris and the air cooled off."

"But what was it that made you remain so long. Did it really take that long for the debris to cool off."?

"It certainly did. It was as if the day of judgement had come, that I was not ready for it, the horror and fury of the conflagration frightened me most, and as I said before it was as if the pit of hell had opened just where I stood ready to swallow me into it. During the horrible hours in that ravine my conscious too bothered me, afflicted me., my sins few if any but they came to my mind even though small. I never saw such desolation when I left the ravine. It looked as if the world had been destroyed by fire. Trees still standing were smoking yet in places and I had even then though two days later a hard chance to avoid walking on thickly smoking embers. Most of the trees have been burned lef leaving hardly not a trunk. Only here and there a more thicker tree stood smoking badly and ready to fall at any moment. For a while I was lost in this remains of thevinferno, and it was hours, and almost suffocated with the smoke before I reached a point where the fire had not reached. Three days more and I had stumbled into the christian lines more dead than alive."

"Then" said General Hansonia" have you considered all these things?"

"Yes. And they put me in hope, and make me cautious."

"Well keep all these things so in thy mind they may goad thee on core correctly in they mission, and prick thee forward in any way you must go."

Then Walter starring prepared to go on his journey. As he was leaving general Hanscomb said "The Comforter be always with thee, my good friend, to guide thr thee during your adventures. So Walter W Starring went on his way. He went up a long highway that was quite fenced in on either side by a long bobwired fence. He went on up this way believing he could recieve a wa view of the country, but it was quite difficult for the further up he went the steeper grew the grade. He continued on to till he came tward the near u summit, and he sure in reaching it recieved a good view of the country and particularly the forest fires. Walter was glad and lightsome, ad and said with a light heart;

"I have found the right heights at last, but nevertheless there is no sign of a glandelinian army now."

Then he stood awhile to look and wonder at the magnitude of the fires far away, for it was very surprising to him, that the sight of such a fire would meet his eyes.. He then looked over his roll which he carried, and then he went on untill he came at the bottom of the hill, where he saw a little out of the way, six or seven men fast asleep. And walter seeing them lie in the path of the fire which will son soon come upsent one of his followers who came with him to away awake them." But an they refused to heed them he went up and cried;

"You fools are sleeping in the path of a forest fire, might as well be as if the dead sea is under you, and a gulf that had no bottom. Awake there and come away, be willing or I'll have to force thee. If the fire comes this way you will certainly become a prey to the flames."

For he was troubled to think that men should be in that kind of danger and not be in knowledge of it. So he freely offered to help them both by awakening them councelling of them. They took heed however and arose to their feet.

The first one who was awakened at first did not comprehend and said "There is no danger."

But Walters convincing words aroused them finally and continued on their way and with him. As this was accomplished he espied two men tumbling over a wall on the left hand of the narrow way and they made up apace to him and his men. with them were two women and some children. They drew up unto him, and Walter entered with them into discourse.

"Whence came you and whether do you go?"

"My name is Henricka Martinia" said the man who acted as spokesman. "We fled from the town of Nelleglory and are fleeing the fire. Becareful sir. Glandelinians are roaming in this location"

"How came you not through general Hanscomins lines, which is situated at the beginning of this way. Know you not that he could have given you refuge. We are on an adventure and cannot keep you along with us. And think of your children. If the glandelinians are roaming the neighborhood they'll murder your kids."

"I'm sorry sir, but it is tward general Concentinian Aronburgs army or Hanscomins for which we were heading. Therefore then sir, in our effort to make a short cut of it we must have lost our way."

"But will it not be counted too late to retrace your steps now, since you are so far. Don't you think it is better to follow me and my companions a short distance untill we strike somewhalter."

The refugees then told him that as for that, he needed not trouble his mind about, for what they did they had custom for, and could produce if need were testimony that would permit them to escape any foe necessary. But if he did not mind they would be glad to accompany him for a short distance."

"But " said Walter "Will your children stand the trial of such a long journey?"

They told him, that the children were hardy. And besides said they, "So we be got into the way of peril, what, the matter which way we go? If we are in peril, so are you, as your adventure is dangerous too, thou thou art but in the way of all kinds of greater peril which we would never experience. Wherein now is thy condition better than ours. You are a spy, we are not. We have no reason to fear more than you. You seek danger we do not."

"It is true" said Walter, but I walk through these perils at the request of the Vivian Girl princesses, you were merely fugitives of the forest fires. You may stay in with any place of succor you come to, therefore I do not doubt that my dangers is somewhat greater than yours. You can come in to a christian camp without fear, while I have to face the open country alone in all peril untill what I seek after is accomplished."

To this they made him little answer, only they big him, look out, be careful, and always keep praying to God for help. Then they went on, without much more conference with each other, save that the man alone told Walter "That as to perils of forest fire, flood and the enemy they doubted not but they could as conscientiously face them as he." Therefore" said they "we see not wherein thou could be much different from us, but by the coat that is on thy back, which was as we know did belong to a glandelinian general, given thee by a spy companion, to hide they real identy. If you showed your real uniform you could not dare go a mile in this dangerous and open country. But we believe your mission will not be a success, our countrys cause will not be saved. since glandelinia devastated our territirces with floods, fire and explosions, and has much of the country in her possession."

"You people talk that way because you are discouraged said walter. "You advise me to keep on praying for success and yet say our cause won't win. and as for this disguise uniform on my back it was taken by my self, and I got a good one too. And

I take it as a token as a warning to me, as when I first stared out on my dangerous adventure I had nothing but my own uniformen. And besides than I comfort myself as I go on the adventure, and surely I think when I come to the end of my mission, and succeed and return the christian generals willknow me for good, since I have his pass in my possession. I have also a paper with a mark on it, of which perhaps no one has taken notice, which emperor vivian himself fixed the robin the day that I first was asked to do the work by violet and her sisters. I will tell you moreover, that I had then been given a roll sealed, to comfort me by reading and studying as I continue on my adventure, and which I also was bid to give in at general Vivians lines, in token of my certainty of my mission being fullfilled, all which things I doubt you want, and wna want them because you need enter the refugee camps."

To these things they gave him no answer, only they looked at each other soberly. Then they continue on, save that Starring and his followers kept on before, who had no more talk but with himself concerning the mission he was to perform, and that sometimes sighing, and sometimes comfortably, also he would be often reading in the roll, by which reading he seemed refreshed.

Then they went on till they came to the foot of a large hill, at the bottom of which was a stream. It was a forested hill, mostly pines and fir. There was also in the same place three other roads, one turned to the left, one to the center and the other to the right, but the fourth led right up the hill. Starring and his companions went to the spring to drink and refresh himself, and then they began going up the hill side. The refugees came to the foot of the hill. But when they saw that the hill was steep and high, and there were two or three other ways to go, that it was too steep climbing for their children, and believing that these three byways might meet again with that up which starring and his friends went, therefore they resolved to go by one of these roads, and by doing so they soon reached a large hamlet by which they recieved hospitality by those within.

Starring and his companions, continued to go up the hill, sometimes they ran,, some times walked laboriously, and also were compelled to clamber upon their hands hands and knees, because of the steepness of the place. Once walter stumbled and fell but he rose again. now about half way to the top of the hill was a large camp unseen up there there a camp of forest rangers. Not far from that camp was a resting place and a small shrine. Thither therefore Walter and his companions got, oh where he and his companions sat down to rest himself. Then he pulled his roll out of his bosom, and read therein to his comfort. Thus pleasing himself with the scenery for a while, he at last fell into a slumber, and thence into a fast sleep, which detained him in that place untill it was almost night, and in his sleep his roll fall from his hand noticed by his followers. finally at it grew darker one of his companions wishing to go on to seek refuge in the ranger camp for the night awakened him saying;

"Come on sir. It is time we were going sir."

Then walter started suddenly up, and sped on his way followed by his men, and it took him half an hour before he came to the top of the hill. As soon as he reached the top of the hill, there came sixty men and women and children running tward him from the opposite side. Well sirs " said Walter to them "What What is the matter you are running up here like this."

"One of them answered, while the children were crying, that they were coming from a town, and had strove to get up this difficult hill but "But said he "The farther we go the more danger we meet with, wherefore we turned and are seeking the help of the rangers."

"Yes " said another man "For just behind us and about twenty miles away, is two big fires advancing this way, whether really heading for this forested hill and valley below we know not, and we could not think if we came here not, but they would presently overtake us and destroy destroy us all."

"Then" said Walter "You make us all afraid, but what shall we all do, and where shall the pu population fly to be safe. And for heavens sake is all the forests in the country around here in danger. If we go back westward tward the other ridges we shall certainly perishe there. If I can get to general Johnston Manleys camp I am i sure to be in more safty there than out in the open it seems. I must venture however, to go elsewhere and back is nothing but death, to go forward is fear of death or disasters, but success if I try. We must of course warn the rangers; His they are observing the danger already."

Thinking of what he had heard from these men, Walter felt in his bosom for his roll that he might study a map on it to make out his bearing, but he felt and found it not. Then was Walter in great distress, and knew not want to do, for not only did he want that which he could use to relieve him in his difficulties during travel and which should have been his repass into general Vivians lines when he secured the information he desired, butvif the enemy got hold of it all his own own plans for his mission would be lost, and he could not dare proceed.

Here Here therefore he began to be much worried, and knew not what to do, he questioned his followers but they had not seen it. Finally he decided that he had slept in the resting place near a shrine that was on the side of the hill, and ga falling down on his knees, he asked God to help him find it again, and then went back to look for his role. But all the way he went back, who can say what sorrow and agony and anxiety of mind he suffered. Sometimes he sighed, sometimes he swore, and sometimes he wept, and hi would often chid himself for being so foolish as to fall asleep in that place, which was erected only for a little f refreshment for his weariness. Thus therefore he retraced his steps, searching carefully on this spot, and

and over at that spot, and looking on this side and that all the way as he went if happily he mind might find his roll, that had been his great guide and comfort so many times in his journey.He went on until he camewithin sight of the arbour again where he had slept, but that sight renewed his sorrow the m re, by bringing again even afresh the sleeping into his mind which made him lose his roll.Thus therefore he kept on bewailing his sleep saying;

"Oh foolish wretched man that I am, that I should sleep in the daytime, that I should be so careless as to sleep amid difficulties and dangers.How many steps have I took in vain now.Now for this foolishness I am made to thread these steps with misery which I might have been treading with joy, had it not been for this foolish sleep.And how far how far I might have been by this time.I h am made to thread those steps trice over which I needed not but to go over but once, and now I am also to be in darkness for the day is almost spent.Oh that I had not slept."

Now in a short time he came back to the arbour or resting place again, where for a while hecwas compelled to sit down and weep, but at last as God would have it happen, he happened to be looking sorrowfully down under the bench,t there he spied his roll.With haste and trembling like a leaf he hastily snatched it up, and put it into his bosom.And indeed who can tell how joyful Walter starring was, when he had recovered his roll again./

for indeed this roll was the assurance of hisauccess in his undertaking, and for his admission back into the christian lines.. Therefore he laid it up near his bosom, gave thanks to God for directing his eyes to the place where it lay, and with joy and tears started again on his journey.But how nimimbly he went up the rest of the hill. Yet before he had finally reached the top.,.., the sun had began to sin in the west, and this made him recall the foolishness of his sleeping to his mind, and again he began to condole with himself;;;;;;;;

"Oh thou foolish as sleep, ho; for thy sake I am to continue my journey inthese dark and dolesome woods..I must walk without the aid of thesunlight without the sunlight, darkness will overshadow me, and I must hear the noise of many dolefl doleful creatures fleeing before the fires because of my untimely sleepp."

Now also he remembered the story of other fugitives, how they were frightened at the sight of a new part of the forest fire adfanadvancing tward this hill.Then said Walter to himself;

"The course of these forest fires could be easily seen at night, but the fire is driving all kinds of beasts on the flight, and if any should meet me in the dark, providing they be wolves or phantoms how should I avoid them, especially if they be bears and wildcats, for they can climb trees as well as I.My bullets would not last long enough to combat the wild beasts.."."....."

Thus he went on his, but while he was bewailing his unhappy carriage, he lifted up his eyes, and before there was a very stately camp before him, it being a camping -l place of the rangers.Therefore he made haste to go forward, that if possible he and his companions might get lodging there.Now before he had gone far, he entered into a wide lodge or passage,which a was about a furlong above or off of the guards lodging camp fire, and looking very narrowly before him as he went, he suddenly espied far off but close enough nevertheless two enormous glonging in the way lying partly asleep.They were the True tarlon winged Tuskorhorians.....

"Now" thought he"I see dangers in trying to pass here.It's all right if I have on my purple uniform but with this gray coat they'll think I'm a glandelinian, and show hostility .Therefore he was somewhat afraid, and thought also to be go back to another direction, for he thought it was certain death to go on in this direction, but as of the forest rangers perceiving, that Walter and his comrades made a halt, and acted as if he would go back, cried to him saying;

"Is thy uniform gray.If you are not really glandelinians fear not these Blengins for they are not boobs and can tell who you are despite your disguises.If you are real glandelinigns then keep back but if you are not come forward for proof to us for only young longins can be fooled by gray uniforms.Instincts of the big ones tell what you are despite the uniforms.Anyhow keep in the midst of the path, and no hurt sharll shall come unto you.But if you are glandelinians we will ourselves not allow you here."

Then Starring and his comrades muttering a heart felt prayer continued on, tremb ling however for fear of the Tuskorhorians, but taking good heed to the directions of the guard, he heard them flap their fings with a roar but they did not come and do any harm, though one of them gave forth their siren like roar. Then he thanked Godthat the creatures knew he and his comrades and their character despite their uniforms, and went on, till he came and stood before the camp fire, where the guard was.At this moment there was a terrible noise like the roar of a thousand aroplanes and the two creatures soared high up into the sky and flew away.... Then said Walter to the guard"

"Sir if this is a rangers camp, may I and my comrades camp here for the night?"

"This" is he answered.We are stationed here awaiting to see if the fire comes up to us.We are sent here to head it off." Then the guard also asked who he and his compani ns were companions, and whether he and they were going."."....."

"I am out to find general Johnston Jacken Manleys armies, as I believe he knows something about the originator of these war disasters and I am bound to find out, but because now the sun is setting, I desire to lodge here to night with my companions if you do not mind."

"What is your name?"

"My name is Walter starring, one of the generals in general Vivians army."

"But how does it happen you come so late.?The sun is now setting."

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"Well" said walter" at my first setting out, I had hopes of accomplishing my miss-ipn, and see unless that is done I fear Calvorinia will perish or our cause will suffer a collapse or an overthrow.."

"These were my feare too" said the boyscout, but who but God alone can hinder that disaster which is threatening us."

"Well my boyscout friend." said starring."Let us leave such unpleasant thoughts and speak of things that are more of our own adventure.Tell me now Radcliffe, if you say that's your name what you and your girl companion have met with in the way of the forest, for I know you two might have met with some things, or else it may be a sort of miracle if you did not."

"I with Violet, and her sisters and many of the others who accompanied them into the glandelinian camp escaped the fires that I I perceived all but destroyed all his all hi tets, and got out of its terrible path without danger, only afterwards, I met with some man that warned me before , run into a place which was likely to have done us and the girl scout some mischief.."

"U It is well you escaped the conflagration" said Starring.I recieved some news by wireless, when I was at Concentinian Arronburgs army that general Vivians and his brothers armies were hard put to it by the fires, but their armies escaped as you did, but it had likely to have cost the two armies the loss of a terrible number of men. But what did he warn you off?"

"You are not thinking, even thoughyou know something, what devastating disasters disasters are sweeping the Calvorinian and other states, and as danger lurked secretly in many places this man who was a scout laid at e hard to be careful where I and my girl scout companion went, warning me that the forest fire it self is tricky and that even where none appears one would show itself before we ever thought of its presence.He told . e he was a wi twitness of all manner of dangers.."

"That seems reasonable" said Walter."But did he not warn you whether enemies also may be lrking in the forest s."

"Yes.But he said the hidden Glandelinians are not so greatly feared as the catastrophes raging.He told me I would not be of a good conscience if I would at will ri run y girlscout companion into the same dangers if I refused to take hed heed myself."

"Thank God you have escaped the dangers so far of what he warned you of.I never such saw such devastations yet."

"Nay" said Radcliffe, "I know not whether I will wholly escape the horrors yet. The fire is raging all over like as burning world."

"Yes, but you did not refuse to take his advice."

"No I took heed, for to commit sucide is to drive yourself body and soul into hell.So I looked out for myself, and for my girl companion, and we continued on our search.We have gone for many miles and met with no foes yet."

"It seems as if glandelinia has taken hold of Hell and hurl it upon us from below" said the girl scout."

"Did you meet with any one else truing during your search for me.?????""""

"When I and my girl companion mounted a great hill which overlooked the smoking and seething hell horror of Imperial walley and other distant hills and plains, I met with a large number of rangers, the leader of whom at first being suspicious of our gray uniforms asked who we were, and whether bound.We proved to him our identity, and then he said to me;

"You children look too young to go out in such a dangerous territory. I asked him his name, and what he and his own men were doing out in the same kind of territory.He said his name was Hans torio Frant, and that his men were all his followers. I asked him then what was his work, and he told me he was a Forest Ranger, and that he and his men were out scouting on the territory in danger.I further asked him what kind of a signal station he kept , and what other fire fighters he had-so he told me that his signal station was maintained on a high treeless summit of a big hill with all the necessary menas means to warn towns and villiages in the path of the flames, and that he had hundreds of followers.Then I asked him how many Rangers and persons were fighting the fires?He had said that he had over three hundred of his own gangs out, and he told me that people of many towns went out to help but the fire had gained such headway that it cannot be stopped."

"Well" asked Walter, and what conclusion came the Ranger leader and you at last?"

"Why I at first found myself somewhat inclinable to go back at his advice, for I thought that he gave me fair warning, but remembering the words of Violet and her sisters not to give up under any conditions untill I found you I felt it come burning hot into my mind, that I would be acting contrary to their wishes my best of friends.So I told him my mission and that I would not give up no matter what the danger."

"And then?"

"Then it came to my mind, whatever he said, and however he gave warnings, if I abandoned my search for you, I would not be obeying the orders of my best friends the Vivian Girl Princesses.So I bid him to forebear to talk any more on the subject, for I would not give up my search neigher fo for the same reason, my girl

companion, as I must find you and guide you through the danger zone... Then he told me if anything happened it was my own fault, but just the same he would send a number of the Rangers to shadow me and Angeline, that should come to our assistance if we ran into great peril, so I turned to go away from him, and just as we turned turned to go, he said "God Take care of you two on your journey."Then we went on our way up the hill.Now when we were half way up, there was a terrible roar like a cyclone coming, and saw one of those forest fire squalls coming our way, swift as a terrific hurricane, and it overtook us just about the place where we could have a grand view of the conflagration.It seemed as if the whole world was noise. and confusion."

"Just on one hill" said Starring," did I see the fires overwhelm the Imperial Valley and cross Sound Bend.I felt apprehensive for general Vivians army."

"But General" said Ratcliffe, hear" hear me out--soon as soon as the fierce winds overtook us, a big branch tore away from a tree striking both of us, and down it knocked me, and laid me for dead.When I was a little come to myself again, I aided Angeline to her feet for she too was stunned and while I did so, I was struck another almost deadly blow on the breast by a flying piece of wood. which hurled me down backwards, and I rolled part way down the hill, Angeline following after me.I was not stunned this time, but this time being sheltered here from the terrific gale that was growing stronger and even sweeping small stones from the ground and hurling down whole trees, we remained untill it abated somewhat, dreading that the fire would come up afterwards like it usually is, would which would doubtless have made an end of us, but that it fortunately went past us at another location.

Here we stayed for a long time.The windstorm and raging fires had increased to tremendous proprtions, the wind coming on like a hurricane, and we could hear the gale coming over the mountains, and the frightful roar mingled with the horrid hissing snapping noise of flames and burning trees, and hundreds of explosions, was more terrifying than the scene, wondering what would ha happen next.

A big tree on the summit went first, tearing the brahces of other trees to pieces as it fell, and small stones flewbefore the wind in sheets.Other trees snapped the broken ends touring down other smaller trees as they went down.Fortunately for us the trees fell one by one, so as to give us time to seek better shelter.It was all we could do to accomplish this, for by this time the fury of the wind hot as a desert air was such that we could hardly manage even so small a thing as moving a inch to the danger of exposure, and the hail of flying stones, broken branches and heavy dash was impossible to face, even with goggles for protection.

.It seemed that for a time no sort of safty was possible, we began to regret not taking the ranger rangers advice.During an im intermittent lull we got up and went to a large rock to keep free fo from the storm.A few minutes later a whole an swarm of smaller trees before at very faces were torn away, leaving a gap between us and the shelter.It s did not seem possible that any tree could endure the strain that came from the wind.The stones were hurled against them with the noise of a hailstorm, and the impact was so heavy that our bodies would not tolerate the pain if trying t keep to the north side of the shelter, we exposed ourselves to the flying showers.Once in a while the hail of stones that would great us cannot be imagined.It could not be endured on our flesh for i an instant. It hurt clear through our clothing.Many of the stones were aslarge as walnuts, and many armed with sharp corners that made them terrible missles.The stones begun to collect allaround us, in our hair, down our necks, in our pockets, in our ears, in our noises, in our othe mouths, everything was permeated with it.Soon it was six inches deep around us.It was suggested by Angeline that we crawl into a gully to escape the flames that follow this fire hurricane, but I reminded her that such places was a collecting place for dirt and small stones which would hail down on us in greater quantities than ever, so we agreeed to stick it at as long as po possible, praying fervently for an abatement.

The nearest possible refuge for us two, was at Rockglen, about ten miles down the valley..... The wind was so fierce that at best we had very little control over our body movements, and we did not dare to flee down through that maze of smoulder ing fires beyond.How we watched the diminishing shreds of our little shelter and counted time against the wasting fabric.Could it shelter us untill the wind grew weak enough to allow us to flee.Time and again the wind would pick us up as we braced our backs unitedly against the wall of the rock, and roll us into a pile inthe middle of the little culvert of rock.I sat on a flat log of wood probably weighing more than a hundred pounds, alongside of which lay a rock nearly as heavy as I am, yet the wind when coming our way repeatedly picked up the whole, I riches log and rock, and all-- and rolled us back and forth like balls.Angeline Riches with characteristic self sacrifice, chosed the most exposed end of the line despite my protests.She drew a canvass tarpaulin she had brought with her over her head and shoulders in a vain effort to mitigate the blast,..... soon it was the only protection she had, and for some time she sat practically outside, while the flying, rocks were hurled all about her and driven down her neck. "he must have felt terribly terribly warm, hot rather, but she did not once complain.."

.I went outside deciding it was little worse than within, for there one could at least move around. So though Riches was fearful of being blown bol bodily into the nearest section of the terrific forest fires it was agreeed agreed that the

time had come when we must try it down a safer part of the valley. We were then terrified and almost changed our minds for we saw a great tree carried bodily, by the wind. feeling that it was the utmost importance for saftys sake that the two of us keep together, I made frantic efforts to detain Riches who was rasher than I'm but she was gone like a ghost in the nighttt night beyond recalll out of sarshot almost at once.To face the gale was utterly impossible, so I started backing tward the wall of the shelter, bracing myself against the wind... suddenly there was a stronger gust than ever, and I was immediately I found myself flying through the air, scared almost to death. I shall never forget the feeling of joy I experienced, when my face landed in the mud, two gullies away,

My feet kept on and nearly turned me another grand and " beautiful" somersault, but I was safe on the ground again.The feeling that I was being carried bodily 9 into the air down the valley by the wind was indeed one of the most unusual unusual and terrible experiences I ever had.

After that I decided it was useless to try and find Angeline by any other means than to try to catch her and slow her down.down the hill I sped, carried by the wind, with little chance of even making a choice of my course or speed. In the distance I sped a long wall of swiftly forward moving smoke as fierce in rolls as a long terrific crater of a big volcano in the craziest eruption.I knew I must avoid I must avoid this branch of the fire if I were to live.By desperate scratching, I managed to deflect my course a little, but slide by so close to the conflagration that my clothes smoked from the heat, and had their been another gust, such as has picked me up come just then. I could not have avoided it.

Finally I detected Angeline Riches, and I soon caught her and proceeded down the b valley in somewhat moreorderly more orderly if not the less precipitate fashion.

The hot winds came obliquely over a long flaming mountain range, so that it was extremely difficult to avoid being drifted out into the middle of the valley, whereas safty required us to keep to the west in order to make the ford, above the point where the main fire was passing.If we missed the ford our flight would have ended in a cul-desac among the seas of flames, where we would have perished, miserably.

Finally we came to a pot where it was too low for the wind to reach us, and finally we were saved.But it sure was a trying experience, though to tell the truth it only lasted for as fifteen minutes from the start as far as we can guess. It sure was the worst time for us."

"If that fire had overtaken you during the wind, you two would have been lost" said Starring.."It was not the first time that I even come near being caught by the fires.Three or four times I too had narrow escapes.Even many friends had come to me and told me that I would certainly perish perish if I did not leave the fire zone at once.But before you got caught in the winds of the fire, did you not see whether you were in danger or not."

"Yes, and the coming of the wind too, but we had no time to do anything.It was was about noon, and because I had so much of the day before me, I had ascended to the hill top to get a view of the fire.And the Ranger had told me to forbear. I did not believe him at first, but since our experience we are more careful from now on.The winds that overtook us was a swing of of the fire hurricane, it spares nothing in its path, and it was only by luck of chance that it brought no fire upon us."

"It was only an offfling of the hurricane that overtook you." said Starring.

"I know it very well sir, it was not the firstvtime that we observed the fury of one of those fire winds which proceeds the advance of such a blaze But pray tell me did you meet no on in the valley after your tryingexperience?"

"Yes I met with some other rangers, who would willingly have persuaded me to to go back with them, as they said the whole country was teeming with perils.He told me moreover that to go on was the way of do the worng things is making such risks, and that even my superior generals would be much offended, if if I and Angeline Riches made such a fool of myself as to wade through this fire periled valley."

"Well, and how did you answer him?"

"I told him that although great perils did attend our journeying, and that rightly rightly(for indeed I just had had one trying experience in that wind) yet since I once set out at the wishes of violet, and her sisters, I could not turn back untill untill I satisfied their desires.I told him moreover that as to the dangers in this valley he had quite misrepresented the thing, for there was more danger up on the slopes and summits on hills just now than in the valley.Therefor I said to them that I would rather with her take the chances of going through the valley, to accomplish my own mission for them, than to take the chances of remaining up on the slopes and I then told him of my experience on the hill in that big fire wind, and of our narrow escapeof being blown right into the fire."

"Met you with any one else in that valley, that tried to turn you back for fear of your safty?"

"Yes" said Radcliffe, I met with some Christian lone scout, but of all the men that I have met with so far, he I think is as persistent as a leech, the other would be said nay, after a little argumentation, and somewhat else, but this lone scout must have seen more of the dangers than I believed as he roamed around the country everywhere in search of means of making all the trubie trouble for the enemy possible."

"I understand" said Starring."And what did he say to you?"
"What did he say?Why at first he asked me where I and the girl scout were going, and when we told him, he objected against it all, all the dangers we would face, he said it was a piti gitiful low, sneaking business for any ne like children to be sent out on missions in such most dangerous territory, that who ever ordered us to do it ought to have a better conscious conscience, and that the one who sent us should watch over his own words and ways, and go himself, not to sent two children out into such a dangerous country, and that even if we did fail it would make the sender the ridicule of all times.He objected also, that but few of even the mighty Gemini and Christian spy agens agents, strong or wise, were ever of their opnion of sending out children to do dangerous stunts, nor any of them neither, before they were persuaded to be fools, and to be a of a voluntary fondness to venture on adventure on the chances of loss of life, health or limb, for any one else knows what.Also again he obke objected to the base and bw attitude and condition of those who sent children out on a dangerous spying mission, and also their ignorance and want of understanding in all that should be done, especially that we if we had to be sent out should have a strong body guard.Yea he did hold it at that rate also about a great many more things than here I relate, as that it was a shame that we went through an experience already, as he could see by the appearan appearance of our clothing which were burned to into holes.He said that also severe adventures makes a persons heart grow hardened, and that we would we could or would go to it so far that if we perished we could be accused of a actual sucide."
"Well, what did you say to him?"
"At first" declared Radcliffe I did not know what to say to him.Yea he put us to it so, that my blood came up in my face, and had almost beat me quite off. But at last I begun to considerthat which is highly esteemed among Our Blessed Lord Himself, and all the heavenly Host is had in good reward with God and His Blessed Mother themselves.And I thought again, that this man does not know who send us, that the mission we were said to be on by him was not so, and he said nothing, what Abbieunnia or Her cause needed.He did not think at the time.And I thought also that if things keep on going as they are now with di disaster upon disaster, following one after another in awful magnitude and so quickly and in endless succession, the day of Doom for the southern Abbieunnian states will come, and we shall not meet a terrible defeat according to the condition of things, but according to the drain on the people and resources of the nation by these catastrophes. Therefore thought I , what God, thinks and says is best, what Violet and her sisters decides ~~[illegible]~~ will is His own will, though he might not see it at I did. Seeing then that violet and her sisters knew best, and how what they were doing, and seeing that if I did not find you and your followers and knowing the country guide you out of the Red Plague Zone then something would happen to you that we two would be entirely responsible for.I know and so did he that Mandelinia was an enemy even to the Salvation of souls of child slaves, a abonination of a foe of our Dear Blessed Lord,, and therefore everything must be done to put her in her proper place.
I argued with him ,telling him that the Vivian girl Princesses sent me to find general starring,. at indeed, could scarce shake him out of my company, yea he would be haunting of me, but at last told him twas in w vain to attempt further in this business, for those things he disdained, in those did su see success for our cause,, so at last I made him decist. And when he saw himself worsted, he told me that I can have it my way then, but that he would have as many Masses as possible, and Litanies said, to insure my safty and success".
"I am very glad my boy, said starring, thatbyou did convince him so that h he gave up, for of all as you said, I think he did not understand your mission, and yet he is so bold as to scout on the foe everywhere at a greater risk than he thinks for himself, with the hopes of putting the enemy to shame before the whole world, but let us still be careful ourselves for he scouting so much sees more danger for us than we even think, for notwithstanding all we went through, we have more yet.His having masses said for us will help us along.But did you meet no on one else?"
"No not I, and we kept a wide stretch between us and all the fires for the rest of the way untill we were hailed hailed by you.We often cried for help from Heaven to help us find you, and you found us."
"IT was very well for you, but I am sure it fared far otherwise with me.I and a large force of rangers and citizens from near by towns, as soon as I almost entered the Imperial Valley a dreadful combat with the flames.I thought verily the flames would have go e gone far beyond us and trapped us, especially when we saw it heading at terrific fury tward the clearing we made.But we all cried to god and His Blessed Mother, and they heard me and we delivered us all out of our troubles for the fire did not come tward the clearing.Then I entered into another part of the valley, and had nothing else but perils from fire for almost three quarters of the way through it.I thought I should have perished there over and over, but at last a glare as bright as sunlight broke through the walls of blackrolling smoke, and having light I went through the rest of it without much more peril.Yet it appears as if Hell itself was changing places with the earths surface."
"Then "said walter,
"since you have found me now, are you going back to the christian lines, or going

with me on the adventure?"
"We were asked Vi by Violet, and her sisters to help you to do the very same thing."
"That is fine cried Walter, then I will also have the good company of you and your girl friend...""""""
"Yes." said Angeline Richee."With a very good will we will be your companions, and also guides."
"Well" said walter, let us go altogether, and also let us spend our time in talking of things that are more of benefit to us."
"Yes, to talk of thes things that are of the best results, to us is very good with you sir or any other, and therefore I and the boy am glad that we have met withthose that incline to so good a conversation.For to speak the truth, there have been but too few that had ever desired to spend their h their time, as they are traeling traveling for adventure, but choose much rather to be talking of things which would not be of any profit to the cause, and this has been very troublesome and discouraging to me."
"Such things like that is to be lamented" said walter."For what things so worthy of the cause of country now a days as are the things concerning our poor suffering Calvorinia and other states of southern Abbieunnia."
"I like you wonderful well" said Angeline Richee, for your speech is full of conviction,, and will add what thing is so sad, and yet so unprofitable to the enemy as to devastate so cruelly by disasters like we observe now?"
"Yes,yes,go on."
"What things so sad and doleful. That is if Mandelinia had any delight in wicked things, and love to make horrible disasters that even also are unusually marvelous and wonderful, for instance if Mandelinia delights to make a new history, or chance the mistery of things resulting from great disasters made by her, or if Mandelinia does love to destroy millions of homes, cause out or cause the breaking out of out of miraclous explosions, that produce telling earthquake shocks, enormous and wonderful floods, or signs of other disasters, and devastate an enormous magnitude of countryside with forest fires, where shall she finds things received less terrible in her own country, as when some day our own armies would have the opportunity to make an invasion into her own territories?""""
"That is a question that is tru, but to be profited by such things in our talk should be that of which we also design."
"That is it that I said declared Angeline Richees, for in our cause, and for the purpose of our adventure to talk of such things is most profitable, for by so doing, you may get knowledge of many important things, as of the dangers of our strange expeditions, and the benefits of what happens if we succeed in the mission this in general, but more particularly, by this we all may learn the necessity of accomplishing our efforts to a letter T the sufficiency of our efforts, the need of gods help in our purpose and of doing it rightly , cautiously, selever cleverly bravely not rashly and foolishly. Besides by this we may learn what it is to do out duty,to believe we,ll succeed, to pray for success, to go through our adventure no matter what we suffer, or the like, by this also we may learn, what are the great results of our success to our comfort.Further by this we may learn to refute false opinions, to vindicate the truth, and also instruct those who help us."
"All this is true" said Angeline Richee,, a"And I am surely glad to hear those,, things from you.But alas, the want of this in the cause that so few understand the need of faith in the rangers and forest fire fighters who are swarming to the work, and the necessity of a desperate work of all able bodied cities and towns in order to overcome these fire and other disasters, or prevent them in the future in the least,, but ignorantly do not try such means yet, by which our Government by no means overcome the horrors.""
"Yes,yes,go on." said Starring.
"All this know very well, by experience , by studying conditions after the great disasters, for our Government can accomplish nothing, except help be given it from Our Blessed Lord--all help is from there alone, humanity in this case is powerless, all is such cruce, not works and battling alone, I could give you a hundred scriptures for the confirmation of the fact that faith in Prayer and good works will accomplish great help from heaven in a time of need like this."
"Well then"said starring"what is those things that we shall at this time find our discource upon?"
"Whatever you will I should, I will talk of plans, to frustrate the enemy in making disasters in the future, or things concerning floods,things imoral done by the enemy or things like massacres, things sacred profaned by them, of disasters past, and of probability in future, or other horrors to come, things to result for our cause in the struggle, or things concerning these forest fires, things more essential, or things circumstantial, provided that all be done for the profit of our cause."
How did Starring begin to wonder, and stepping to Radcliffe, forhe had rode all this while by himself, he said to him but softly;
"What a brave wise intellegint girlscout for a companion we have got.Surely this little girl scout will make a very excellent guide for me."
AT this Radcliffe modestly smiled, and said;;;;;;
"This girl scout with whom you are so takencsir will some day be a good help to us all."

"Do you know her?" asked Sturring surprised.
"No her. Yes better than even Violet and her sisters knows her he themselves....""
"Pray who is she?"
"Angeline Riches. A professional Girl scout and spy and everything else for various christian generals here and there."
"What else is she."?
"A professional girl guide as she knows all of the country like a bird."
I "Indeed."
"Yes, I repeat her name is Angeline Riches, nearly as beautiful a child as some of the Vivian Girls, a great favorite of all the Princesses, and girlscout leaders, and all bands of girl and boy scouts and the armies together, and I wonder that you should be a stranger to her, only I consider that our armies are large."
"Whose daughter is she?" asked Sturring.
"Whose parents are here no one knows, yet neither has she ever been a child slave, and now she is know of all that are acquainted with her by the name of Angeline, Riches, and nothwithstanding her pretty ways, her features, she is but a sorry girl to the enemy. Next to Gertrude Angeline she is most dreaded. To capture her seems impossible, and no ones needs help her either."
"Well" said sturring " she seems much less than that to me, though she is a very pretty little girl."
"She is to them that have not been thoroghly acquainted with her, for she is to all her followers the best friend and companion known, when spying and doing other work on the enemy she is ugly and fiercer than a young tigress, your saying that she is not as serious as she looks, brings to my mind what I have observed in the Vivian Girl princesses. They appear like children afraid of a kitten, in fact if there is anything they really are afraid of I do not know what is is it is."
"But " continued sturring " I am ready to think you but just jest, because you smiled....."
"God forbid on this occasion that I should be jesting, even though I might have smiled, in this manner, or that I should try to praise or flatter her behind hr her back, I will give you a further discovery of her. This girl scout is for any ones company, or for any adventure, as she had talked now with you so will she talk, when she is with the Vivian girls, and the more you ask her to do the more she does, fear of any dangers had no place in her heart, or conversation, all she says comes from mind and heart, and all she does, and her adventures have been numerous and nearly always successful. Of all girl heroines in our country the biggest reward is offered for her capture by the glandelinians alone. And yet no one dares to lay hands on her child though she be. She is good at her gunning believe me and she can show you anything kind of pistolry and musketry shooting you ask. As for horseback riding she can beat every girl and boy scout in the whole christian army even the Vivian Girls themselves."
"Say you so." asked Sturring. "Then in this girl scout I am greatly in need of!"
"Greatly in need of. you may be sure of it. Remember the proverb of these ind of things. She does more than she says. She talks of making a successful spying expedition on the enemy, of getting out their plans, or information, and secures more than she said she would. Once I accompanied her on an expedition and she told me she was going to secure an envelope from general Manley, which had something important. I do did not believe she could do it. She later came back to me, she had the envelope, six important letters, written to the Glandelinian Government, Manleys most expensive dress uniform and hat, and spurs, an elegant hat. and a map. I have been with her on other spying expeditions, and have observed her both in Manleys lines, and abroad, and I know what I say of her is the truth. Even Violet or her sisters will confirm what I say. There is no peril that she shirks, there is neither fear nor sign of repentance of what she has done to the enemy, yea the enemy fears her more than even the powerful gemini of spies. She is the very stain, re reproach and horror of the Glandelinians who know her, they hardly have a good word for her. Thus said the Glandelinian generals who know or knows her" A saint within the Christian armies, a devil spy among us, the Glandelinians finds her everywhere doing them things they dread, and they cannot capture her. Christian officers that have any dealings with her say this better for the enemy to meet with a young hostile Mengiglomenon creature than with her, for fairer dealings, they shall have in meeting it. This girl scout, if it will be posible, will go beyond the ferocity of a Rebennia, and they cannot do a thing. Besides she brings up her boy and girl scouts to follow her footsteps, and if she finds any of them timid or cautious, she brings it out of them by strict and severe but kindly training. For my part, I am of opinion that she has by her daring life caused the wicked Glandelinia cause more ruin, and will be if she continues on with Gods help the ruin of the wicked cause to a finish."
"Well my boy, I am bound to believe you, now only because you say you know her, be but also because like a wi er lad you make your reports true. For I cannot think you speak these things because you desire to secretly do her honor, but because it is even so as you say."
"Yes " said Radcliffe, "Had I known her no more than you sir, I might perhaps have thought of her as much as at the first you did, you had she recieved this report report at the hands of only beguiled flatterers, I should have thought of it to be something to fl fourflusher her about, but all these things, you and a great many more as good, of my knowledge, I can prove of her. Besides all Glandelinian generals

are afraid of her as a scourge, a plague they wished to avoid, they can neither call her a human being or a dangerous child spook, the very naming of her among them makes them confused if they know her."
"Well I see that saying and doing are two things, and she observes this distinction to a perfection."
"There are many things she observes, that Abbiennia's cause is a Holy cause, undefiled before the world, before God and His Blessed Mother, a nation that aided others in distress always, a nation full of children never doing wrong anywhere, no one fighting or swearing at each other, everyone keeping unspotted. This she is aware of and though she admits she is not an Abbiennian by birth but of some Irish of descent, yet she thinks that Abbiennia is not deserving of all this trouble, and thus she decides to do all she can. Hearing is but the sowing of the seed, and yet she talks a lot of what she will do, and does sometimes a quadruple more. She proves by action that talking is not sufficient to prove that fruit is indeed in the heart and life. The end of the world is compared to this forest fire, and yet she pulled me out of all its perils, and talked a lot about it first so much had I not know her I would have believe she was only talking. I speak this to show you how significant the profession of Angeline Riches is. If she could not be trusted if she only was a Talkitive, Violet and her sisters would not have trusted her to go out on this mission or accompany you as a guide when we found you. One day I reme remember rightly she spoke nearly four hours of purposing of going out to the out kirts of the enemys lines to learn what the enemys next move would be. Anyone from her constant talking would have said "She talks a lot but she'll never do it. she went out to confirm all her talking. That day she saved general Vivians army from disaster. She discovered ten times more than she even talked about."
"Well" said Sturring, this brings to my mind that of many friends, by which they described the spy is that is always successful. She is such a one, she says she will do it, she seeks knowledge of what the enemy is doing, and therefore does it to such perfection that she spreads terror among the enemy."
"you have spoken for aught I know, the true sense of these words, and I will add another thing " said Radcliffe. The Vivian Girl Princesses trust the her with every everything they wish. Therefore she is a great scout believe me."
"Well" said Sturring, "I was fond of her company at first, but I strongly desire it now. What shall we do to have her aid me in my work."
"Take my advice, and do as I bid you sir, and you shall find that she will be willing to do anything you ask."
"What would you have me do?" asked Sturring."
"Why go to her and enter into some serious discource, about the nature of disasters, the power of our own cause, and ask her plainly whether our government can avoid such dreadful scenes in the fure future or not."
"Then Sturring rode forward again, and said to Angeline Riches "
"Come what cheer. How is it now!"
"Thank you sir, very well indeed. I thought we two should have had a great deal of conversation by this time."
"Well" said Sturring, " if you will we will fall to it now, and since you left it with me to state the question, let it be this; "How does it come the enemy had such easy chances to cause these disasters, when it is committed in the heart of the Christian Country."
"I percieve" said Riches that our talk still must be about disasters, and the powerful results of them, well thi tis a vesy vgood question, and I shall be very willing to answer you. And take my answer in brief thus. First when the Government is overconfident, it gave the enemy a good chance to leap in. Secon ly;"-
"Nay hold, said Sturring let us consider of one at once. I think you should rather say, the disasters showed through the overconfidence of not only the government but the people in general, not thinking to abhor the near approach of the foe."
"Well" asked Angeline Riches, "What difference if is there between the overconfidence of the Government, and people."
"Oh a great deal " said sturring" Our government was overconfident because they it did not believe the enemy could not do it, nut neither could the people be on thei their guard against the coming of it, or do anything to avoid against it, I have been in some big cities already and heard the whole population cry out vehemently against the glandelinians for the horrid disasters they have caused,, no one who have have read the news of the floods, disasters of explosions, terrible massacres of children, and forest fire terrors and heaven knows what could stand it in their hearts, and the conversation was rampant everywhere I went through the streets, or into a house to see friends. The scenes of excitement caused by these disaster news resembles the horrors of the terrible French Revolt or "Reign of Terror". every one cried out terrible curses against Glandelinia, and no one can count the numbers who either stormed the Draft Boards or Recruiting Stations for entrance into the army, and either failing because there is no room to admit so many at once, or before they are too young or old, have formed armies of their own and selected their own leaders to go and fight Glandelinia. If Glandelinia does not have a down fall in the near future she never will....""
"You have then had more exp riences that I have had I percieve" said Angeline Riches."
"No not possibly I" said Sturring." I am only for setting things right. But what is isthe second thig thing whereby you would prove a discovery of works that would

prove a recovery of means to frustrate the enemys purpose of making other such disasters."

"That, said Angeline Richee" is the great knowledge of christian spies is finding out and knowing what the enemy would be up to next."

"This should have been attempted first, f but first or last, it is also now too late, for knowledge of what the enemy does or can do, great knowledge may be obtained by only means of great risk, and yet many cannot a obtain such means as it seems utterly impossible. Yes if there can be spies that have all knowledge, he may yet to successful, as long as he asks the help of God and trusts in his works. When general Vivian said to me "Do you e know how to accomplish the mission the Princesses have set you on. "I had answered yes" and the general added "Well blessed blessed are you and the Country too if you succeed in doing it. He did not lay the blessing to the atcome of the country's cause in the knowing of what my mission is going to be, but in the successful accomplishment of it. A man may know how to make a mission of my kind like an ag angel even, and yet be no successful means to do it, unless he had the turlent of doing it it. You are one of the spies who says youll do it, and you do. For there is knowledge that is attended with what you do, you know your ways and you do it. Indeed to know a thing, and to do it pleases both country and god. Not that any one need to accomplish anything good for the coungr countrys good by knowledge, for without bravery and carefulness all attempts to learn anything goes for naught, therefore it is best also to k have good sound knowledge. Knowledge that roots in the bare speculation of all things, and knowledge that also is accomplished with the grace of Faith in Gods ' helping in the adventures, which puts any spy or scout or agent upon doing anything they set out for accomplishing, the first of these will serve the Country and God best. Give me understanding of my works, ad and I will accomplish all with my heart."

"You are talking with good sense." said Angeline Richee.

"Well if you please. Expl profound another sign how the enemy can be prevented from making further disasters." said Starring."

"Not I." said Angeline Richee. "It is beyond me, even though we must agree to the help of God as you say."

"Well if you cannot" said Starring," will you give me leave to do it?"

"You may use your full liberty" said Angeline Richee."

"The work of many good spies, discover many things that could astonish any one, or christian generals the selves. To him it had it thus, ;it gives him conviction of the nature of the enemy,, especially of the defilement of the Glandelinian nation, its wickedness,, and the sin of massacre and committing unecessary devastation-for the sake of which she sure is to be defeated in the near future. This sight and sense of things works in him sorrow and shame for the deeds against his beloved country, he finds moreover, revealed to him the Savior of the World Re-Crucified by Glandelinia, and the absolute necessity of trying to rescue Him before it is too late, at which he finds causes a defeat terrible to Glandelinia and so on. Now according to the strength of the Abbiennian Government itself, so is the Emperors joy and peace, so is his love to His country and her holy cause, so are his desires to know it more, and also to serve God more and more in this world. But though I say the situation of all is discovered to him, yet it is but seldom that he is able to conclude that this is the work of his spies and agents only because his many other spies now, discovers all other corruptions of Glandelinia now, makes his mind to misjudgethis matter, therefore in them that has accomplished this work, there is required a very sound judgement before he or they can conclude with steadiness, that this is a work of great accomplishment. To others it is thus discovered; By an experimental of his faith in Christ helping him through his tak tasks tasks. By a righteous life answerable to that profession, to wit a life of holiness, heart holiness, family holiness if he has a good family, and then with that condition Our blessed Lord helps him through his aventure adventure, as he should and would abhor all these terrible sinful things Glandelinia has done, as a saint should abhor his own sin, and to promote men of his own kind in his own command, not to accomplish things by talk only, but by a practical subjection in faith, and love to do duty to both God undc and Country. And now Angeline, as to this brief de discription of the work of spy accomplishment, and also the descovery of the right means of it, if you have aught to object, object, if not then give me leave to propound to you a second question."

"Nay" said Angeline" my part is not to object, but to hear, let me therefore have your second question."

"It isthis" said Starring. Do you experience the first part of the description of such a spy or scout, and does your life and conversation testify the same, or does your word mean as much as doing. I know you will not incline to answer me, in this, for anything that you can justify yourself in, approves of a good conscience therefore.. Besides to say I am thus and thus, when my conversation and my friends tell me I dothat I speak, is great honor."

For a moment Angeline Richee seemed to blush, but recovering herself she replied; "Youcome now to my own experience, and to make an appeal for justification of what I am. This kind of discourse I have expected right along, but for the sake of of my mission I cannot to save my own sa self be disposed to give an answer to such questions in a section of country where I do not know people, because I count my-

self bound thereto to keep things a dead secret, unless you take upon yourself to be a mind reader, and read my mind. But some secret places I will tell you all. But I pray sir will you tell me why you ask me such questions?"

"Because I saw you good and proper, and I know that you had some characestiv that makes a good scout. Besides to tell you the truth Miss Richee, I have heard of you, that you are a girl scout whose work lies in doing everything to speak of you intend, and thatyour conversation is the following out of everything you wish to accomplish. They say you are a tigress among Glandelinians, and that their generals fare the worst for your presence,-that many a glandelinian army tumbled into ruin because of your successful expeditions for our cause-and that more are in danger of being destroyed there y, your spying work, and scouting, and investigating, and other works have brought great results for our christian generals. The proverb is tru trusof you, which is said" that a little girl scout called Angeline Richee is a greater terror to the enemy, than a young Rotennia Blengin, so you could also be a help in my own mission."

"Since you have learned all that, I cannot but conclude, you have been worthy of my company, and so if that is what you desire, so be it. But if I must be your guide you must therefore do all I ask and say, so that we may go it properly."

As Starring went back to Radcliffe the latter said;

"I told you how it would happen, your words and here has come to a good agreement, she would rather have your o company, but she is to be our guide, as I said- let her do as she knows right, otherwise the loss is none but our own, she has already saved us the trouble of running into dangers unknown, for her continding, as I know she will do, as she is, it will be a bad blot in our company if she was not with us, besides best to have one who can do anything."

"I am glad" said Starring that I had this little discourse with her, it may happen that she will do wonders for us, however I have dealt plainly with her and so she is clear of our blood if we heed not her directions and perish in the adventure now progressing."

"Yes" declared Radcliffe "you did well to talk as plainly to her as you did, there is but little hope of accomplishing your mission without her aith, you and violet, and her sisters, and also Gertrude Angeline knew it, therefore they sent her and me and that makes your mission safer if you follow her, for she is not vain in her conversation though to some she may appear directly talktive, for she is not only in word, though plenty is her words, yet still more her deeds, and she is strong and plain in her conversation, for she has stumbled the Glandelinian generals, blemish blemished their efforts, and grived their wicked cause. I wish that all spies could deal with the foe as she has done so far, then the enemy would be giving up sooner , or the christian armies would be too hot for them..."""""

Thus they went on riding their horses and talking of what they had seen by the way, and so made that way easier which otherwise would no doubt have been quite tedious for the for t now the wilderness grew thicker in trees so thick that the forest on each side of the road was as dark as midnight...

Chapter Eleven.

The
THE ADVENTURERS COME UPON A CHRISTIAN ARMY UNDER GENERAL
NORO VIVIANIA. STARRING TELLS HIM HIS ADVENTURE.
AFTER LEAVING CAMP THEY GO THROUGH STRANGE INCIDENTS.

Now when they were approaching a large clearing in this wilderness, Radcliffe chanced to cast his eye back, and espied a party coming behind at some distance and felt sure he knew them.

"Oh " said Radcliffe, to starring, and Angeline," look he is coming yonder....."

The others therefore looked,, and Angeline said;

"Why it is Jennie Turner and Mildred Maxwell with a number of girl scouts. "

"Aye and I did not expect them to follow us" said Radcliffe" believing they had remained with the Princesses" for it was one who suggested to Violet, and her sisters to find you."

Now when Jennie Turner and her companions had come up with them, she saluted them,,, thus,l;;;;

"god help you in your journey, dearly beloved, and an aid to your helpers, but also peace be to you."

All of them cried at one time;;;;½-

"Welcome ,welcome my good girl scout, the sight of your presence brings to our rem our remembrance your good will and kindess and unwearied labering for the good of our country and its cause."

"And said starring himself;;

"And a million, hundred million times welcome," as thr thy company, Miss Turner, how desir dise desirable to all of of us."

"yes it seems to be" How had it fared with your friends, since the time of our last parting. What have you all met with,, and how have you gone through it all?"

Then starring himself to satisfy the probable curiosity of the girl scout told her of all things that had happened to them since he first started out, and howcard and how and with what difficulty they had gotten to this part of the woods.."

"Right glad am that you have progressed so far with success in your undertaking" said Jennie Turner and for that you have notwithstanding many difficulties, continued in this way to this very day even though I know many advised you against it for the perils you may meet on the way. I will also say right glad am of this thing, and that for im mine own sake and yours, the enemy have sowed, and you have already reaped,, and let us hope and pray that the day will soon be coming, when Abbieannia can rejoice with the world--that is if you hold out on yout adventure for in due time you will and must succeed, if you do not give up. We had to leave off, Violet, and her sisters and the rest of us for the fires struck Ranlo,s camps,, and stopped our efforts and drove him on a disorderly retreat. But with Gods help success will be and is before you, so strive that you may succeed. Many others have been been that have set out to learn the clues of the disasters which we have been seeking, but none have succeeded yet. Hold fast therefore to your purpose, let no one interfere with your plans, you are not yet out of thr gunshot of the demon fire either, you have not yet succeeded, striving in this purpose. Let the hope of success urge you on,, and believe steadfastedly that god will help you tru through. Let nothing that is in your cause get in your way unless it be for you good, and above all look well to every part of the country, and to all the danersx dangers especially the forest fires for they are the worse above all things, and desperately desperately dangerous, set your faces to the task you have all power in heaven and within the christian localities on your side."

Then Starring thanked her for her exhortation, but told told her withal, that they would wish her to speak further with them for their help the rest of the way, and the rather for that for that they well knew that she also was a good scout, and that could tell them of things that might happen to them if they were not any too careful, and also how they might resist and overcome many perils. to which also Angeline richess consented. so Jennie Turner said;; said;;

"Well no one can forseen anything that far" she answers but we all must go through through manybtr b tribulations peril before we can succeed in anything. And then you cannot go out on any kind of adventurewithout there being some kind of excitement to it. You have found something of the truth of these kind of experiences already, and and am positively sure more will immediately follow, for now as you see we are still in this wilderness. We are also heading for a large christian army that is advancing this way to making a junction with concentinian Arronburg and vivianannna Vivianannna, which you will bye and bye see before you. As later on you might be everywhere st beset with perils and enemies, who will strain hard to either hinder your purpose or kill you you must have a force of retainers to guard you, but we must be faithful in all our work or otherwise there will be no success for our Countrys cause. But when you are come to the view of the army, and shall find it is the christian army I mentioned, for I saw it coming from the heights before I met you, then remember your friends, and on the future of the adventure let us all committ the keeping of our souls to our God in welldoing, as unto a Faithful Cra Creator and a God Loving Country."

"I would have been here much sooner, but that through my foolishness, I slept in the resting place near the summit of this hill, and even then despite that I would then have been here much sooner, but in my sleep I lost my roll, and came without it to the brow of this hill, and then when I felt for it and I found it was gone I was forced with sorrow and axiety to go back to the place where I had it been sleeping, where I found it. And now I have come up here."

"Well I will call out one of the lieutenants of this camp, who will if he likes your talk bring you in to the rest of the ranger force, and examine you according to the rules of the Rangers."

So the guard shot off his pistol, at the sound of which, came out from one of the tents a tall stately man who asked why he was called.

There was a few minutes of conversation between the guard and the officer, and then he said more loudly "This is general Walter Starring of general Vivians commands sent on a journey from general Vivians lines by Violet and her sisters to learn of something important concerning the flood and other disasters, but being weary from being a long fugitive from forest fires, and probably shadowed by secret enemies he asked me he if he and his followers might lodge here for the night,, so I told him I would summon you first, who after you have had discourse with him, may do as you may think proper, according to the law of the Forest Ranger Camps.."

The officer of the ranger looked him and his companions over very carefully, sized them up, and Walter could see that the man was stern and rough in appearance. Then he asked in gruff tones;

"From what part of general Robertsonia Vivians army did youse came from, where are youse going, and wom sent youse?"

"Starring told him in his military manner."

" Him, I see it. How did youx youse find your way on this path?"

"I was directed by general Viviania and general Hansonia."

"Well that sounds pretty good for your weide. what have youse seen and met with in the way?"

"Starring gave a graphic description of his experience.

"What is your name sir?"

"I'm Walter Starring. I and my companions have so much desire to lodge here in your camp for the night because by what I perceive this is a camp of forest Rangers, and you may be camped here to watch fires and make secot security for refugees."

The ranger smiled, but the water stood in his eyes, and after a little pause he said;

"I will call forth two of my officers and a member."

So he sent another man, and called out three more officers who after a little discourse with him and his followers, allowed him to come into the camp, the officer saying ;

"Come in you Christian friend, we are glad to welcome thee."

Then Walter followed followed them into the camp. He sat down on a log near another beacom fire, and one of the men gave him something to drink, and conversed with him until until supper was ready, some of the officer s also spoke spoke with Walter, for the best improvement of time, and then the chief officer wishing to know something for the good of his rangers began with Walter;;;;;;

"Well General, since we are on friendly sides, and as we have recieved you into our camp to night lut let us if it pleases you talk with you of all things, that have happened to you during your adventures."

"I am perfectly willing, and I am glad that you are so well disposed."

"What moved you at first to betake yourself on this strange and very great mission, which to us appears to be very dangerous also?"

"I ha heard so much news of the dreadful forest fires and floods and other disasters that have been as it is said made by the enemy, that unusual destruction of country side that even I too have been frequently a witness of. I have been even driven out of the sections of the country by the dreadful sounds of the explosions that have never left my ears. And the Vivian Girl Princesses also begged me to go out on the quest with the propose to help them in their own efforts?"

"Out" said the ranger" "How did it happen you came through the forested country this way where forest fires of awful sizes are spreading everywhere."?

"I believe it was as God would have it, and before I came to general Arronburgs army I was persued by the tremendous forest fires, and for a time I was under the fears of destruction, I did not know which way to go, then by unlucky chance I was shot at from ambush by glandolinian spies, rescued by Gertrude Angeline, who took care of me untill general Arronburg came up with his armies, then after that the left wing of the forest fire swept upon his army and routed it, and I had a thrilling time rescueing the general himself from destruction. After I was recovered from my injuries recieved during my rescuing the general, he directed me to general Vivianias army, which also in such a smoke shrouded region I would have never found, and so set me into the way that led me directly through general Hansonias camp, untill finally I reached here."

"But did you come have an inverview with general Hansonia?"

"Yes and seen many interestings things there the remembrance of which will stick to me as long as I live. Many other things I saw before I reached general Concentinian Arronburg s lines. Now hundreds of rangers there, despite the destructive fury of forest fires, maintained their desperate fight against it, how the fires

continued on so relentlessly, that I lost hope of ever seeing it overcome, and also that it made a scene as though the day of judgement had come."

"Did the forest fire keep general Arronbarga army always on the retreat.!!!!""""

"Yes, and a most dreadful one it was, it made my heart ache as I observed its awf ul r progress, but yet I'm glad I hav experienced a part of it so I'll know what I shall do in ano cano another ome ovmon comes p too close."

"Was that all you saw on your way tward General Arronbarga lines after your injury?!"

"No, but it is too much to tell in one time .I also watched aldi r soldiers and rangers day by day cut their way through forests to make fire breaches, but all their work could not stop the flames.I could have stayed at that good generals head-quarters for a long time, but that I must seek after the quent."

"And what saw you also in the way, that is before you was shot at in ambush.!!!""

"Why as I first started out from general Vivians lines not far from the battle field of E Evangeline St Clare, I saw the enemy moving off tward the northwest.Twas a strange thing to me for I never saw the enemy make such a move? before.Yes and while I stood looking at them from a high ridge, I saw for the first time the forest fire that pursued me and it was coming for Manleys army, and general Vivians too lay in its path.All these devastations caused by the enemy brought in mind Our Blessed Lord hanging bleeding pon the Cross ,and that they insulted him with these disasters as he hung dying....You and while I stood looking on and ondering pondering on these things, some of the nearest glandolinians perceiving me opened fire and gave chase but I escaped.General Vivian furnished with this disguise gray coat which you see I'm wearing, and also gave me this sealed roll."and with that he plucked it out of his bosom"

"And what else did you see on your way.!"

"Saw." said Walt."But as I went but a little further, I saw the fire coming for my observation post like the speed of a hurricane cloud, and I saw hundreds of refugees fleeing b fore it having no doubt left towns which were in its path.Then when I rescued him, and then left for Hanscenian lines and then got off again I found it hard work to get p this hill, and as hard to come past two Blengigloemoun Creatures because of my uniform uniform, and truely if it ha not been for one of your guards I might have retraced my steps, but now thank god I am here, and I thank you for recieving me."

Then the Ranger chief thought of asking him a few questions, and desired his answer to them."

"Do you not think the devastation will hurt all parts of Calvirinia, which from you came?"

"Yes, and I can only think of it with much shame and detestation, truely if I had been mindful of that country's destruction, I might have had opportunity to mobolize a large army of rangers and men from towns and villlages, and go out to turn aside the disasters myself if possible now I see it is impossible, that Calvirinia in explosions, fires floods, and massacres and other horrors is nothing short but a terrible soothing hell of dreadful sorrow suffering and death."

"Did you not bring along with you some passes with which you might have an easier chance of entering General Johnston Jackon Manleys lines?"

"Yes, but greatly it is against my will to carry so much trash, but to be successful in my purpose I had to cease choose to do so, otherwise surely enough I would never choose to use such passes any more, for should I desire t to enter a strange christian line, I would have trouble to do so for the guards would wish to desire an explanation of whi why I carry a roll pass into the christian lines and an enemy pass also.And I cannot throw the latter away u n untill I finish my mission.And yet all those things which I have seen and heard are my grief and resentment.... resentment."

"Well" continued the ranger,"Do you not believe som times the news reporting our cause is vanquished, which at other times such news is a perplexity for the whole world in general."?

"No I think the reports are either a mistake or false.I have heard such reports but seldom, but they are nevertheless to me spurs, for in which such things happen in this war increases my determination to discover the ones who are responsible responsible."

"""" Can you remember by what some you found these kinds of news annoying at times, as if the christian armies and our cause were vanquished?"

"Yes, when I think of what I read of in the newspapers, heard of from the generals, saw startling letters written to Violet and her sisters which they showed to me, and when I saw the whole scenes of other great disasters, forest fires, expl sexplosions, and other floods too that seems enough to do it. And when I looked upon the discouraged faces of many of the best christian generals that is enough to do it, but when I look at the situation in another way I feel different, for then I have the believe from histories that I have read, and reread that usually nations who are in the right cause, have the worst luck at the beginning of conflicts, and have the best of luck in the final issue.That should do anything to discourage such unusual lying or blundering reports.!!.."

"""""And what is it that makes you so desirous to go to general Manley Manleys army to find out who is guilty of the said disasters you tell me about ?"

"Why there I hope to secure clues as to the ones who may have ordered the disasters to be made, and by finding out this I hope the c nation may be rid of all those things that may cause future disasters of the same kind, for all this is a dreadful annoyance to me, for throughout the devastted devastated parts of Calvirinia a horrible valley of death is on, and there it is a great likeness of thev Infernal Regions vfor for ex

for the good instead of the wicked, For to tell you the truth, I love the state of Calvirinia next to our Blessed Lord, who did hand dead on the Cross, and therefore I am weary of all these horrors, I would even fain be where I'd see it no more, and have this dreadful war also have its final climax."

"Th Then said the Ranger leader;"

Have you a large Command under you in general Vivians army.?Are you a Major general too.!!"

"I have four divisions, six brigades of infantry, and four cavarly squadrons, and six u hundred pieces of artillery.""....."

"And why did you not bring them along with you on this mission?"

"Bring my army along on this MISSION!"

"YEs. It would be safer."

"Why sir it would look very conspicious and even it would be exceedingly dangerous for me to have a large army accompany me, even though willingly I would have done it.But even for my sake many of my officers desired to accompany me and I was utterly opposed to them accompanying me on this adventure.It should would or sure would have been my exposure."

"But you should have taken them nevertheless and have them close by in hiding places near Manleys army, for you know not the danger of going on such an adventure when all the glandolinians are wise to all such spies trying to learn why the flood and explosion disasters were made."

"So it might seem, but I believed also general Vivian could not spare that force of men and that some parts of his army would need go to the scenes of the destruction of some of our fairest cities.Therefore I deemed it wiser to go on alone."

"And did you pray to God and ask His Blessed Mothers Intercession asking that they They would bless your interprize, and cause a good council to come to you?"

"I sure did" answered Starring," and that with much affection and devotion, for you must know that He and His Blessed Mother are also very dear to me."

"Did youconfide to him and His Blessed Mother of the country suffering and sorrow, an and fear of Total destruction, for I suppose you saw enough disasters to make that dear destruction visible to you."

"Yes, I prayed over and over again.The officers under me saw my fears in my face in my tears, and also in my trembling under the apprehensive fearings of the scenes like coming judgement that did hang over the nation especially Calvirinia, but yet he He did not seem to hear me."

"But " continued the Ranger " could you say more why you did not allow your command to come with you?"

"Why I was afraid that the showing of so many men, could cause my intention to be exposed, and so what by one thing, and what by another, I left them behind to wander in this manner with only these few companions."

"But why did you not trust more by chance of plans, and have them come along.did not one of your officers persuade you to allow them to come along with you."

"Indeed I cannot hide my secrets away, for so far I am conscious of many on of my own failings, and I know also that any man by his conversation may soon overthrow any argument or persuation, he would try upon others, but none affected me this way though of course they tried.Yet this I can say, I was also very wary of giving them occassion, by any unseemingly action, to make them fe fear to go on any mission with me.Yes for this very thing, they would tell me I was too rash with my own safty, and that I would risk too much for even children that should have sent soldiers instead of me.Nay I think I may say that if they saw any danger in which they thought to hinder me, it was my tenderness in the o welfare of Violet and her sisters, or for the sake of God and His Blessed Mother."

"Indeed" said the Ranger"Glandolinia is like a female Cain hatig hating her sister Calvirinia and others, because her own works w re were wicked and those of her sisters righteous, and therefore all that Glandolinia has done is implacable to the good, and our government must deliver Calvirinia and her sister states for our own good.Yet though I have not heard of the disasters Walt, yet from the first accounts of the explosions that have made floods, and from fires also it is clear to me and to the nation in general that these disasters must rank among the greatest disasters of the whole world in general!Nevertheless these disasters through glandolinians fault cannot be literally account for. Closer inspection by the investigators could not be used to establish even the true rank of the eruption like explosions, for for war made cataclysms that would wreck towns from concussion many miles away miles bury towns a mile off under earth debris, and whose concussions were so loud as to excite the co mond of people nearly eight hundred miles away whi h explosions threw up such a quanity of debris and earth with the same volcano meanens as to seriously deminish the intensity of sunlight for days and for forest fires to cover the country side for many months throughout the whole of Calvirinia, must be the est greatest disasters ever heard of or known to our own existance.It was something most unusual that even our Government really I know

DONT believe. Yet tremendous as must have been the outbreak of explosions that produce produced such effects as recorded, it has gradually become certain, as all the investigators have proven, and who have taken chances with their lives in exploring the whole disaster c country round about, that even the explosions that wrecked and caused floods to sweep Abbieann away was by no means the most remarkable feature of this most tremendous disaster. Yet it is too much to claim that the evieceration of these enemy mines of great size was only a more subordinate outbreak of disasters consequ nsequent upon the main disasters, yet it is certain that before that explosion disaster occured, others of the first m gnitude also had already occured at a distance some hundred miles from that city, that might have begun the origin t of the following floods"

"How do you make that out?" Asked Starring.

"How?"

"Yes."

"Why the main relative importance of the unusual explosion, given rise to the valley of death over Calverinia, in flood fire and so forth, as compared with the main explosions and the resultant forest fire plagues to boot may be judged, it is certain that that flood horror did not begin, as the government naturally would suppose, with the big explosion fourty miles northwest of Abbieann. That was rather the closing act in that disaster drama, the sequel to other big mine explosions like eruptions at more than two hundred miles distance from Abbieann."

"How can any one prove that?" demanded Walter Starring.

"Its It can be or proven by the fact that the debris of many other enormous explosions overwhere lies on the forests in fields and over e everywhere showing that the latter explosions have occured before the big mines not near Abbieannblew blew up."

"That seems exaggerated."

"Well it may seem so to you who have not witnessed it. The discovery of the awful disasters recorded in the news and in other reports, and also as will soon be described in many of our magazens mazagenes could easily furnish the conviction for the whole world in general that there were many other phases of the eruptive explosions and flood disasters more interesting than the Abbieann catastrophy, but any understanding of what really occured in those days of horrid bloody disaster months elsewhere involved so much study by Government, and geographic and other Scotis societies that it has not been possible untill now to even give a least verdict of the real nature of any of these disasters, and even yet there is much that must be left to conjecture, although the general features stand out fairly clearly. The task of finding out and interpreting the events of any of these great explosions and floods has been much the more difficult, because so far as can be found, nothing resembles them as closely, or has anything like them ever been recorded before. Not even a volcanic eruption of the most violent kind cp compares to them since there were very few real witnesses to the immense catastrophe we therefore are limited in framing our accounts of the events of these horrors to deductions from the study of their awful effects on the state of Calverinia. Indeed Walt it is hardly probable that any observer too close would have survived to tell the tale if he had been near enough to n any one explosion disaster of the Abbieann kind to see what a actually happened. It will be understood therefore, that the accounts of the explosions themselves must of necessity be made up of reasonable inferences and conclusions ff from the only evidences left behind, rather than of the narration of a series of observed events, which the Government so desires. Any anyhow real facts are hidden or prevented from being known by the enemy."

"It may be a fact at that" said Walter Starring. As I have heard some time before before the beginning of these great explosion and flood disasters, whose sounds first announced to the world that a war of battle and hell eruptions of gunpowder was in progress, and a nation of forests burning, with wild battles and massacres and what not in unspeakable horrors, a host of smaller explosions burst upon the plains near Lake Selicia, through which ran a part of the Yellow Brick, or Big Girl Knool road, causing the Lake Selicia Flood horror. The date is known but was probably sometime early in November 1913, causing a frightful loss of life for a flood over twenty one hundred thousand. However the venemy did it, yet in the very formation of these enormous mines, they were powerful enough as many papers say to present a feature at even a far distance even more unusual than for even a volcanic phenomena may put such an action of nature out of existance, may this was no renewkening of d dormant disasters of the past, such as constitutes the vast majorities of early explosion and other disasters, but rather the man made formation of new highly explo explosive mines near the dikes of Lake Selicia in areas where none had been made, up under ground previously. If there had been nothing else remarkable about the disaster, this alone would have set it off as a notworthy event."

"Probably so" said the ranger, but the explosions were the same at or near Abbieann don't you see. The explosions there may be of greater force for you must understand that proofs have been shown that the explosions left many crater like holes in the ground, deformed the face of the country, and made a stretch of five hundred miles of fissures in the ground like those produced by an earthquake. How many of the explosions there were or how the explosions may have m looked when they occured, we

have no means of knowing as the enemy even prevents such investigations, but there is nevertheless every reason to believe they constituted literally a host in number, and that the cra craters produced by the explosions consist of lines of cratiform holes blown through the floor of the plains near the city, resembling perhaps the close set shell holes of a Vimion Wickey battlefield though of course much larger that the explosions produced by the biggest shells. What ever the cause of these explosions of what their force it is certain that they looked like volcanoes in eruo eruption the throwing out ash and pumice in enormous quantities."

"But how can any one tell how they looked like when the explosions came?"

"No one to be su e can give any idea of what the scene must have been like during this momentary stage of horror, before the flood came. In addition to such myraids of explosions, probably equally as great as volcanic eruption in all probabilities, scores of hundreds of the blasts must have been going on like a rapid musketry fire. One theory was that not far from this scene a forest was being consumed by a veritible sea of fire. Whether this set off the explosions also no one can say, but the sudden outbreak of the flood partly ruined the forest fire. Yet prodigious quantities of debris, was as of earth, broken trees and water too sand and clay, sand stone and turf issued from the ground during the explosions, and later on the ensueing floods coming from only Heaven knows where poured out on the ground, following the slope in rolling tumbling torrents that carried alwa all before them. In the moment of the explosions if one could have seen them, to the blasts no doubt would have made many ignorant witnesses believe many separate volcanoes would have appeared in different parts of the country near Abbieann such pouring for a moment forth its own contribution to the general chaoes and then to be engulfed and put out by the sudden devastating flood that follows."

"But what about the main force?"

"No one can account for that. Yet from each explosion there was probably a great black cloud rising to a considerable height in innumerabl expanding lobulated convolutions. From evidence of other explosions, great flashes of weird grandeur accOmpanied the clouds rising during the blasts. On making a most careful observation it probably would have been or become evident that the source of the cloud was more from high explosives than mere mine powders. It was in fact pr produced by a single of gun cotton and T.N.T , and the force of the blasts might have been so great that the whole cloud was puffed up like those seen in eruptions of volcanoes. If any other of a score of valleys in the vinicity had been the seat of explosion shocks and disasters it would probably be possible to gain any information of its character before the main flood disaster, for the whole country roundabout was terribly devastated in such manner as to destroy all evidence looked for."

"But " insisted walter Starring " what could have erased all evidence?"

"Why the ensueing flood of course. Abbieann had been in its own place a regular Center for Railroads like Chicago in America, a part of the great Sondon railroad also having run through. The city was much used by the best railroad lines in the nation before the disaster which wiped out all these railroad lines with the city. It is certain that none of these railroad presidents, ever suspected that this rich section of Calverinia might become the drama of such an unusual disaster. There was no indication of enemies being around to set in such dreadful mines, and there had only been in the far off forests south of Abbieann an independent forest fire raging. The region there was overgrown by dense forests of spruce, poplar and birch, broken only by ponds , a big river of the Taminiq un and high tundras in the low places. While any one might have any time suspected some disasterous explosion, the possibility of such a cataclysm as broke out in neogal state and sweeping away such a big city as Abbieann would never have occured to him. There was only one man , know who claimed to be a witness to one of the explosions near Abbieann mind you only one of the explosions, out of many. Warned by many other far distant preliminary war disturbances of whose character no clear account could be given beyond the statement that there might have been " strange earthquakes of seconds duration, one of the plains men, had gone up on a high hill near Abbieann to look for the progress of the forest fire, and was having the full view of the city within his eye sight, when the nearest of the explosions occured."

"Were any others with him.?"

"No he was the only one who had any opportunity of observing what happened near Abbieann. I have recieved an unusual interest in his story, since meager as it is it constitutes the only scrap so far of direct evidence concerning the biggest disaster ever hard heard of that can ever be secured. He told me;

"It looked like a big mountain blowing up with lots of fire, with far distant forest fire coming down the valleys with lots of smoke. At first , did believe it was a volcanic eruption occuring suddenly. I started fast for the lower places to avoid the shower of debris that followed. I then was horrified to see the immense city hid away in dreadful clouds of smoke or dust and heard a tremendous roar in her direction. I felt the convussion of an earthquake several times. It was a scene like a nothing h ll. For fifteen minutes may half a hour everything grew dark, so I could not see. I thought hell had broken loose. Later when saw Abbieann ruined by the crash and then see the flood rush on her, I worked like hell to climb up higher to avoid being caught in the torrent. I'll never forget it till my dying day."

Realizing [illegible]
Realizing the importance of the testimony of this man, I endeavored to question him to recieve further details, but none were do obtained.He and his associates were too badly frightened and too much concerned with the effects of the disaster, and with fleeing "from the wrath to come" to make any detailed observations.He must have left the region before the disaster was fairly under way.Indeed it is probable that he and hiscompanionscoul companions could not have escaped if they had been a little later.The forest fires no' in the path of the flood came down the Wickey Bay Valley and these were fires of such intensity that they swept over all the adjoining mountain sides consuming every forest in its path, every vestige of vegetation throughout the area surrounding the flood zone of Bengal State and Abbicann."

"But is it not probable that these statements of the disaster is not exaggerated to some unusual degree?"

"No sir.The worst will never be told.So comple ely were the trees destroyed in these forest fires that there remains to day not even a scrap of charred wood or any other evidence to indicate their former presence.In all the paty path path of this dreadful forest fire all plants trees and all, bridges over streams and so forth were completely consumed, and their ashes long since scattered.Elsewhere t where the fire had been somewhat less intense the roots of the former abundant forest trees and lower vegetation remain in the soil but the fire made a clean sweep of everything above ground.On account of the complete destruction of everything combus tible, no trace a f a forest for six hundred miles hardly remains except ash and desolation.The entire forested region beyond the flood has been reduced to a baren waste, a near desert of charred wreck and ashes.Many spaces still smoke as if they were fumarols.I was told by [illegible] many witnesses of the forest fires that the flames consuming the red hot vegetation like oil, converted the ground into red hot earth, and sand hills in the path of the conflagration turned into a single fiery torrent of its own of seething swirling masses of red hot sand and rock, which rolled down the valley under gravity.Before it finally came to rest this fiery torrent ran down the valley for a mile or so.Even at that distance the sand was so hot that although it no longer utterly consumed even new forests in its own path, nor started new fires up the mountain sides beyond its reach it still reduced every stick it touched to charcoal.The charcoal forests produced with the ending of the conflagration are extremely impressive witnesses of the fiery conflagration that overwhelmed them, far more striking than the burnings of the other path of conflagration, where the work of destruction was so complete as to leave the imagination powerless to reconstruct the original scene.

In many places I have seen the trunks of the overwhelmed trees standing where they grww grow, rooted in the ground, but turned to columns of black charcoal.Such charcoal logs were in many cases a foot in diameter."

"That indicates something unusual indeed " said Starring, "Although Starring the description will undoub tedly call to mind the condition of an ordinary forest fire, yet it seems improbable that the forest fire can do all you say, but just the same I have to believe it mr Ranger because though you might laugh at me I've seen sights resultant from forest fires that makes your statement seem nothing , a mere nothing.During the f fires I have been a fugitive of, rocks have turned to the likeness of molten lave, and though these melting rocks cannot be compared to flowing lava, dif differing from a lava flow in many cases, they were nevertheless turned liquid before before the immense heat.The physical behavor of this resultant fluid becau e because of the heat was of course very different from molten lava, for lava under the most favorable circumstances is aviscous liquid, loving slowly like stiff tar, whereas these melting rocks ran like water."

"Yes but , doubt that the Abbicann disaster can be outrivaled" said the Ranger."The unusual explosions continued for a time, say less than fifteen minutes, past midnight that fatal hour, tearing great yawning holes in the surface of the Bengal valley-the present mine of explosion craters which dot its surface in places where the flood had not hit now f of course filled with water.Some of these as investigators found are isolated, others stretch out in long lines like beads on a string indicating that they had been placed by the sc secret enemies in long lines but in tunnels underground.In other places they are so thick'y peppered over the surface of the ground as to coalesce and form compound nests of " shell like craters." everywhere.Two of these measure two miles in diameter.The explosions responsible for the craters, make shell craters of the battlefields of the Vivian Wickey seige appear insignificant as comparesion.Still these explosions capable of tearing up huge pieces pieces of ground in some places more than a mile wide and upheaving them like volcanic eruptions would from the human standpoint form about as awe-inspiring an exhibition of titanic forces as can well be imagined."

"How far was the extent of the forest fire up there?"

"Well this fiery conflagration at its height sir must indeed have presented a spectacle if it could have been seen through the sea of impenetrable black clouds that rose above the burning forests far surpassing the most weirdest image of the dreadful infernal regions ever conjured up by poet or preacher or pante in an effort

to picure picture the place of overlasting torment.The spectacle of the explosions was not seen by the human eye but some of the fire was.Yet its resulty is one of the most impressive features of the disaster.Not only did the terrific conflagration continue down the main army of the Wickey Lunsin valley, tward Evangeline St Claire for two hundred miles but it also ran back a sea of fire across the forested divide behind v a Ava Maria Heights of the Vivian Hills, and completely encircled diamond mountain rushing up a side valley under the Bondon Hills to join the main great conflagration again down tward Sound end where its new heading.Here surprising yet a larg section of the conflagration is pouring across the Mic-Hollester pi er Riverulong which course it is burning both across and both ways sending one sea of fire down tward the thickly forested base of Heidi's ridge on the Mic-Hollestor side of the range, while another burns up into the main valley between Sound Bend and Gloriannia ridges.Over most of this area this conflagration is so intense in heat, and trees are so close together that no indication of what was even a forest remains.It is therefore impossible to estimate the amount of destruction as yet.

The figure of the loss of the property caused by the explosions, floods, and the fires put together is so large as to pass comprehension. The country itself has been pulverized by the explosion and floods.

The nation is sending out huge armies of allied bodied men not yet in the army to fight these blazes, yet they find before they had finished turning aside a portion of the fire it springs up anew somewhere else.In seeking to gain some magnitude of these awful forest fires we may inquire how it would appear as if so many big fires would be raging along the mountains of the Pacific side of the United States. The answer is that that part of the country would soon be entirely devoid of all its forests, and the effect over all that country would be as if all the mountain rage range of the Rockies would have broken out in eruption as vol violent as the most explosive eruptions we have so often read of."

Indeed they had sat talking together untill supper was ready .The table was not forthcoming the rangers just eating out of military utensils, but they had good food nevertheless, and while they ate the talk continued about the conditions of the wars progress, the difficulty of over all the men called out from various cities and towns to help the rangers combat the dreadful fires,, ab also about Our Blessed Lord, and what we might feel and think over the awful situation brought on by the wicked Glandelinians,,as namely what even He might do or cause to be done in the fu future if Glandelinia keeps it up, wherefore what Emperor Vivian himself was didding, or what he did it, and why the Abbicannian Government was seemingly so slow to take a hand in the situation, and by what all Governmental officials may have said and done about the series of disasters,, that why it is that Emperor Vivian being a great warrior in his earlier days did not do something to Glandelinia, and why he had not fought with the enemy more than one battle, knowing that if such things go on as now it will be to a great danger to himself. wor , as the rangers all said to Starring that it appeared as if the country of Calverinia was like one Crucified with the loss of much blood.Therefore it was true that if any one who can secure any suffucient information not only aw as to who among the glandelinians did the deeds and caused the disasters by order or action but also how they got the materials to make such tremendous explosions, will put him into grace of great glory and honor for accomplishing it, providing i he did it out of pure love of country, to aid the Vivian Girls and not out of search for honor and fame alone...And besides there were some of the rangers who did speak to the great Emperor who claimed that Calverinia was like one of Gladelinians helpless victims who was forced by her to die on the Cross , and they attested they had heard from his own lips, that he is such a lover of of his own country and her states, that the like is not to be found from any other ruler from the east to the west, and that EmperorVivian was striving to arouse the nation as fiercely as possible to aid him to crush wickedGlandelinian,.

They more over gave an instance of what they said and affirmed, and was that he had stripe himself of much of his own possessions that he might do this for the sake of aiding the poor distressed refugees of Calverinia, and his officials had heard him say and affirm that he was not go9ng going to tolerate these disasters from Glandelinia any longer under no conditions whatever... They said moreover that he had made many lieutenants of good learning generals, and had from many of the men refugees sprung p n w armies to swep swell the surviving sections of the mobolization camps in big cities throughout various part of the country.Of course any one mentioning that from the shocks of great explosions that it was testified the cities were so violently viberated as to apparently cause them to dance the "HIGHLAND FLING" made starring bent double with laughter as he thought it absolutely something out of the ordinary, and that those who made such reports were plumb Bug House Capitol B..Thus they discoursed together till late at night, and after they had comitted themselves to Our Blessed Lord for prot ection and for the hope that the far distant forest fires would not surprise them in the night, they allll betook themselves to rest, after placing a guard on duty.Starring was placed in a special tent whose doorway opened tward the sun rising, where he selt slept till the break of day.When he awoke it was morning, late in the morning beyond ten olc oclock but it was half as dark as night and the air was thick with smoke fog.

Part 2 of Chapter 11

WALTER STARRING WITNESSES THE GREATEST OF CALIFORNIAN FOREST FIRES. THE HORRORS OF THE FIRE WHOSE RAVAGES ARE UNUSUAL COMPARED WITH THE TERRORS AND DESTRUCTION OF THE RECENT EXPLOSION AND FLOOD AND MASSACRE DISASTERS.

HE IS THRILLED AS HE WITNESSES PROGRESS OF THE CONFLAGRATION. HOW THE PEOPLE OF A MENANCED TOWN WERE CARED FOR.

THE strange darkness and the smell as of burning woods and trees awoke them · or otherwise it was probable they would have slept all day so late had they remained up in the night talking. After some discourse with him they told him he should not depart untill they could see what the meaning of all the smoke in the atmosphere meant. At first they climbed to a higher hill but could not see anything so thick was the haze, and not even a breeze was blowing, and though so late in the season it was as hot as a interior portion of a volcanic crater. They could have recorded heat of the greatest intensity. As rangers had to do and always do they therefore consulted a map of the Calverinian forest in this locality, in which they showed Starring first the formation of the woods near the Imperial valley, that it was a very extensive forests of turpentine and fir and other trees, and extended for a thousand or more miles. Here also they saw on the record map the main stretch of the Mic-Hollester woods, and the names of the many hundreds of big tar and peat bogs in these woods that if the fire ever struck indeed such a thing as calling it a hellish inferno would be a mere trifle indeed.

There had been many worthy acts that these bodies of rangers had done. They had elsewhere subdued forest fires that threatened good parts of the nation, stopped big grass fires, quie quenched the violence of oil fires in the plains, escaped the ferocity of the bodies of the enemy, waxed valiant in fight against seething flames of forest fires gone beyond control, and turned to flight the armies of Glandelinian fire vandals who tried to stop their work. They told him he he if he so desired how willing they were to recieve him into the favor of aiding in the fight they now would have to wage against the conflagration. Yet he told them that his first duty lay in his mission, and that only if the fight would be successful in enabling him to work his passage through would he give assistance.

They showed him all manner of forest fire fighting equipemtn equipment, which the government had provided for all Rangers, as sack,s planketa, saws, axes, explosive mar materials, water in barrels wagons and teams of horses and cutting and digging utensils of all kinds, shoes that would not burn and abesto suits. And there was enough of this to harness out as many men for the service for the government in fire fighting as possible.

They also showed him some of the other implements with which they had done wonderful things in combating the Red Plague. They showed him the explosives used by the mining engineers for breaching the forest in the path of the fire,, the low trees saws, the large axes, the enormous spades and the picks and shovels. They showed him besides many other excellent things, with which general starring was delihted id delighted and said it did give him an inspiration to fight the fire if necessary.

Starring of course was really approhnsive for the day before he had observed at a great distance a most pleasant mountain country but heavily forested everywhere with enormous thickly growing turpentine pines, a scene just then very delightful to behold added with springs and fountains so beautiful to be hold that it was known as the " Dolectable Country of Calverinia" Others called it Calverinias Immanuels Land. He had that night before desired to go forward, which he hoped would add further to his comfort because he knew they were nearer to the glandelinian army he was heading for than any one else knew. But to day he could see nothing but smoke smoke fog no matter which way he turned and a bake oven heat permeated the atmosphere and there was not even a breeze.

Now he did not think of setting forward, even though they were willing he should for he desired to remain with them untill the threatening " storm" was past, but they did not like to detain him on his mission but as he insisted insisted on aiding them first as he could not proceed as he said anyhow unless the conflagration was repulsed they then said to him to wait untill they consult together among themselves about it. They only took a minute and then they told him to come, and they while doing it themselves harnessed themselves and him and his followers from head to foot with that fire proof suits lest perhaps he should meet with disaster on the fighting line. He being thus accoutered, walked out out with his friends, while the mules pilled the wagons tward the lower section, it being their purpose to purpose to breach at this point as the Rangers being well acquainted with the situation just knew where the advancing fire was even though the dark fog of smoke ev seemed to hide its light.

"Are there any big towns near the section upon which the great fire hurricane could menance?" he asked,

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Then when they had just about got out of the large clearing, and headed for a wide earth road in the dense wooddes woods, they presently saw before them the van of an advancing army of Abbleannians and Angelinians. It was a part of Vivianias great Abl Abbleannian host. It was advancing down the road from the direction of Mic-Whirther Run further north, from a villiage bearing the name of Demas and it was nearly 67,000,000 strong ,and advancing from and down different local localities, and roads.

This big army now coming tward the main woods was no new affair at all, but a column of troops of almost oldest formation, though I might have to show the reader the origin of it.

Almost at the very begining of the war, there was rumors of the enemy always making efforts to get this territory into their posession, and general Viviania, Hansonia, and Herdrude, with their companies of officers, perceiving the path of retreat that the various armies under the Manleys were making since their defeat at Evangeline St Clare, and now before the fires, that their way of retreat from the northwest region of Sound end led away from the forested regions and tward Big Girlknool, they contrived therefore to make a junction with Concentinian Arronburg and the Vivians too, warning each by wireless the direct course of Manleys retreat, a retreat wherein all concentration should be made against, otherwise the war might rage with more than usual fury in this section all the year long.

Therefore at this indication of danger tward Big Girl Knoull all troops, such as Calverinians, Angelinians, Vinians, Winkie Avyeinkillians, Triponligonlians, Domdobians, , Concentinians and others were moving forward in different seperate columns, over plains, crops lands, places of glenwoods, and over hills and roads and through woods of all sorts even risking to themselves the perils of the ever spreading forest fires, and dangers of all sorts, as atacks from unexpected spots, forest swamps, ambushes, fires, and what not.

And moreover in this big army there was followed by immense bodies of cavarly, armies of heavy and light artillery, munitions, and weapons of all sorts, and spies and scouts of all kinds. Here were to be seen too, and that for a good purpose, the members of the powerful Gemini in droves of members, great Professional scouting officers,, detectives, and investigators for war and other disasters.....

The armies through this region advanced in a series of huie columns of some distance apart but within easy sight of each other, under their proper and reliable commanders, where such and such commands are of comprehensible goof, so here lie likewise you could meet with the proper troops of each section of the army, where the best commanders of this army are soonest to be found, and also military officers who are priests and bishops who say Mass for the soldiers whenever opportunity presents itself. Here could be found the Winkie Abyssinkillian divisions, the Abbleann columns, the Abyssinkillians proper, and all others, with the main bodies of the fierce Calverinians and Angelinians leading the van, where all sorts of cavarly took the course on both sides but somewhat in advance. But as in other armies on the march some one is to be the chief in the lead, so general general Hansonia Hedrufe was appointed to lead the van.

Now as it is to be observed the way of the adventurers lay just for this advancing army, and those who are well known by this army and officers needs no ontroduction to the officers or guards. At the time before tyis this army stared or started its advance Prince Germaine Vivian, the son of Emperor Vivian when coming with his father to join general Hansonus army went through a portion of the big Mic-Hollester Woods to making a junction with Hanson Vivian, and that upon this exciting and perilous times too, and general Viviania invited him to making a direct jin junction with him untill Hansons army should be come up with, and asked him to direct command of the army in person, as he deserved reverence for his great generalship and righteousness. Yes because he was such a person of honor, general Viviania had him from camp to camp, and showed him all the lay of the country, how Manleys advance or retreat tward Big Girl Knool could be frustrated near a there, and a battle of good measure forced against him, that he might if posible cause the great Prince to take personal command as it was necessary he should do so untill he reached Hansonus vast armies. Knowing the necessities of this the Prince readily did so and was therefore in personal charge. This Prince as well as his brother Prince James Vivian were great and loving friends of general Walter Starring, knowing his friendship and service under all kinds of conditions perils, and weather for his little lovely and brave sisters, the Vivian Girl Princesses, that is to say to put it more simply, Violet, and her sisters.

Now Walter Starring, and his followers, including the two girl and one boy scouttt were heading tward this advancing army, well so they did, and met up with the van and behold even as they came within sight of the leading column of officers, all the officers and soldiers were moved, the whole command at this point itself as it were in a hubbub about them, and that for several good reasons. For; -

"First, despite the fact that the adventuers were uniformed like glandelinian soldiers of childd child scouts, the soldiers and officers recognized them at a glance, knew who they were, and made a great gazing pon them, some said they were fools for venturing out without a force of troopers in such dangerous territory, some said they were doing a good duty on any conditions, but the others said that they would not venture out in their manner in such territory without good reason.

Secontly, and as they wondered at their disguises, so they did likewise, at the appearance of three child scouts with them, but at all those who were of the advance guard were soldiers and officers well acquainted with them all, so that soon from one end of the column to the other, they sh soon spread the news that starring and the three great heroines of the army have meet them.Thirdly, but that which did not a little amaze the officers alone, was that these adventurers set very lit lightly upon the perils of the country, they cared not so much of what they met with , and if questioned as to who h whether they knew what they were doing they would only answer"That the Vivian Girl princesses sent Starring, and he needed guides to bring him through the adventure.One of the officers, beholding them said;

"Where to General, and your companions?"

"Starring explained the adventure and its cause, and this caused an occassion to be more surprised, some giving him warning as to the dangers, some trying to chide him out of his purpose, some speaking reproachfully, and some advising that he should have a large body of retainers or cavarly.Over his arival however things had come to a hubbub of joy and greeting, coming to a great stir in the comands, insc much that all order was confounded.Word was presently brought, to the Prince, who quickly rode forward, and after a hearty greeting to Starring and his followers, and a still more fond greeting to the two girls had some of the soldiers to take them within the command, to be given the honor that was due them...

The Prince Jermaine Vivian knew that Starring was out on an adventure for a purpose to learn who were responsible for the awful incidents in Calverinia and elsewhere about which not only the nation but the whole world was overturned..

General Vivianie also came to see who were brought into the lines, and seeing who they were asked them from where they came, whither they went, and what their purpose would be if they were successful in their mission.Starring told them all who were assembled, of their mission,, and that they were forced by strange and unusual circumstances to go on their journey through the evil sections of the country, and that they had left general Arronburgs army since the first passage of the " Red Plague"But all those who heard the story, and asked questions and recieved answers b did not believe them to be anything else but mad, or else such as went on an adventure regardless of danger to life and health, for the Glandelinian armies which had put such horror and confusion throughout the country were more dangerous than formerly, and to enter general Johnston Jackon Manleys lines to learn information of which even the Princesses themselves did not find seemed sucide.

As Sir Starring and his followers were all dusty, besmeared with sooth and blackened by smoke, and Starrings and even Angeline Richees uniforms partly burned, they were taken to a quarter masters wagon, and for the purpose of their adventures which they insisted on continuing were given citizens clothes in instead of uniforms, and then were put into a big mess wagon where they recieved a good hearty meal.There, they therefore remained for some time as the army was preparing to halt for a rest.Starring told how even when the refugees of floods suffered, how when near enemy infested regions they were made objects of the sport of the glandelinians, malace or revenge, the glandelinian leaders laughing at all that befell them.The homeless inhabitants however were patient, and suffered so silently that as Starring admitted even some Glandelinians who were o more observing and less prejudiced than the rest, began to check and blame the baser sort for the continual disasters done to the country by the armies.They said that for aught they could see, it was no fair way of fighting a war under any condition and that there were many of the officers who were responsible for the disasters that were more worthy to be put before a firing squad than a christian spy, than were any others.The refugees did not render railing for railing, giving good words for bad, and kindness for in injuries done. Starring stated that many of the glandelinian generals were charged with being guilty of the disasters which had caused such horror and excitement throughout the whole nation.He said that the guilty on ones if foun found when captured, should be led through the company streets of a christian camp with irons on them, for an example to them and a terror to other wicked Gladelinians glandelinianess.That the people of the States of Calverinia and others recieved the ignominy and shame that was cast upon them by the effects of the disasters without a murmur or protec protest was a wonder, but it nevertheless won the compassion and aid of many other countries as far as aid could be given.The Abbieannian government had degreed the death of any one found guilty of the awful flood and other disasters.

Every new disaster had put the governmental officials into a greater rage, but it seems they could not do anything.And Starring called to mind again, what he and his friends had heard of the Abbieann horror, and were the more confirmed that the real terrors of that disaster would never be known as the flood erased mostly all clues necessary to be investigationed and traced.The stricken states had comforted such other, and whose it it was to suffer, and the sorrow ful inhabatants had committed themselves to the all wide disposition of Him that ruleth all things, untill the enemy should be overruined. Glandelinia's indictment was one and the same in substance, though somewhat varying in form, the contents thereoff being this;;;;;;

That the Glandelinians were enemies to and disturbers of the safty of allthe christian nations, that during the war they had made horrors and commotions by

FLOODS And other disasters, in contempt of the lne laws of Civilized warfare. After all this had been told , one of the officers told Starring that on such conditions the mission he desired to perform was exceedingly dangerous, but he answered;

"I have only set myself against that which is bringing on such disasters to our beloved country.And as to all perils, I defy the devil himself and all his adventuresous angels.Violet, and her sisters have depended upon me to fulfill my mission and I will."

After Starring said this, a proclamamation was made that they that knew something or had chances to say for the generals, about the a effects of disasters they too might have seen, should forthwith appear and give in their evidence.So therefore there came in three witnesses, whose names were Colonel Heiner, Gantrio, and Francis Gantrio.They were asked if they knew the general whose name is Walter Starring, and what th y they had to say for the good of the country about the mission he was undertaking. Then stood forth Colonel Heiner, and he said it,

"Your Excellency, I have known general Starring for a long time, and will attest upon my oath before this honerable council of generals and officers, that he is-"

"Hold" said general Vivianie " give his oath."

So they swore heem.Then he continued on; "Your Excellency this man, is right in attempting what the Vivian Girl Princesses have tried and failed, for what the Glandelinia government has done, in making those disasters, and committing the dreadful massacres has made of itself one of the vilest countries in the world, she neither regarded, women or children, the Laws of God, nor custom, but in this war but does all she can to possess Calverinia by her cruel methods, which the wicked Glandelinian Government in the generals calls principles of war and its causes. And in particular heard general Starring once affirm that he knew many who were witnesses of the Abbieann disaster and other big explosion and flood horrors, and therefore he is right in attempting to accomplish his mission and we should d all in our pwer to power to help him.He also said that christianity, and all the customs of Christianity were in dire peril because of such an enemy as Glandelinia. and therefore we cannot be reconciled with her untill she is rightly brought down to absolute submission.By which saying Your Excellency, we all do at once condem not only Glandelinias method of barbarous warefne warfare and all her wicked laudable doings, but all her peoples in the doing of them.Therefore for the sake of the Safty of our cause we should be to him a great aid in his mission."

Then said general Vivianie,;;;;;;;;;;;;

"Have you anything else to say ?"

"Yes, your Excellency, I should and have lots more to say, only I would not rob others of their turn to speak.Yet it if it is necessary, when the others have given in their evidence, rather than anything shall be wanting that will be evidence again i against Glandelinia I will enlarge my testimony against her....."

Then they called Gantrio, and big him look upon a large map of Calverinia,, and as he di so they also therefore asked, what he could say for the countrys cause against the disasters of Glandelinia making. Then after he was sworn in he began-

"Your Excellency" said Colonel Gantrio, I have no great acquaintance with the Nature of Glandelinia and her ways,,, nor do I desire to have any knowledge of her. however this I know, from all news I have read, and from reports I have heard, that Glandelinia has done her share of disaster making,, and that Star n Starring should make himself to all glandelinian generals a very pestilent fellow.From some discourse that one day I had with him in general Viviane army, I heard him say that our cause was nought, and such by which no part of the country could ever win it unless we have means to frustrate Glandelinias purpose of disaster making, and to drive her out of Calverinia, break down the resistance of the besieged at Vivian Hickey, which saying of his Your Excellency very well knows h what necessarily then follows if his advise is taking, which it should be, to with otherwise, we will still fight Glandelinia in vain, are yet to face more terrible plagues of disasters like those of the past, and finally shall be defeated, therefore let him have a large force of retainers and great spies, and aid him secure the clues of the disasters causes and those who ordered them.And this is that which I have to say."

Then Francis Gantrio ,his brother was sworn in, and asked to say what he new in behalf of the Country, against the Glandelinia nation, of how starring should be aided in his adventures. Then he said;

" Your Excellency, and you army generals all, this great christian scout I have in known a long long time, and have heard him speak things that ought to have been done the time the first disaster was started.If this had been done Glandelinia I'm sure would not have been able to progress further in her disaster making.. The wicked Manleys and all their followers, had also railed on our noble and righteous country and her noble leaders, and therefore also general starring has spoken cof correctly in his declaration of his wishes to force the true facts of he the causes of the disasters , and he had said moreover, that if all the Governmental officers in Abbieannia, and her states, were of i his mind, if possible, there would have never occured but one disaster.Violet, and her sisters had said the same,, thing. Besides he has not been afraid to go on any such trip, your excellency, calling Glandelinia a ungodly nation with many other such like vilifying terms. with which he had bespattered, most of the wickedness of Glandelinians."

When this last colonel had finished spoki speaking, general vivianie at

Prince Vivians advice or direction, directed his speech to general Starring, saying;

"So you wish to have a strong enough escort during your journey?"

"It would be best for that purpose, sir. I'm sure the Mormonagate, heretic and traitor of a Manley has something todo with the whole affair, or that is one of the Manleys at least, or maybe all of them. I say also in answer to what Colonel Heiner said, that what he has witnessed concerning the disasters, that what rules or laws or custom or people is supposed to be Glandelinia has no respect for in that regard, as all Glandelinia is diametrically opposed to all Godliness and christianity. If I had said aught in this, you can convince me of my error, and I am ready here before you to make my recantation. As to the others and what they said I say only this, that in the great catastrophes made by Glandelinia of the past, and these series of enormous forest fires now raging, there can be no redress untill we enforce its coming, therefore whatever is thrust into the efforts of our government, cannot be done by humanity alone, but by devine assistance, but there can be no Devine assistance, without having Faith in His help, therefore let the whole nation have passed said for our success in our adventure. For all what the Glandelinian nation has done so far, as all of us know whether we have all been witnesses thereof or not, all of glandelinia is more fit for being in hell than on this oith, and so the Lord Jesus have mercy upon us all, and aid me and my followers in the mission."

Then prince vivian Heemsellfe called to his officers and staff who all this while stood by to hear and observe.""Gentlemen of the Military Royal Staff we have before us a great leader, leader, General Walter Starring by name, about whom so great an uproar has been made throughout the van of our mysterous army, you have also heard what these worthy officers have said in behalf of his mission, also you have heard his reply and confession, it lies now in your breasts to give him a good strong escort, but I think I will have to instruct to whom you should recommend. There was an act made by Emperor vivian my father, that lost Violet and her sisters in their own scouting expeditions who ld meet with too strong bodies of enemies should have General Jachk Jack Evans and his retainers as their guard lans. There was also an act made by Emperor Hanson Vivian, my uncle that who ever would not accompany the Vivian Girls on their missions when called for, should be disbanded from the army in disgrace. There was also a degree made by my own brother Jimmie Vivian that whoever accompanied the Vivian Girls on their missions either openly or in secret to keep them out of untimely danger, should be duly rewarded. Now the substance of these laws is to be fullfilled for Starring, who is doing this for the Vivian Girls my sisters, and therefore he should have a good reliable bodyguard. For he is out on one of the most important missions of the cause, not only risking untimely dangers, unseen perils and the like, but also the horrors of ever spreading and swiftly advancing forest fires which must therefore needs be intolerable. For the actions of all the Manleys too, their laws and war carrying was made upon suspicion of us, no war crime in the early war being apparent, but here now are the worse wholesale crimes ever recorded. You also see he requested the body guard, and he for his great mission for the sake of my Princely sisters deserves to have a good stolid one.'

All of these generals decided by jury case to bring glandelinia in guilt before the whole world. And first amongthemselves, general Viviania said;"I clearly see that general Starring is right." Then said general Nero, "Away with Glandelinia from the face of the earth." "Ay aye" said general Hordrude" for I hate the very name of her." Then said general Vienation, "I could never endure the name of Glandelinia." "Nor I" said general Hobbard Bowen" for she has always war waged wicked cruel wars." "Crush her, crush her" said general Stanislaw. "A sorry scrub." said general Grundy. "My heart rises against her." said general Glaterlinia. "She is a murderer on the face of the earth" said general Christie Wilson." Destruction is too good for her" said general Pensie. "Lets dispatch her armies out of the way." said general Crinson." Then said general Viviania" "Might I have all the world, and heaven given me I could not be reconciled to her unless she repent, therefore let us forthwith struggle against her in the face of all difficulties and never desist. Starring shall have his bodyguard as he desires, and he can continue on his adventure and Pray god aid him through to a good success."

Therefore when he was ready to leave with his friends he recieved his strong bodyguard.

"The scenes had been awful" said one of the officers. "Glandelinia is trying to put Calverinia to the most cruel destruction that could be invented. Glandelinia scourged her with disasters, deformed her land with fires and explosions, and burned up all her best of forests. If we do not do something I'm afraid Calverinia will come to her end".....

Now as they waited on their horses for the arival of the bodyguard, there came up behind them a number of other great christian generals, and they saluted Starring and hiscompanions as they finally rode off, with sound of trumpet. They headed for the nearest way out of the pat path of the advancing armies as to go that was was impossible as the long lines of troops fairly blocked the road. Now as they continued on, the same officer who accompanied them, and who was to be the main, commander of the bodyguard entered into a brotherly covenant, and told him that he would be his companion. This officer whose name was Colonel Anders Wilsonia also told Starring that there were many more of the men that would take their time and follow after. About fifteen to twenty minutes after they had gotten out of

sight of the vast christian army, Starring said to the Colonel.;;;;;;;;------

"What part of the country can we find General Johnston Jacken Manleys army, and how far do we have to go this way to get within sight of his wicked hosts?"

"I cannot say just now, declared the con colonel. "Some of the scouts said not long ago that he had been moving off from the locality of the town of Fairknool and he was going northto west of Evangeline St Claire to joing his sons armies who are retreating tward Big Girl Knool and Kittens Richerts."

"Going tward those towns." said Starring. "Is there any grave danger for those towns there. My heavens floods and shock and fire have rained them terribly. Now the enemy going there. They must be stopped. Thank heaven Prince Vivian knew that is and is going there too."

"Yes" said the colonel. The Manleys are going there. "I hope Conventinian or Concentinian Arronburg gets there first. I heard he too is heading for the same up spots with the two Vivian Girls in advance. If they all concentrate there, I'll bet there'll be some batle soon battle soon."

"Pray sir, what part of the country do they call it he is in with his army?"

"This part of the country is a stranger to me, as well as to you, but we can have him located by scouts. If not we must be content."

"That might be so, but this glandelinian army I have heard of, and as I have heard it is a dangerous one, and we do not for saftys sake want to come upon it unawares. Otherwise my efforts will be of no avail, and we would have to beat it."

"Yes I will assure you that all the armies belonging to the commands of any of the Manleys are exceedingly dangerous to approach especially when one retreat, and we have a very good reason to be careful how we come upon it, and I have sent many Gemini there."

"Pray how many Gemini will accompany us now, if a man may be so bold as to ask?"

"Well " said the colonlon Colonel, "almost a hundred, and in particular some of their officers. And to tell you the truth,, I have sent gentlemen of good qualities, who have done wonders for me, and I recieved my command and commission from the same occupation as I am one of the officers of the Gemini myself."

"Are you one of the high members."

"Yes and the Supreme Person Hendre Daragr pargar, is a very great spy and Gemini, and his two great assistants Gingigore and Whilliamson Schloederine are equal. They are very honourable, and they too have arived to such a quality in their owkr that they know how to carry it all through, even to the uttermost. It is true we some what differe differ in the kind of work we do, but it is well for our success. First we never strive without success, we do it through all obstacles,, even against wind and tide so to say, secenfly we are always zealous IN EVERY THING we do, and we never fail."

Then Starring stopped or urged his horse a little aside to Angeline Richee, and said;

"I'm sure that this colonel is one of the best of the Gemini. And if it be so we may surely have a success in our adventure."

"Ask him and find out." said Angeline Richee."

So Starring came up with him again, and said,;

"Sir, you talk as if you know something more than all the world does, and if I take not my mark amiss, I deem I have a half guess of you" Is not your name Ned Perkins, the young man who first of all befriended the Vivian Girls when the war was in its infancy.....?"

"That is surely my name, and I am the one you mention."

"But did you never give an occassion to the Vivian Girls to need your assistance more than once."?

"Yes, yes,. The worst that they ever went through, I had the luck in my judgement to accompany them at the time their enemy Makeloy tried to do them dirt, and I as every one knows pulled them through, whatever peril it was, and my chance was to get them away from him thereby, but if other perils are thus cast upon me, let let me count them a blessing, but let not us run into perils heedlessly."

"Well, said Starring I thought indeed that you were the man that I had heard of, and to tell you what I think, far we will run into more excitement, than you or I are willing we should even think of."

"Well if you will thus imagine, we cannot help it. It's the fortune of war. Nevertheless you will find me and my men good guides and helpers. We will go against wide and tide, through hell if need be to assure your success in the adventure, th the which I percieve you are determined to see through, but you must also take our advice, the advice of your girl scout guides, and stand by them when they run into peril, as well as when we have to fight our way through. But when we first sight any of the armies belonging to the commands of the Manleys, we must not expose ourselves too quickly. Not a step farther untill we see an easy access. Never desert your old principals, unless they do not turn out to be as good as formerly. So lets go ahead. It's getting too warm here to be comfortable. You know the forest fires are very near."

As they all rode on Starring again renewed the conversation;

"How many divisions of general vivianias army were pon the rode when I meet with him.?"

"There were three enormous columns under the generals of Francis Hordrude, Galderlinia and Prince Vivian, all whom you are greatly acquainted with. They have taught their armies the art of proper warfare, and all the soldiers have attained much of the art of all their officers, so that they can do all their commander suggests."

"Well that seems good and safe for us then," said Starring-put who is the main commander."

" Prince Vivian is-He is a great officer, and he is going to join one of the Vivian Girls to help him intercept General Manleys retreat tward Big Girl Knool."

"Alas" said Starring, "it is too bad we could not have stayed, that we might have had their good company. for they and we and you sir, are all going into good and thrilling adventures."

"We are all indeed" said Colonel Perkins, but as you have your mission to perform which is a rigid one, and as you must do it for the cause you love so much, and as you also highly esteem the efforts of Violet and her sisters, we can always hope for a reunion with an army by and by."

"That seems hopeful indeed," said Angeline Riches herself, "but we need lots of hardy men not men who are so rigid and love so much their own notions, and do also so lightly esteem the opinion of others, that let a man be never so brave, yet if we jump not with him in all rightful things, he'd want to desert our company."

"Yes"that would be a bad things" said Starring,"We have had experiences with such , even of those who are brave-- vermuch, and such mens rigidness, prevails with them and come com confem condemns thes only to their own folly.But I pray, what are the proper things we must do to accomplish what we are after."?

"That is hard to tell" said the colonel.We however will have to make a long journey in all kinds of weather, neither waiting for wind or tide, and risk all perils and hardships.We have to hazard all for cause of Country at a clap, and to take all advn advantages of every opportunity that shows itself.Wechave to hold through through thick and thin, though all others might be against our opinions , and we must do so if we have to face rages and contempts, but we can succeed."

"Aye" said jennie Turmer, " and hold you there still, good Colonel Perkins, for my part I can count ant one a cowardly fool, that having the liver liberty of haveing adventures like we all do, shall be so unwise to fail in the end, quail before hardships and run off.Let us be wise, and trust in God and His Blessed Mother, tis best to make hay when the sun shines or not.Let us be content to tal take any kind of weather along with us.For my part I like an adventure best that will stand with the security of gods good blessing unto us at all times, for who can imagine, that is ruled by proper reason, that he could do anything o no mak matter how steep and nigh the so called "hill of Dicciful Difficulty might be. The Vivian Girl Princesses went through all perils in their work though they never need to do so."

"I think that we are all agreed in this matter, and therefore there is no need of any more words about it."

"That is ri ight right" there is no need ofmore words about it indeed, unless he that believes neither success in the undertaking, nor reasons for failures, and you see we have all on our own side that is right, and therefore unless he knows his own liv liberty knows any better than us, and therefore through cowardice seeks his own safty when his comrades are in perilll peril."

""ell my dear friends," said Radcliffe now also speaking, we are " we are as you all know going all on a stirring adventure,, and for h our better diversion from t thy things that are bad enough to cause a failure give me leave to propound unto every one of you this question.????????"""::

"Suppose a man, a spy, scout-- or maybe one of the Gemini, or a professional Military Detective,&g--should have an advantage to go out on an adventure like ours, to get for our Country the good blessings of a winning cause through his successful efforts, yet so as that he can by no means come by them except in works at least, he becomes extraordinary zealous in all parts of his work, no matter what hoexciting and difficult times and hardships he goes through, may he not use this means to attain this end, and yet also be a right good spy.A spy that only goes through an adventure when it is not at all dangerous, is he of any benefit to his countrys cause."?

"I see the bottom of your question" answered Jennie Turmer herself, and with thegd the good leave of all those present, I will endeavor to shape you an answer. And fir And first, to speak to your great question as it concerns a spy i himself; suppose a spy, a worthy professional christian spy possessed but of very small tarlent in the eyes of others, and yet has in his eye, a greater, more tarlent and ability that he seems, he has also now an opportunity of getting it, yet by being more studious, by working and endeavoring more frequently, and zealously, and because the temper of the Abbieanmian people requires it, by increasing some of his efforts for my part, I see no reason but a man may do this, providing he has the ability and the nerve.Ay, and more a great deal besides, and yet not, be a really called Professional unless he succeeds every time he makes a move to accomplish his work.And why?

"1. His desire to help his country and God is lawful to any degree, which cannot be contradicted, since it is also set before him by Our Blessed Lord, so that he may and should be successful, and get what he is after . making no question for perils and difficulties, if only he does it more for the sake of Our Blessed Lord, and continually asks His h l help, and also places his work and himself under the gua rliance ship of Our Blessed Morther.

2 Besides his desire for h what he wishes to accomplish, makes him more determed,, a more zealous worker in his mission,&, and so makes him a better spy.You makes him better improve his work, which is according to the safty that his work depends on and also for his country, which is according to the help of God.

3 Now as for his complying with the conditions ofthe refugee peoples of the flood devastated states, the temper of the nation by it, to serve their cause, use

use all of his efforts and principals, this argued.lot that he is of a brave char acter, a man of keen but quiet temper, cool and collected, shrewd and crafty, 2nd of a sweet and winning deportment for his friends, and more fit for the spying function?

4. I conclude then, that a spy, that turns himself out to be professional, should not fo so doing be judged unless he can accomplish the hardest tasks successfully, fears no peril, hardships, and weather, but rather, since he is improved in his works thereby be counted as one who persues his call, whether he had good opportunits opportunitiesor bad to do good work.And now to the second part of the question, which concerns, the Gemini spy you mention us," suppose such a one to have but a great employ in his mission, but by becoming a p spy he must have better qualities than even the professional, perhaps to go through a long course of practice and study which a common professional does not need so more.For my part I see no reason but this may be done properly.For why,

1. To become a Gemini is a virtue, by which what means so ever a man becomes so, but such a man must be righteous, a daily communicant and a daily attendant at Mass, and Sunder and other evening services as long as he is able to do so.Nor is it able for one to be a member, unless he has also the ability, to be one, the strength, and the health, and the never nerve.

2. Besides the man who is a member of the Gemini by becoming a member, gets the commission for such an office from the Imperial government of Angelinia state only, that is the only good Government of the nation, so thereby when he can proves he passes the examination and the severe tests, he becomes a good member, and good National Spy, and all those by becoming members, is a good and profitable sign do for his commission.To become a member, costs nothing, except for the doctors examination, and the charges for the tests.And so learned are the members of the Gemini that in everything they do cannot be doub doubted."

This answer thus made by Jennie Turmer to Radcliffes question, was highly applauded by them all, therefore they concluded upon the whole, that it was most wholesome and advantageous.And because they how no one could contradict it, and Starring and his body guard were some distance off and heard not the conversation they joyfully agreed to have made it opinion of the question as soon as they came up to them again again.So they rode faster and caught up with th m them.They decided as they went. that not Radcliffe, but Jennie Turmer, should should ask the question, because as they hoped their answer to her would be more sufficient. So when they overtook Starring and his guards, Jennie propounded the question, to Starring, and asked his opinion.

"Why any one can answer ten thousand such questions." said Starring,."for if it is dangerous to follow on adventures the like of ours," as it probably is, how much more dangerous would it be to do such an a um abominable thing as to back out of an adventure because one is a coward and a weakling, for he therefore would make of both God and His beloved country, a stalking horse and a mockery.Nor do we find any other, than those who cannot keep from mortal sin, who live like hypocrites, devils, and witches who could not be of anything else but a coward. "I Wicked persons, for those kind know the results of their sins if they have to die, and when they see there is no way out for them to keep our out of a perilous adventure then they desert.If every one of us be brave, as we should to brave, shall we not in the near future accomplish our mission with great success.The enemy have the secret of the originators of those who made the disasters an of the information which we sought to obtain, and we can do so.

2. The Vivian Girls are good spies even though being Princesses, long journeys with perils and hardships and other troubles were their penance, but to succeed in their i missions were usually their results, and greater praise from the nation the outcome.

3 .General Hendro Purgar is also a great spy, scout and everything unknown to us, he was jealous for his position, that he might be possessed of all information that can be obtained from the enemy, and he had shadowed Manley very often that very son of perdition.

4.. Whilliam Schloeder is a great Supreme Person too, for he is equally as success ful.Neither will it be contrary to my mind, but that these men take up their v ca c vocation, for the efforts they see never fail are good for the cause, so surely did he also succeed in once securing a whole uniform from Manleys head-quarters with important papers in the pockets.To answer the question therefore affirmatively as I perceive you have done, and to accept the answer, is proper and good and our reward will be according to our accomplishment of the mission."

The others stared upon one another and had not word to answer Starring.Even Angeline Riches looked looked surprised, and there was a great silence among them, "Then continued Starring""I see you are surprised at my answer, staggered.Yet for a moment I have more to say"If Glandelinia cannot fight us more than by flood, explosion disasters, massacres of so many children, and by forest fires, and what not what will they do if we do not reckon otherwise.Calverinias narrow seems like a sentence of God, and what will the Glandelinian nation do when they shall be rebuked by the flames of a devouring fire?"

They had now come to a large forested plain, where following a road leading north-west straight they continued on their way ith much content, but nevertheless that forested plain was not as large as they had expected it to be it, so that when they had advanced quickly over it, they were suddenly confronted by a wide stretch of water, which proved to be the Mic-Hollester River.Now at the first sigh side of that plain was a small rise of ground, clear of trees, and on top of that hill one of

the wayside shrines or ouf of our Lord crucified,, w. which some of them that had formerly gone over that way, because of the rarity of such beautiful shrines, had turned aside to see and pray before, and which they had usually decorated with the beautiful wild flowers of the forest..

"Ho,, said starring, let us turn aside hither, and pray for our success in our mission.It's been a year since I ever came upon a wayside shrine....."

They did so, and then said Starring"we have a good view of the surrounding forested country from here, a thing so deserving as to almost turn us out of the way to see."

"but what could be see from here."

"Why here is a good view of the forest, and taking in the sights with a little pains we can discou discover our course."

"Let's proceed down the other side of the hill" said Radcliffe."

"nothing doing" said starring."We might surely g the wrong way, I have heard of this place before, and besides this section of the woods in this location ' d fact is in paths of the western wing of the forest fires, and therefore is a snare for those who may go through it."Then he called to the colonel and said;;

"Is not this place dangerous?Does not the western wing of the conflagration threaten this part."

"Not very dangerous unless we are careless-" he said."We can get out of reach of the fire if we can only get boats and cross this river to the other side.It's too wide here for the fire to cross."

"Then " said Starring to the rest,"lets try and cross the river, so that we can still keep on our way.If it was not too strong in current I'd try and swim across if the rest of you can."

"I'll warrant you when the fire comes up, if it does, it will turn aside and sweep around the hill with the shrine on it."

"No doutt thereof, for the wind is driving the fire that way, and a hundred to one if we go that way we,d perish there.Better try the river or follow its course northwestward if we cannot cross cross."

"No one can cross the river here though without boats." said "Angeline Richee.

"But do you think we could try and see."

"Not without boats."

"And " said Starring"As Clandelinia also in the vile enemy to the wrightthe right ways of the Blessed Lord, and an already been condemned for her folly, why should we too bring ourselves into like condemnation by crossing a river by swimming when it would be sucide.Besides if we try it, and it ends fatally, and the Vivian Girls hear of it, the results might be putting us all to shame, for no one can swim the current of that river at its height now and survive.

"But will we survive if the western arm of the fire comes up and surprises us."?

"I do not believe we will be surprised by the fire.We are also all on the same mission, and if we would trarry a little or go down the banks of the river but follow a northwesterly course, we could side step the " red plague" of which the forest fires is named."

"Why do they call it the "Red Plague" asked Radcliffe."Is it not the same name for a dangerous disease, a red disease by which Cholera is known, or Scarlet Fever and son on?"

"Yes, that is true, but the fire spreads among the forest at such a rate that it is well deserving the name.To make these fires, to flood out the population, to tear our cities and towns to pieces by waters and flood concusions and the like, is but a devilish prank which Clandelinia used to win her dasturdly cause, all the ring leaders who caused the catastrophes ought to be hanged, and Manley and his generals and all his followers deserves no better reward. Assure thyself Radcliffe, and the rest, that if we discover who the ones are who did these things, or saw to it that they were done, that when we come before the Vivian girl Princeesses, we will do them word of it all.They desired to know, for they tried to find out too and they will know."

"But suppose they or we do not succeed."

"Wel we'll succeed, or we,ll assassinate the manleys one or the others other."

By this time they had come again within sight of a long and wide plain all forested,, but with some large clearings.Now whether they decided to go through this section, or whether they decided to go back, even I the durthor am not certain, but this I may observe they continued onward nevertheless down the northwestward course of the river.On the course of the river they finally came to a large board landing place, where stood an old boathouse hard by the way side,, at the sight of which they were both concerned because of the strageness of the form, for it seemed to them as if it had been once a little church in the forest, therefore they stood looking and looking pon it, but for a short so space of time could not tell what they should make thereof.At last they decided to dismount and investigate, and Starring, and the two girl scouts dismounted and went forward.Angeline espied writen above the doorway, a writing in an unusual hand,, but she being no scholar of foriegn languages, called to starring(for he knew english english- to) see if he could pick out the meaning, and so he came and found it to be as it is to be followed; it.;

"Boats for hiren.45¢ per hour.$3 for crossing river and back."

So he explained it in Babbleannian to the rest,,, after which they boat con cluded,that it was a boat house and suddenly an amazing sight gave them a occassion to see fine results.

of fires advanced boat after boat, the very flames seeming to be wafted on the air, and gradually declining to earth, while fresh clouds of clouds of flaming embers and sparks were carried over the rest of the forest, and neurled the earth after starting fires among the folen foliage below.per twelve miles at once did

And also let us consider ago that a ll the fire cannot come down into the ravine or the glen, others so far as I can understand, have been caught by one and forced to seek refuge in a ravine as well as we, and yet have escaped out of the inferno, who knows but that God that made the world, may cause that the main sea of the fire may pass off quicker than we think, or that at some other time or other make it burn out sooner than we expect, and when that should come to pass, for my part I am resolved to pluck up the heart of a man, and to try my utmost to get out from the inferno.We were fools that we did not try to go across the river in I instead of coming down here, but however comrades let us try to be patient and endure a while, the time may come that may give us us a happy release, but let us not be our own murderer."

With these words thi this man at present did moderate the minds of the others who were disca discouraged. During this conversation. starring had climbed up to a view point in fance of the flames to see if the sheds had burned down to the ground as he had heard no explosions, but he could climb only one third of the way, and there found the heat so terrific that he could not face it, and down below they were all getting more desperate, and some could do little but breathe. There however was one stretch where the fire had burned across and onward leaving nothing but a smoulder behind and tall half burning trees and stumps, and starring said to himself;

"Remember Mr Starring how valiant thou has been before.We I have hep I have helped the rangers fight their way through these fires,, nor could all that thou did hear, see or fe l in the "Valley of the Shadow of Death?" make you give up.What hardships terror, and amazement Thou has already gone through, and why should I not now, hoping the others have not fear.I am in the glen with the rest and also this giant conflagration has passed with most of its terror by now, the wind had stopped and the flames are rising only upwards, so I believe we can do do it, if they are game enough.Remember how I saved a town that was in its path, how I with thousands of soldiers and rangers tried to keep the fire off from Prientown, so why not try a stunt now.I'll tell them all my plans."

He therefore climbed down, and when he came to the bottom, he found them expecting his return, and he told them his purpose, and they all declared they would try it if he was game enough.

It was however getting a little lighter, and slightly cooler, and Radcliffe asked Starring concerning the sheds, and if they had exploded.To which he replied;

"They were not loaded with explosives or otherwise if they had been and blew up the concussion would have thrown a down the rocks upon us and buried us under the debris here below.As we are all stud sturdy fellows, and choose rather to bear all hardships for the sake of our country our experience here will make ratory."

Then said Radcliffe" Lets climb to the top and see if we can find out way tward the river, for we do not want to over be in the path of the fire fire again."

"Starring decides to climbagain, then when he returned he said-

"It is going to be cooler now but we will have to remain here for quite a while, as up above there is too much smudergy and fire to go through the remains of the forest yet, which the fire has already dispatched.I and many soldiers and officers and rangers have fought these forest fires before, and when I thought it safe to cross over the scorched areas, I will do so but we must wait a few hours, when the smoulders will have died down somewhat.And yet there is too much smoke. And something good will soon come to relieve us, by which we may have means or hopes to escape."

Therefore while waiting for the time, they began to rapy, and continued in prayer for about three or four hours.Then Starring climbed up to the top."

"Indeed what a fool we were" he said to himself" to have been forced to lie lie here in the ravine, when we could have tried to swim the river.Now even it is not quite safe to cross that burning ground, and yet we must do it or stay here forever.I the river is only a hundred paces off."

then climbing down he gave the orders, and they began to beat and fight their way back through the ravine once more, and after some difficulty came out of the glen.Then finding no fire had entered the ravine they continued on through and climbing up its sides, saw a sight which almost made their limbs fail.Only a few smoking trees were still standing, while the ground and debris was all smouldering and smoking.Yet starring knew which way the river was and therefore in order to reach it must go through this, though the task was hard. They however had soaked their vic clothing good, and therefore they all went on at a dash, unfortunately without their horses as they had forced them to swim the river, while they dashed for safty into the ravine.After a hot trip of it in which their eyes were tortured by smoke and the heat was almost unbearable they came in sight of the river, and when on the shore first tested the water before daring to cross.It was not any too warm, and they all dived in.The current was not strong at this section and they got across in about fifteen minutes, and were now safe being out of the fire zone as they believed as the fire had not reached the opposite side, and here too they found their horses eating grass near the shore.

Now when they got here they began to contrive with themselves what they should do in completing the journey, to prevent those that should come after from running

into the path of the conflagration as they had..not whatever they could have or would have planned, to make, if the fire would come up this way it would also r erase all all evidence, and all they could do was to pray more fervently that any one who comes after should be able to escape the danger.On the other side also as luck would have it they had recovered their horses, and therefore mounting these they continued on, till they came to a ridge of low hills, not quite so thickly forested, .As the grade of the slope was gentle, they rode up the side of the nearest hill, to behold to their surprise, gardens, vineyards and orchards, and a small waterfall, where also they drank, and washed themselves, and did freely eat of the vineyards..

Now there was on top of the hill a large lookout station, and it stood by the highway side.As they came to the summit a man came out, and riding up Starring asked him who he was, and what he was doing on the mountain side.

"This " said the man" is an observation post for Forest Rangers, and the station here gives us a full view of all the country round about, and I am left alone here to keep a lookout w ile the rangers are out fighting fires. Some of them have laid down their lives for the safty of people living in these forests."

"Can you direct us to the Glandelinian ar y under general Johnston Jacken Hanley?"

"You are just out of the direct way."

"How far is it thither?"

"It is hard to say as he keeps moving on."

"Does this road lead for Big Girl Knool."

"You are going the right way."

"How far is it to there?"?"!!!!!"

"Too far for any one, and it is a miracle for any of those that shall get thiter indeed."

"Is the way safe or dangerous?"

"Safe for those who know the country, keep cool, use their head, but reckless persons who know not the country shall perish withal."

When the Ranger lookout perceived that some of them were wearing gray uniforms, th y also put questions to them, to which of course they answered the same before

"Whence came you?"

"From general Viviens lines.I'm general Walter Starring, and these are my bodyguards and girl and boy scout companions."

"How did you get through the forest fire country without mishap?"

"Starring told him graphically.

"Then asked the Ranger;

"By what means have you so persevered on your adventure?"

Starring told him, and when he heard their answers, and their stories, he was pleased therefore, and looked f very friendly upon them, and said;

"Welcome to my station .I'll put up some tents for the others.You and the child scouts follow me."

And he led them to the station, while tents were put up by his assistants and the others recieved shelter within, and he had them partake of what he could spare. Then he said;

"It is better for you to stay here awhile, to be acquainted with me, and yet more to solace yourselves with the goodness of this hill.If the fire comes here it cannot climb as the trees on these slopes are too far apart."

Starring said he was content to stay, and so they went to their rest that follow ing night, because it was very late and they had not slept hardly for two nights. On the following morning, The Ranger called upon Starring and his followers, to walk with them a little ways up the mountain.So therefore they went forth with them ,and rode around a while, having a pleasant prospect on every side.Then said The Ranger to starring-

"Do you wish to see some wonders?"

Starring answered "Yes"

So the Ranger took or led them to the top of a hill, which was very high, and steep on one side, and bid them look a cross to the valley.So Starring, and Radcliffe alone looked across, and saw down below in the valley a large and long opening in the forest below.

"What does this mean sir?" asked Starring.

"The Ranger answered -"Have you not expected or suspected that the forestvfire might sometime change its course and hit around here.That breach will save us us.And have you not heard that the conflagration is also raging on this side of the stream and will be coming this way any time."

"No"answered Starring."If I had known that I would not have come this way."

"Well" said the Ranger"that breach you see down in the valley has been made by my fellow rangers and lots of drafted and volunteer citizens from towns, and they have continued to work for two weeks without stopping, there being a day, and night shift, and it ought to keep the conflagration heading for the forests beyond these hills."

Then he told them look far off in another direction.

... to the rest,,, after which they boat con cluded,that it was a boat house and suddenly an amazing sight gave them a occasion to see fine results.

fires advanced host after host, the very flames seeming to be wafted on the air, and gradually declining to earth, while fresh clouds of clouds of flaming

In this way they crossed the river side of Abbiesan. They then crossed the river to a section where the forest fire had come or with the shore, and there everything was still in a smoulder and smoking like a sea of clouds in the sky in a storm. A sketch of imagination could conjure up a more ghastly place in the acie world.

Having reached this smouldering sea, but on the edge they found themselves facing an facing an immense valley, entirely covered even to the upper slopes of burning trees, and smouldering wreckage and ash. They followed it until it broke suddenly off as if the earth had ceased, and before them stretched a huge chasm. The bottom was a lake of ash, quite flat and more than three thousand feet wide. It was another explosion explosion.On the opposite side walls of flaming trees rose sheer again. They followed the rim of this crater, and shortly the solid ground became intersected by lanes of gravel sand and mud. They stepped down gingerly to cross the first one, but as they moved forward what appeared to be solid ground gave way, and disappeared into apparent unfathomable depths with a dull booming sound. Starring and his followers had been literally on the ore brink of death.

They p ered down into the chasm, and hurled large fragments of rock only to hear a dull thud trailing off into a faint whisper as the rocks ricocheted from side to side, then silence, and they knew they were walked walking on the crust of some immense hole or roof of some immense and deep cavern cavern, which dropped sheet sheer down for many feet, and Starring wondered if this was not one of the deep mine galleries in which some of the explosives were stored that blew up and destroyed Abbiesan and the surrounding country. Making a wide detour, they continued their journey but after this experience not without testing every foot of the way in front of them. They came upon numerous fissures caused by the explions explosions which they had to leap over, and although they threw masses of rock down each, they apparently fell deep down into these pits.

Finally they followed a sea of debris to where again the ground fell away into a half oblong chasm at least more than a mile wide, and although they lay down and peered over the edge it was impossible to see the bottom of what was beyond question another deeply dug explosion crater. Here as best as the twilight darkness would allow Starring took many photographs of this region, the crater and the distant forest fires but he wanted to get pictures of the actual interior of one of the burning valleys, showing the smoke and flame rearing up many hundreds and thousands of feet.

It seemed foolhardy, and to do this Starring had to kneel on a jutting piece of stone on the very edge and steepest place of the valley, holding the camera with the lens pointing downward. While he was kneeling there he experienced a fear so terrible that the sweat upoured down on him, and when finally he crept away, he could scarcely stand.

As he knelt on the jutting stone the fumes rising from below enveloped him so that he chocked and his eyes pured with water and smarted like fire and in those few seconds he had fully realized what would be the horror of the rock giving way and uhurling him down into the fiery valley beneath.

The next day being back in the ruins again, there was again a slight respite. The unburned portions of the forest alone the shore became less agitated by the fire winds, though the strange forest fire produced lava streams did not decrase decrease. Starring reported in his writing that all areas of cultivated ground were found to have been destroyed by the explosions being buried under the debris. Watsonia and the Hulse plantations and villiages near by were wrecked, and still partly under debris and forest fires rusing all around. Many other plantations were gone.

The entire region was a smoking incenerated ruin. mouldering wreckage of forests and inducescent ashes and ground was everywhere, no place being less than ten feet deep with the smoulder and smudges, and in some places melted stone ran like lava flows over deep banks of ashes. Every tree had been burned totally and many still standing liked looked like smouldering smoking skeletons. All vegetation had disappeared. Not a sprig of green was to be seen here . Rivers were dry, and the sand ran hot like lava.

Everywhere starring observed through his glasses dead smouldering bodies of forest animals, some half buried under smoking wreckage, others showing they had been stricken down wil while in flight, either by heat, smoke of the fires or fallingbtrees. A few seemed to have been dipped into lava which took form from them. These bodies were burned too far to decompose. The air in this location was still filled with dense smoke the heat creating intense thirst and causing such suffering among refugees as can hardly be imagined by those not among them.

Starring decided to try again to go further up the river as he wished to get a little around Abbiesan. Therefore the ship left the region of Horseshoe Bend at six oclock on the evening of the 22th. Terrible stretches of flames were visible during the entire journey, and it looked as if another hill was becoming like a volcanic eruption apparently fourteen miles away. The Mary Jane ran into a heavy cloud of smoke once more, and the people who were on board were almost suffocated and were forced to go below, and the atmosphere was so terribly dense, that no one could see a thing.. The steamer was forced to put about about, and steamed to the southwest for for f two hours before it was clear of this new fog of smoke. Within another hour or two the Mary Jane put back tward the region and encountered more smoke thicker than ever and was again comeppled t compelled to put off. It was seen that the forest fire was in constant movement and there was a tremendous roar of the flames, and great flashes of fire pierced the smoke clouds at the rate of eighty to two hundred tongues a minute. Horseshoe Bend which is sixteen miles from the closest explosion crater was covered with three inches of ashes blown by strong winds from the area of the forest fire, and the northern district from Salto to Abbiesan was completely destroy

... for ornment ornament or refreshment, myrtles, oranges, the rose and the carnation have disappeared before the flames The heat of flames melt the walls of building

destroyed .. Starving realized that so far it was impossible to proceed beyond that point on account of the fire, and a huge hill was observed covered with fire where previously there had been a forested mountain. The smoke is dense and the whole region is smoking, and starving heard that seventy persons had been killed by the fire while getting away, and the whole country side is covered with ashes. Near Pulse the smoulder and incadescent ashes were many feet deep. Many persons were board to upper Abbieann by the boats of the very nn or une from the forest fire area. Many of the refugees who were arriving on the opposite coast of the river were dying of thirst, and all of these people had been more than thirty nine hours without a drop of water, and all the cattle and other animals were dead because of the lack of water. On account of the asca scarcity of water it was impossible to go into the interior to investigate the extent of the disaster, and therefore impossible to say how many persons persons had perished on account of the forest fire.

Again Starving left Horseshoe Bend to tow a boat full of refugees to a point of safty. A quarter of a mile off there, he recieved a message from shore by some other boat sent by refugees that the passage was impassable. Nevertheless Starving procuee proceeded on the voyage. When opposite the region there was a grand view of the west side of the forest fire. Even rivers of le melted stone were coming down the mountain side, melted by the fierce heat of the conflagration above, this coming down in every direction and flowing into into the river. This whole hill was covered with smoke and flame and there was an incessant spread of the flames. Terrific winds blew great quanities of hot ashes into the air, which mingled with flaming brands and sparks was falling tward the river thus obscuring everything. It was impossible to get close to the shore in this location. The river was littered with burned trees and other wreckage. They attempted to pco proceed on tward the north through the smoke and falling muck of fire ashes but found it impossible.

It even meant suffocation to try it. They returned with the boat and entered the belt again miles at or down the river but now there as was the same result. On the horizon there was nothing to be seen but smoke, which extended and piled like an immense rolling wall. Inside the belt all was dark,

They again put back and steamed round the bend to the west. Opposite this shore they encountered a terrific gale of wind carrying smoke and flaming debris. To the north the entire territory of the fire district was a seething hell. It was as he saw virtually im impossible to approach the fire stricken districts of Horsebend or Horseshoe Bend, either by by land or by river. There was little cessation in the rumblings and shakings of the strange explosions, the columns of smoke fire, ashes and so forth that continued to blight the country side. Starving was at a loss and felt like giving p. Strange noises were heard miles from the forest fires, and the trembling of the ground caused by explosions continually indicated the impending dangers everywhere.

Large stones at the outburst of one explosion fell in the neighborhood of Horseshoe Bend terrifying the refugees huddled there, and in deed such was the unhappy condition that these terrified refugees had to face. Most horrifyig details of the forest country where thousands of animals and some human beings were destroyed were revealed by the refugees. Many refugees suffered from burns, and the area already covered by the forest fire in the region of Horseshoe Bend comprised of about thirty miles. The fact that loss of life was not severe was due to the position of the country, the knowledge of it, and whose inhabitants were given warning of the approaching disaster, and fled for their lives.

Starving tried to cable to Pandora of the situation but could get no answer.

One hundred and thirty five of the refugees were o in condition to be in hospitals, and he was not able to to supply to the immediate wants of the survkv survivors. The refugees claimed five thousand pet dee ps deers has been lost, and the outlook was still more serious. In Horseshoe bend five thousand persons were on the relief list, and yet they had to go off to the west to depend on the aid of neighboring towns. It was expected that sooner or later there would be a dreadful loss of lives among these.

The whole of the Horseshoe Bend country, over twenty miles or more in length from all the eastern river shore, and on the forested mountain side, was covered with conflagrations, and the whole country side is reeking with the stench of burning materials, and al animals and the forest in general. The survivors were being collected by starvings followers in northern Abbieann, where they had to forage through the western country to find food for them, and themselves. The injured persons were horribly burned in their flight by the hot brands and grit which was driven along with tremendous velocity by the hot winds. It was said that thirty six women and children who sought refuge in a house were surrounded by fire and were killed . One man was brained by a huge stone that was dislodged from a ledge.

The arival of the first detatchment of rescuers which brought sufferers to northern Abbieann caused a sensation. This party consisted of two hundred refugees, whose charred bodies exhaled fetid odors, and whose loathsome faces made even starving shudder. All these burned persons were suffering fearfully from their wounds and from thirst, and uttered when strong enough to do so, most agonizing cries for water and relief from pain.

The report that a lake in the midst of a forest fire that had boiled away was confirmed. A sea of fire now surrounds its place. Valleys and ravines were like ho pits discharging hot vapors, and from the centrer one huge volumes of steam rose from a boiling stretch of water rising like gantic gigantic pine trees tward the sky, and a dense smoke mingled with steam issued from a new quarter, forming an immense pall over the northern hills, lowering into the valleys, and then rising and spreading untill it enveloped the whole scene in a peculiar gray mist or fog. The stenches of smoke increased the sickness and mortality among the surviving refugees, and caused intense suffering among the new arrivals, and the stench from burning bodies of animals was terrible beyond description. Another big explosion somewhere cause caused a great fall od of debris and stones and more consternation in Abbieann than resulted since they first arived there. Shortly after the appearance of a new cloud the following

while the awful and scorching

so he explained it to Abbieannian to the rest,,, after which they boat concluded, that it was a boat house and suddenly an amazing sight gave them a occassion to see fire results

8-2-30

fires towered hout after hout, the vary flames seeming to be wafted on the air, and gradually declining to earth, while fresh clouds of clouds of flaming embers and sparks were carried over the rest of the forest, and encircled the earth after starting fires among the folen foliage below. For twelve miles at once did the new fires extend from front and rear, and their whizzing roaring and hissing could be heard for six miles on every side of them.

The bright flames illumined the rolling clouds like liquming of fire color, and the rolls were reflected through them into weird shapes, and as they rose heavily upward, the sparks seemed like innumerable flakes of fiery snow, and like fiery snow from the fiery bottomless pit did they first ascend and then descend, a living carpet of flaming sparks, or rather pall, upon field, crops gardens copses, groves orchards, vin yards, woods, orangeries, forest plantations, and the other stretches of the deep forests, the flames rising as from them and spreading nothing within reach, and where there was nothing to devour, the flames melted.

The cities and towns could spare their hundreds of thousands of able bodied citizens x citizens to go out and try to check the conflagration twice or trice over, and not miss them, but to no avail, many fire fighters got trapped in flame roofted ravines, the flaming masses of trees filled the boot bottom of ravines, and hollow ways. In vain the populations of men trying to force an overthrow of this Demon monster fire. In vain their breaching, trenching, and counter firing, or attempting to turn it off its course tward a wide stream or lake.

The fire continued on hurled forward by a tempest. The poor peasants, their farms in danger hastily dug long deep pits and trenches, as their hot enemy came on, in vain they exploded mines in a line of make a grand branch, in vain they felled trees and covered their leaves with earth. Heavily and thicky did the sparks fly before before that roaring gale, flames started up everywhere, in vain they tried to check and beat out of existance the starting ground fires, the vast living hostile Red Demon still moved on.

The lines of fires moved on like soldiers in their ranks, stopping at nothing, melting like running water what they could not burn, turning quicksand and mud beds into boiling mud and sand springs, chaging water of rivers into boiling streaming streams, killing the fishes, melting the iron structures and so stone viaducts of railroad and other bridges and rails with the terrific heat, and stopping for nothing, they swept onward clear acre a across the open forest country, leaping the widest streams like a onrushing storm, hellish in fury and loathsome in black and reddish and other colored smoke, and where before it was green and smiling before and on each side and in front as it had been before it came up everything became a " bottomless pit. before the fire was a valcerinian paradize, behind a smoking charred desert.

The flames are daunted by nothing, they surmount the steepest hillsides at hurricane speed, and destroyed enclosed gardens and houses of towns driving the inhabitants before it.

A rare and experimental vineyard has been planted in a sheltered grove.. The high winds of the advancing conflagration tour the trees to shreds, and the flames do what the winds and tempest could not do, and the whole promish of the vintage leaves and all is gone, and the vineyard is a thing of fire.

There are many other yeards, less uncommon but still tended with more than common care , each plant is kept within due bounds by long strenches about and around them, and by upright canes on which it is to trail, in an instant succumbing to the terrific heat the solicitude and long toil of the vine dresser are lost and by fire his pride humbled. There are in the midsts of the woods beautiful farms and vines can be seen against the various farmhouses. These vines of course spring from one root, and has clothed and matted with its many branch s branches the four walls, the whole of it is covered with long clusters, which another half month will ripen, they go to ruin when the heat setsthe sets the houses ablaze.

On the fields grew ch wheat, grain and corn, alfala and other crops. These are consumed by the flames. What the fire does not touch the heat withers. The small patches of ground in the Mic-Hollester Run pogion in forest clearings belonging to the poor mountain folk up and down the country, for raising the turnips, barley, watermelons, on which they live, are either the prey to the flames or its singing heat. The neatly arranged kitchen gardens of the burning towns with their cherles cherries, plums, peaches and so on is also a waste, the populace flees through the rocking curtainof of smoke, the air is filled with sparks, a screaming gale blows the rooms of country castles on hillsides is aflame from only the heat of the distant fire, nothing escapes.

The fire rages up the slopes, and are flung forward by the winds. They surmount the forested summi's making volcanoes out of them in apparence, fillig the sky with flame and smoke,,. Somewhere beyond this a section of the woods is filled with forest rangers, making extensive breaches but news comes to them that the Red demon has swept beyond their right, falling upon the forests to the rear also, and is at the same time burning the slopes beyond them and going forward like the wind itself. Yet the fighters are dung daunted by nothing, they continue working in spite of the perils they face. Reinforcements come up, and are hurled into the tasks. Not a moments hesitation or delay, though forced to retreat before the fierce heat, they strive to recover their grounf, they cut and beat their way through the glens, they sutmount the parapet of rocks, and move on, in order of bat battle and with the array of an army. Unrelaxed by defeat onward they fight, their leaders keeps them togoth r as if they had a king over them. Onward they go to the glens, to the plains, to the slopes, nothing comes amiss of them, where over fire threatens to spread there they are, reckless of death, certain of conquest, if only there would be a downpour of rain. In the towns choice plants, or flowers o for ornment ornament or refreshment, myrtles, oranges, the rose and the carnation have disappeared before the flames The heat of flames melt the walls of building

the stone pavement of the streets run like water, the flames melt every thing they do not devour. The flames as Starring knew and heard fortunately passed on without touching Evangeline St Claire but the population fled before the terrific heat nevertheless. When they finally returned they began to see of their losses caused by the heat. They lament over the devastation, not because the fair forest country is turned into a smoking, hell resort or disfigured by explosions and floods, because income has become scanty, and the prices are high. How is a population like theirs to be fed. Where is the grain to come from when the city is cut off from communication with the outside world by fire and flood, where the provisions to sustain and solace the multitude. This is another weighty consideration for the classes well to do in the city. The taxes too and con' i contributions, the percentage upon corns, the various articles of revenues due to Abtieannia, how are they to be paid. Over three quarters of the supply of Evangeline St Claire is cut off. No longer trains are seen coming into the city from the county with food provisions and merchindize. The animation of the place is gone, a gloom hange over the smoke darkened city, and if they try to be merry there is something of sullenness and recklessness in their mirth.

Another and still worse calamity, the flames as we have already intimated, could be more terrible in their overthrow than in their ravages. The inhabitants of every town of the county have attempted where they could to conquer the fire.

It would seem as if the malignant flames had resolved that the sufferers should have the benefit of smoke to the full, for the advancing flames had not got more than twenty miles beyond Evangeline St Clare when they struck regions where great tar and oil bogs were situated. It was a sudden catastrophe, the flames increased the intensity of the smoke to a hundredfold degree, the flames seemed making making for the region of Madge Evans town, and suddenly the forest fell before the flames here also and the glory of those forests came to naught, and their burning embers rose up, the smoke rose up, and the hellish swarms of flaming smoking trees lying amidst the flames where the, fell increased the horror.

A tremendous element of fire is receding from their remains, mingled with the atmosphere and singed it with heat.

The dismayed fire fighters found that the fire pestilence had tricked them--for a new visitation, not confined to the territory which the Red Demon had first made its own, but extending far and wide, as the atmosphere extends in all directions. Their desperate work, no longer claimed for the main section, is now devoted to the object of ridding themselves of the deadly legacy which they were endangered by instead. In vain is their toil, they breach the forest, when the wind is favorable they make counter fires,, they blast and saw down trees, beat out ground fires, but the fire pestilence spreads.

Seeing himself now in the probable chief path of the forest fire, Walter Starring, hailed his followers, and ordered the guide leader to go to the boat house and see if there were any boats to be secured. The officer at once, without a word, went toward the house, while Starring fearing danger ahead used his best men to the best advantage as near scouts, ordering them to climb the the trees and observe the progress of the fire, while Angeline Riches, climbed a tree near the style. The others were silent, and by all the rules of ranger fire warfare, the Rangers who first met Starring and his companions, should have given them protre protection, by landing some of the force, but instead of it kept all his men, to which he sent the other members, a few brave men to only guide them a little way, fearing to exhaust his stock of fire fighting supplies if he did lend them support, and then working as he went on, on his own part of the " firing line", instead of moving to cover the followers of Starring.

Starring who from his perch on the tree top wi saw with the swiftness of inu intuition the new method that must be chosen now, that the first had failed, and who already resolved to transfer his point, with the certainity that, inthe in the doomed state of these Mic-Whirthian Forests, victory must perch on his shoulders or either perish in the flames, immediately descended the trees, and reaching the ground bade his nearest followers to go with all speed with their axes and clear the edge of the glen and ravine from as many trees, and as much shrubbery as possible, saying" The glen and ravine is our only chance if boats cannot be obtained. """ "

The command of the other party, fell to Radcliffe himself, with full discretionary power to remain in the ravine and wait, or go on, but he had an admonition from our Blessed Lord, which seemed to say to him don't give up. Trees on the upper edge of the ravine had been felled amidst the shouts of the whole force, and the promise of the guides to if necessary redeem that part of the forest. Radcliffe consulted with Angeline Riches, and Jennie Turner, there were among the men no more tools that could be used, and hadthere had there been, men also would be wanting to handle them. The chief guide found that escape across the river was nigh impossible, it would be of no use anyhow, to try to do so, with the hurricane lashing the sparks and flames across might only expose life recklessly.

Officers and men and the two girls watched anxiously the progress of Starring, they saw the men show him where greater danger was,, they saw a broadside of trees fall before the ax and blasting explosives, and fall beyond the ravine, they saw the other men cover leaves and smaller branches with dirt, cut down brush and high grasses grass, and again see Starring climb up a high tree to investigate again. He and his first followers had braved the terrific conflagration for days... and also nights, therefore the two girls could not confide in help from other sources, and hold out without his own command. True they had no means of regular offense against the " Red Plague" but the Ravine, they had an enemy which dies only by water, they had the honor of the girl heroines to guard, they had a chief

to whom they should face unspeakable pain pain, they had the other things to consider, and with one voice cried out" To the Ravine if we cannot go anywhere else. And yet a shout of triumph from many proclaimed to them that the upper edge of the ravine was quickly being cleared of trees and brush and other inflamable inflamable materials, nor did they then forbore how the flames could leap across at this stage now. Meanwhile starring climbed the tallest trees to take in once more the course of the Western arm of the fire...

His quick eye glance at the distant forew forest to the straight south, at the great sea of forests that covered the slo sloping hills beyond, and his buoyant nature promished to him, that a harvest of destruction would be for the flames if the conflagration struck here, as he beheld a long wall of dreadful smoke spreading from east to west like the clouds of a great approaching storm. As he climbed up to the uppermost top of the tree, he from there before the view of others hoisted the signal for a quick action, which was instantly answered from all of them with loudhoots, and the line of workers then bore down on the high weeds and grass to cut them down, to the distance of a quarter of a mile beyond the ravine. One of the men was put out of the fight by a disabled ax, and had gone back to watch the work from another point. Radcliffe in another tree, when he saw the prospects of a contest with the second arm of the fire, had attempted to signal a warning to those below, but in doing so he fell from the branch clear into the river, and much surprised by hislong fall swam like a beaten beaver to the shore.

At this moment, Starring, who had been up in the tree seveneor or eight minutes, disregarding the heat of the approaching fire, ordered the men below by signals to cut their line of work obliquely, and as he did so he then signalled to the girl scouts to make sure of the ravine, telling her by signal that cooly and with fatal accuracy the conflagration was coming on like a hurricane storm, and while he was signalling her the workers and his followers now reinforced by the retreating rangers, raked the forest around the ravine, while others started with axes anew among entangled weeds and high thick shrubbery, and throwing earth over them so that the heat of the fire would have no effect.

The loud noise of the falling trees was suddenly mingled from a shriek from one of the workers, not of fright or injury but which told that the tide of battle had turned , but what was worse for them, the fire was moving in a trianglar manner which would soon cut them off from the Ravine if they were not quick enough enough to take advantage of it.

One of the rangers himself recieved a desperate wound which would deprive of him of no arm. The wound was so severe that he was obliged to be carried to a safe distance, leaving the direction to an officer of not so good experience as he has. Starring now ordered the men to slowly fall back to the thicker weeds bushes and sha shrubbery to the right, and to clear the way before them, but some of them that in the rangers terrified by the suddenly growing heat, and by the injury of no of their best leaders, fled to the rear. leaving o no one within the danger zone but their leader, who having for the moment lost his senses from a severe wound in the head caused by a falling tree, the branch of which struck him remained at his post,, gazing about with a vacant stare..

Starring, ordered some of his followers to rescue him, which hey did did they did, while others worked now in the bottom of the ravine so that the conflagration could be battled there also in case it poured in a deadly fire of burning branches weeds, and embers. The commanding officer of another batch of rangers threw in his own men to the task, as he found as point of the ravines sides to be exposed at all points, and this was the first point attacked by ax and shovel pick and saw, scythe and rake, and one of his officers appeared, and waved a white flag bent to a long branch, telling him that the fire was about three miles away. The confusion of other men now became completely unmanageable, yet now every tree had been cut away, all weeds were down, and the other shrubbery shattered or covered with earth, nothing left by which the flames could readily feed feed upon. The right of the ravine was cleared at the same time, as was the left flank, which lay to leeward of the fire. The top of the ravine on the right of the advancing fire line, and the extreme left, looked like t it too would escape, and work continued here last. As the work was finished, an awful stillness set in, nothing was heard but the feeble booming of the distant flames, the sighing of the coming fire hurricane, or the breathing of the men.

It doesnot take so much courage to fight the enemy soldiers in battle, Of course there is the glow of action, the fierce love of killing which rises in the blood like fire, the thought of victory and the righ spil, all this to spur on on one on. but to enter a fire plague stricken forest, to fight against the advancing conflagration, is like fighting a foul disease, this takes courage does it not!!!!!!

After a brzzee breeze from the northwestt, the wind had died away as soon ad as Starring had climbed to the top of the tree. After he had been up in the tree untill the work below had almost been completed the gale came on not violent at the start,

but increasing every moment,.Below there was an unusual trampling, and shouting, shouting, and soon after a crash in the forest somewhere as if something had fallen and every one below toling the alarm, sprang toward the ravine, asking each other questions without waiting for or receiving any answers.Investigating the sound Starring found the noise proceeded from some falling tree.By looking down Starring observed as many of his followers as could first reach the ravine, going below, while others stayed above looking westward in the utmost consternation.It was growing quite dark again, the winds began to whistle through the branches, and the noise of the tempest further off was scarcely less than the roar of the Niagara. And in the midst of all this, the officers in charge of the Rangers with their speaking trumpet, the officers and men screaming and shouting to each other in efforts to be heard, and mingling their voices with the angry roar of the coming fire hurricane--this all this, in the darkness that proceeds the fire, and with the increasing fury of the gale, combined to form as much of the terribly sublime as Starring ever dared to witness concentrated in one scene.

If his tree had not been sheilded from the wind by a towering wall of rock he would have been tossed off.Those below were filled with apprehension. What the extent od ofdanger, and how all this would terminate were questions which now arose in his mind, although unconscious of fear or trepidation.But nevertheless to such questions there were no answers, for thinknowledge resides with only him, wh who guides any storm and directs the whirlwind.Starring soon was to have a view of a conflagration that he would never forget.The wind continued to increase in fury, and big walls of flames were driven madly along the tree tops and among the forest of trees top and bottom. At this time even when it seemed impossible to walk the ground below without risk of being lifted up and carried away by the raging winds, some of the braver of the rangers, kept themselves aloft in tree tops, tossing and swinging about with the waving of tree and branches, clinging by their bodies, foo feet and one arm, with mysterious tenancy, while their only useleful hands were employed in breaking and chopping off branches to a prevent these trees if possible from catching fire.

How these gallent fellows kept from being blown off the trees was equally a matter of wonder and admiration. However they had cutt off what branches they could, except the big ones and descended and headed for the ravine.Feeling sure the fire would not touch his tree because of the shelter by the rock wall Starring remained to watch the advance of the fire storm.The hurricane had now acquired its full force.There was now no more work to be done.Every body except Starring were in glen and ravine.

The trees roared like thunder, and foll, branches were or torn off and smoke passed in foge.By this time the fire sea was rolling up and onward its tremendous waves, and that Starring might not lose the grandeur of such a view he fortified himself more against the wind that tried to sway his tree, and in spite of the fierceness of the gale, planted himself between trunk and big branch in a position favorable for a survey of all around him, and in safty, so long as the fire passes without hiting t hitting the trees.

He had often seen good paintings of fierce forest fires, but here before him was the orignal.These imitations are often graphic and faithful so far as they go, But they are necessarily deficient in accompaniments which painting cannot supply, and therefore are feeble and ineffective.You have upon canvass the forest consumed by red emirches made for fire, but as they are pi painted by the artist so t arr a artist so they are.The universal motion of both is thus arrested and made very stationary.There is no subject in which the brushes of the painter, acknowledges more its indebtedness to the imiganition than in its attempts to form the view of such a conflagration.But should even the attempt of the artest be sucessful, so far as the eye is concerned, there still would be wanting, the rushing of the hurricane, the roaring of the blazzing trees, the roaring hiss of the flames, and the ponderous rolling forms of the quickly spreading and rising volcanic eruptions of smoke and flame.All these were numbered among the advantages of the position of Starring, as firmly planted, and bracing the heat, he opened eyes and ears, heart and soul to the beautiful frightfulness of the tempest around, and the roaring flames approaching with storm like speed.

At this time the fire hurricane was supposed to be at the top of its fury, the moment just before the fire comes up, n and it seemed to Starring quite impossibld for winds to blow more violently.PParts of the forests had been reduced in the scale of proportion by this sudden transforming of the two elements into a mere nothingess of fire and falling embers.The fire came wave upon wave.

The smoke from smudge fires was even so thick, such fires being in advance of the main conflagration that you could not see more than five feet off in any direction, but of the fire itself the spectacle was one of majesty and power. Within easy view there were forested mountains and plains, which were becomig becoming all ablaze if or as if caused by some terrific volcanic power from beneath. Starring saw immense masses of rolling uplifted clouds of smoke ermerging from the left of the forests on one side, and seas of flames rushing and roaring across the valleys untill they too became seething volcanoes of fire.

These waves were of fire of course but rolled apparently at times like the waves of the sea, were rapid in the forward movement, and were in massivement and in elevation of tongues and so shoots rushing upward through the smoke,, they were the offspring of the well known " bottomless pit""""""

It was their heights that imparted the thrill and surprise to the scene, and not less magnificent than the waves of flames themselves were the varying dimmensions of some unburning valleys that remained between them. The angry aspects which they presented to the eye, that gazed almost vertically, upon their own

which when they did, they percieved as they thought, a lot of men working among the forest, cutting and sawing down trees, digging ditches, and bla sting.And they percieved tha t the men were rangers, because they were the uniform of forest rangers , and Starri starring a k asked;

"What are they doing out there.?What is sons this?"

The Ranger then answered;

"Did you not see a little below these hills, across the river on the opposite side a stile that led into the general Mic-Hollester Woods on the left hand of this way."?

"Yes" answered Starring.

""Then" said the Ranger"From that stile there goes a narrow path that runs sooner or later tward the " Yellow Brick or Big Girl Knool Road, and these men(pointing to them who were working afar off--came once to live in these beautiful forests, and while out on a scouting came to that stile.There o one of the m climbing to the top of the highest tree saw that the fire sooner or later would come this way and they they made this trench and are now over yonder making the other."

Then Radcliffe and Walter starring looked one upon another, with tears gushing out, but yet said notgi nothing of their experience in the Glen and Ravine to the Ranger.Then he led them to a higher place and bid them look in another direction. They therefore obeyed, and saw that the west and south was very dark and smoky. They also thought that they heard from that direction a rumbling noise as of fire and they smelt the scent of burning pine.Then though he felt he knew Starring nevertheless asked;

"What is tha f"

""We might as well call it the "By way to Hell" said the Ranger" for the western arm of the forest fire is ragin' raging there"""..

"Then said Starring to the Ranger;

"I percieve that these rangers had plenty of time to work as well as others, had they not."?

"Yes, and in making the first breach it took them a long time too."

"How far did they extend the gap, since they had started in the work."?

"About six miles, and another as far as these mountains."

Then said starring to some of his followers;

"In the face of these kind of dangers we have need to cry to God for strength."

"Aye" said the Ranger" and you will need to use it when you have it too."

By this time Starring had a desire to go forwards, and the Ranger desired they should before the fire came up to prevent their progress, so they rode together tward the end of the hills.

Then said the Ranger to Starring-

"Do you wish to see the large clearing nature made in these woods?If so you can if you have the skill to look through our large field glass."

"Starring and his friends willingly accepted the invitation, so they again climbed to the top of a higher hill, and here the Ranger lended them the glass so they could take the look.Then they attempted to look, but the remembrance of their last exiting experience made their hands somewhat shaky, by means of which p impediment, they could not lok steadily through the glass, yet they felt sure they observed something like like the clearing, and also some of the size of the place.When they were about to depart, the Ranger gave them a note of the way, and bid them, beware of going in any northeasterly and westerly direction unless out of the fire zone, and take heed that they sleep not in these forests , and then bid them God speed.

Then the whole column went down the mountain and continued along the roadway leading through the forest.Now a little below these mountains on the le deft hand a little path way, which showed that deers generally took this course.....

Here they caught up with their brisk boyscout Radcliffee, and Starring asked him;

"What direction shall we be going now?"

"That is hard to say" answered the lad.I sir was born in the country north of here, a little on the left hand, and we are heading tward it now."

"But how do you think to get in through there, when the forest itself is in dangs. danger, for we may all find more difficulty there."

"Well that big clearing is in that direction and we can reach it as other good people do."

"But what good would it do for us to go that way when it might lead us into new dangers."

"I do not intend to lead any one in that direction.I am only saying I have left my country over there to join the army as a scout."

"But we came not in or through a pleasant portion of the country roundabouts yet, and safty is not even at the head of this way, we came through hell a number of times, and therefore fear, however you may think yourself, that a time will come that we'll regret our passage through this prtion of the portion of the forest as we had bad experiences already."

"General, this country is no utter stranger to me, I know it well, be content

to follow my guardianship,and all will be well.And as for the clearing you talk of, all the world may know it is a great way off from here.I cannot think that any man in all our country does as much know about the perils of these woods more than we do, nor need they matter whether we do or no, s n since we have as you see a chance to go on a fine heart or record breaking adventure."

When Starring a saw that the lad was wise indeed , he said to Angeline Richee, but in a whisper; "There s more hope of a successful mission if we do as he says."

"Yes" said the girl scout."When we take no heed of good council we are like a fool that walks by the wayside, but his sled m failed him, and he perishes.Shall we hault halt here for a while, or continue on our way for the present, and then stop afterwards, and see by degrees if we can learn something better?"

"It is not good to halt now" said Starring."Let us continue on if you will, and we can talk to each other over and anon, as much as we are able to."

So they continued on, and the body guard came on a little behind..Now when they had passed a little glen, they entered into a sort of valley, where they met a lot of uniformed men going toard a ravine of to the right, and they acted so strange that Starring was somewhat suspicious , and yet as the leader led the men off to the right, Starring looked carefully to see if he know him and the men, and he thought it might be some of the rangers he had met sometime before when he was with general Arronburg, who helped the general combat the fires coming twarddd tward his own lines..

But he could not perfectly have a good view of their faces, for they had gone past on horseback so fast, but being gone past Angeline Richese lookedcafter the men in the van, and believed they were either going to fight the fire, or were retreating from it.

It was their heights that imparted the thrill and surprise to the scene, and not less magnificent than the waves of flames themselves were the varying dimmensions of some unburning valleys that remained between the.. them.The angry aspects which they presented to the eye, that gazed almost vertically, upon their own

Folly

front Chapter Twelve

STARRING DISCOVERS THIS CRATER, OR WHAT HARDLY CAN BE CALLED A CRATER, WAS THE SCENE OF THE FORST OF ALL THE EXPLOSIONS.....
HINDING THE TERRIFIC CRASH FROM THIS ONE WAS HEARD TEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED MILES.
OTHER DISASTROUS UPHEAVALS CAUSED BY THE EXPLOSIONS.

What makes the awful disaster more sadder in all probalities, is that Calverinia and an sengall state were one of the fairest regions of the world(in this story). Part of Calverinia is temperate, and part is Tropical, and another part has the African climate. But hardly no part is really a desert , though in corner in the Temperate zone is herdly ever rains, and snows too much in winter. and too much rain in spring and Fallll. Fall. The northern forests are of every vestige known in the temperate zone, and in the warmer regions there is the banana, the cocoa- palm, cinnamon, and other trees and giant ferns the tobacco, and rice, cotton, the sugar cane, and many other crops yeild their inc ease increase under cultivation. This part is the extreme southwestern Calverinia, that extends further south than Angelinia State. But now to spoil these scenes of a lovilinesa, the terrific energies and devastation of war are waging, and if every mountain in Calverinia were all violent volcanoes as fierce as krakatoa they would not have done half the desolation the war already had committed.

////// The only part of Calverinia that escaper the horrors of war so far is the extreme northern.The worst disaster of all so far now as the reader well knows is that of what the erroneous Abbieann disaster.....

What still more confounds Starring was that he had heard that the noise of the first explosion had happened at Calverinia city which is fully two hundred miles from the scene. The besieging forces, of Vivian Vickey, and Anna Arronburg, and federal cities were startled on the midnight hour of June the First by a hundred or more booming sounds, the last fifteen of which were loudest, which came from those awful explosions nearly six thousand miles distant.

A mail steamer in passing by but far out on Lake Angeline, about a hundred miles,, according to the reports of her captain had her compass violently agitated for every explosions roar.. Next day in the morning a darkness from smoke was noticed at many job on places on each side of the Lake, and one captain told that at midnight a quickly rising smoke column issuing from the horizon line seemed to reveal the locality of what he at first thought was a gigantic volcanic eruption. The commander of a river war frigate, known as the war while passing, estimated the column of smoke to be about eighty six thousand feet, and the lowest next to it about seven miles high...

As there were volcanic mountains in the region, and as volcanic phenomena was sometimes so common in that region, and generally made more of a sight than of usually doing any harm, no fear was intertained by any inhabitants far from the region of disaster ,and hearing reports that Mt Joan had exploded, and that Mts Calverine and Vivian were disembowling themselves with the violence of their eruptions, excursion pari parties, even started from Calverine to visit the scene of action.

They reached the region of these volcanic mountains on June the 29th, and saw that neither volcano had even signs of any activity whatever, and hearing that further east a devastating flood was raging did not proceed any further. They had heard violet explosions At intervals of a second for a hundred or more times, each one of these outbursts increasing louder and louder, the glow of the flashes which lighted up t the overhanging clouds for a few seconds.

To find the crater of these volcanoes being active,a hoax, they were astounded and wondered where the thundering had come from. One party of night rovers, noticed at Pandora city, that the height of one of the explosion clouds had ascended unusually high, and likewise that the thunders of the explosions even there was as loudest as cannons firing fiercely in a rolling drum fire. One column seen rising was filled with a display like fierce fireworks and exploding bombs. One cloud , some of the witness witnesses said, exploded also. The mayor of Pandora at that time, also heard that Mt Joan had blown up, and with the chief and members of the Abbieannian Topographical Survey, visited Mt Joan on June the 17th. He found the mountain in perfect quietude its forests on the slopes intact, and no sign of an eruption. The year by however was the volcano called Mt Preparation. From its summit three large vapor columns were noted, one marking the position of the central or main crater, while the other two were on the slopes of the sol mountain. There were also no le less than twelve other eruptive feci from which issued smaller steam columns and dust. At this volcano had never for hundreds of years since its last great activity been any more active than this. And there was no signs of devastation around, and no mantle of ashes, and its forests on its slopes were not destroyed.

Some other persons who studied on volcanic eruptions thought when the explosions roared forth that some volcanoes had Either reached the paroxysmal stage or were trying to blow the country of Calverinia upo up into the air. At Calverine so far off from Abbieann, from Twlve oclock till fifteen minutes after one one Oen one the tremendous detonations and the cussions followed each other so quickly that a continuous roar may have been declared to have issued from tye the region.

Than the full terrors of the " supposed eruption" were now fast approaching to skake shake the whole country.. The distance of over two hundred miles from Abbieann was not sufficient to keep away the loudest sounds from Calverine, or to prevent the shocks from driving the inhabitants into the streets in panic and confusion. For fie fifteen or twenty minutes the awful thunders sounded like a volcanic eruption in their very streets. At fifteen minutes after twelve there were fourty four most might explosions . The last four were of most appalling violence, and it was these that gave rise to the far reaching effects followed by a last one that mak made the hole that surprised Story a from its form, and broke all records in making noise and concussion.....

The entire series of the grand phenomena at this one spot extended a little over ten hours.

General Hinderning who had an army encamped about seventy miles,, wrote in his reports that it was at midnight when he heard a most tremendous series of reports like the loudest thunder heard at the worst kind of a thunderstorm, and saw black rolling masses of diffel differently colored smoke rising into the vforest fire made smoke clouds to a height of which he estimated at no less than thirty miles. The supposed " eruption" was also viw viewed by general Jimmie Vivian, at a distant of fifty miles. He wrote of the masses of smoke looking like some immense rolling wall, with bright red bursts of flame, fireworks display, and at times flashes like large strangely formed snakes rushing through the air..... He claimed that one or two sections of the clouds made a sudden forward descent and explosion exploded also with a thundering crash; deafening

at that distance, with the aid of aid t of the glow of the forest fires the dark wall resembled a blood red curtain mixed with other colors here and there, with the edges of of all shades of red, the whole of a murky tinge, with fierce flashes of flame, and strange fire works display.

Many other witnesses at the same time, and about the same distance from the scene of of the explosions reported seeing the tops of trees, telephone poles and so forth aglow with electric fire. Such effects seem to be easily explained. Which we consider how enormous must be the friction going on in the hot air produced by tremendous forest fires, and through the clashing together of every kind of debris thrown upward by the the explosions during ejection and their descent, and the terrific cyclonic fire hurricanes produced by the heat of the forest fires, it is evident that such strange friction is able to produce a widespread electrical disturbance in the surrounding atmosphere. The upward rush of heat from such enormous smoke and flames would also also contribute to these disturbedisturbances. Even from all these causes the compasses of ships passing the zone of disaster were much disturbed. And yet the strange concussion possibly had some share in creating these strange perturbations.

Or a telephone line from Calverine, which included a land submarine cable about as many miles long before it was disrupted by the flood disaster, reports like a world tingling to pieces were heard.

At Vivian Wickey five hundred miles from Calverine it was noted at one of the besieging fortifications, that an officer on putting on the reciever of a telephone to his ear heard a roar like dynamite being exploded into the reciever. So great was the mass of smoke debris dust and other ex cheps wreckage hurled into the air, that profound darkness that lasted many hours extended to two hundred and fifty five miles from the center of the disturbance.

There was a record that it was pitch dark at calverine at nine oclock in the morning of June the First. so great was the ejective force of the explosion that ripped up the country recently viewed by Starring and his companions that all kinds of debris was believed to have been blown up to a height of a hundred thousand feet or over eighteen miles into space. Another estimate gave the enormous altitude of thirty miles to which all the finest and lightest debris had been blown. The debris which fell upon the neighboring region within a circle of over thirty miles around this crater was about thirty five feet in thickness, or more, but at one spot it was believed to be from one hundred and ninty six, to three hundred and eighty feet. Masses of debris encumbered many branches of the Mic-Hollester Rum The coarser particles of this debris fell over a known area equal to 265,170 square miles, a space equal of the whole New England States, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinios.

It is calculated that the matter of earth debris thus thrown must have been considerably over a cubic mile in volume.

And another most distinguishing feature of this display of explosive powers, was world reports of the magnitude and range of the explosive sounds. Many at Calverine reported that at ten minutes after twelve the reports and concussions were worst than deafening and earsplitting, and Calverine did not have a sound window in the entire number of houses. At Vivian Wickey, which is five hundred miles further from Calverine and northwest, the besieging armies armies were aroused by hearing many reports which led them to suppose that the enemy was opening fire with artillery, and fired upon the enemy without cause. The explosions were heard not only all over the immense State of Calverinia but over a yet wider area. At a spot 10,100 miles distant At Crowley, southern Angelinia State, the besieging armies there heard the awful sound, which was like booming thunder. Again At Jennie Wren Town, the scene of the first real battle of the war, the same distance away, the people were so alarmed that the city aur authorities sent off the police and the marines and detectives to seek the cause cause of the disturbance.

Also at that time the guards doing sentry duty in the mobolization camps at Angeline Junction city northwest Angelinia state thought they heard the firing as of a mighty and terrible battle starting at a spot 11,100 miles distant. At midnight also, the people of Gertrude Angeline City were aroused by what they thought thought was the eruption of one of the volcanoes a hundred miles from the city, a sound sound which lasted fifteen minutes the last reports being the loudest. The time and other circumstances show that even here again the explosions tearing Abbiesnn to pieces were heard this time at the enormous distance of more than eleven thousand miles. And yet for the Calverinians there was trustworthy evidence that the sounds were heard overgreater distances. Thundering noises were heard at Santeverge, Glandelinia fifteen thousand miles away from Abbiesnn. It was imagined that some christian fleet was making an attack upon the fortifications, and investigation was therefore made.

Yet most remarkable of all, the population in the city of Wallis, Plomlinia nation, and na nearly twenty thousand miles away from Abbiesnn felt sure they heard reports coming from the westward like the distant roar of heavy guns. These reports continued at intervals of between ten and twelve minutes. Of course some time was was needed for the sounds to make such a long journey. On the basis of the known rate of velocity they must have been heard at plomlinia six hours after they started from their source. And yet great as t was the range of such vibrations or concussions, they could not be compared with the disasterous air wave or vibration caused by the mighty outbursts ofexplosions. This atmospheric wave started from the Bengali state at two minutes after the explosions ceased on that eventful midnight hour moving onward at an ever widening circle, like that produced by a stone thrown in a pool of water. This ring like air wave was believed to have sped onward at the rate of from six thousand and seventy four, to seven thousand and twenty six miles an hour, and went around the world a score of times, as evidenced by the following events, to tell it right, Abbiesnn is really nearly a hundred and fourty miles from the explosion area of the greatest force under review. About thirsttn thirsen thirteen minutes after the great outbursts of explosions the air waves had done as much damage near by as the reports, every gauge showed a terrific barometric disturbance more stronger tim than any amount of mercury would register. The effects on the air of the first minor paroxysmal outbreaks were easily recorded on this instrument to that about three quarters of an inch of mercuy mercury up to even two inches and a half, but barometers in the most distant places recorded the same disturbances. The great wave passed and repassed over the world (in this story) about a hundred and fifty times, even with such effect that the inhabitants nearest to the scene of disaster, but still far away were somewhat conscious of it, even all barometers in every principal city of every nation of the world recorded this effect of the first great wave from the disaster zone, and also the return wave. Every oscillation left their mark on every barogram and other instrument. Also the strange Magnitic disturbance was terrific and committed awful havoc for thousands of miles on all kinds of eletric instruments.

At the same time that this immense aerial undulation, started on its swift tour

around the world, and the magnetic disturbance did hundred of billions of dollars world of destr destruction to electrical instruments, for thousands of miles, and while all of engall State and Central Calverinia, was a sea of flood waters, another wac wave but of more awful destructiveness than the flood itself, believed to be a strange seismic sea wave, started on a quick and similar journey. There was not hardly a doubt that this so called " tidal wave" was caused by the concussion of the explosions which shook the states of Calverinia from end to end with such force as to cause both the Angelinian and the Mic-Whirthian seas to recede three miles from shore, and then on both the west and east and southwestern coasts to come back in tremendous waves from a hundred and fifty to a hundred and eighty feet high to rise and sweep with the most resistless energy upon all the shores of the western eastern and southwestern coastlines.

Indeed the destruction to life and property will never be fully known. At least a hundred and thirty six thousand lives were lost, a great part of the coast line near Gertrude Angeline city was destroyed, and all coast line towns cities and villages were overwhelmed with less or greater loss to property. Hundreds of ships were cast upon the shores nearly four miles inland, and masses of coral from fifty to a hundred tons in weight were torn from the bed of the sea, and either swept inland upon the shore for miles or shattered to fragments by the raging waters.

The Blenglomenon Islands were devastated Along their shores by the waves, and of one island, all the inhabitants were drowned to a man, and longiglomenon creatures flew away in horror w from the scene of such a disaster. Three islands, St Johns, andrew, and Phillip, and an islet of the Catherine Islans isls were swept by terrific seas and great destruction was done.

Of course this triple disaster, of almost a simultaneous character was not the only horror.

Also can be added the astonishing and record breaking forest fires all over easter eastern and southern Calverinia, and through northern and Central Angelinia,. Ever since the forest fires grew so enormous, in other countrys far from the scene, some strange and remarkable sky effects were observed in different parts of the world because of so much smoke traveling around the globe. Many of these effects however were of extraordinary beauty, but in others were like sky smudges partly obscuring the sun, or making slight darkness while the sun shone through a strangely gray black sly sky. At first thinking volcanic eruptions had something to do with this, many scientific inquiri inquiries were made and in due time there was collected and tabulated a list of places fr from which these effects were seen, together with the date of such occurences. occurance occurances.. It was also concluded that such strange optical phenomena had a coomon common cause and that it must be smoke of some big fire that maintained itself up at an enormous height in the sky and traveled around the w world. The world knowing of the fires in Calverinia and Angelinia suspected the source was from there. And all All the facts indicated that such enormous clouds of smoke started from these two states of southern Abbiesnnia and that the prodigious fury of the enormous conflagrat 1890 ions could at that time alone account for the presence of so much smoke at such a height in the atmosphere.

It was believed that this this cloud traveled at double the speed of an express train, and carried by winds of any directions but mainly by westerly winds, in four days it had crossed the Mic-Whirthian seas, and was rapidly going over other nations ,two days later it was moving over other foriegn countries, and then across other seas back to its birthplace. But the upper winds still carried this haze of smoke onward, and again and again, and still againit went around the world. In July 1913 the smoke area had expanded so as to include all countries, countries, so that in some the sun could be seen in the sky like a red bale, but gave no light, except twilight. Here are a few incidents called from the report of the Royal society on far away Proton Protestantia nearly eighteen tyousand miles away. On the 28th of July the sun was seen as through a dark brown fog all day, and there was a strange lurid glare all over the sky. At night there were no stars, and the very air smelled smoky. At the island of Tulsa on many weeks without a break a strange red threatening sky was seen at sunset, and all day every day the sun shone as through a haze. At extreme northern Abbiesnnia, there was the record of a crimson dawn for months, sun red as a smithe hammer after rising, strangely beautiful and gorgeous sunset, first of the afterglows, sky and clouds of yellos, red, brown and purple blue up to the east from the west. Many other places contu continually viewed vivid sunsets, some vivid red, fading into green, and purple and many other colors. At other countries not named here, the sun appeared blue, green and even black. At Abyssinikile the sun looked like a blue ball, and afterwuset the sky became so red that there was supposed to be a big fire. At Glandelinia the sun set green, with a remarkable afterglow. Secondary glows lasted till dark, gold, green, and crimson and purple colors. At Glandelinia a corona was constantly seen from July till August and september. And a misty rippled surface of haze.

It remains however, to be said it, that since the awful catastrophe no one had even come near to Abbiesnn, excepting starring, and his companions. And some of those of which writings he had found. Starring had discovered that more than the reports were true. The whole southern and southeastern portions of the city of Abbiesnn had vanished entirely, except an isloated section, ten blocks or so square, and projecting out of Lake Angeline with deep water all around it, looking like a ruined veneco venice at a distance.

Indeed what a tremendous work of destruction this must have been is attested by the evidence that where the mightiest and most magnificent city of all Calverinia had stood, and surrounded by luxuriant forests, it is now in some places a lake of waters, wity only the northerly and eastern section of the city still remaining but mostly in ruins that are too serious severe to be mended.

Starring began to realize that there is no region in all Abbiesnnia was more frequently visited by disaster, and all the horrors of this enormous war, than the beautiful countries of Angeline, Angelinia, and Angeline ine, and nowe nowehere else has greater damage been done, than in the territories of beautiful Calverinia.

Tye These beautiful countries have more than two hundred very big cities, and yet the was disasters have been so frequent frequent in any of these States, that now the principal ones will always serve as dates to mark time or refer too, just as in our own country is the case with any great historic event. During this awful war so far since 19 12 came in a month had never passed without there being a score of terrific disasters of some sort, affecting only the christian side, and the disappearance of a city or a towns of frequent occurance. In the vinicity of gumbeamreak, that and the region of Delights Junction formed but one single paradise which connected them,

but because of the terrific explosion at Jennie Vivian during the battle of Evangeline
Granla, polights junction was devastated, and a part of Jenn's Vivian city disappeared
into the river, with all its neighboring forests and fertile fields and a terrible
number of christian wounded also, who had fallen fallen in the battle.

This explosion also destroyed by blast and concussion one hundred and fourty five
towns and villages, and one city... the whole country was violently agitated by the
first greatest explosion of the war, and a tract of nearly fourtyfive square leagues
which which the day before had been covered with flourhsl flourishing villages towns
and farms was reduced to a heap of ruins or wiped off the map. This destruction
and and explosion caused the loss of over twenty two thousand lives.

But many of the others or every other disaster combined cannot compare with this awful
Abbieann horror... Never in the war so far, and probably never will lets hope again
for the christian side occur acatastrophe so terrible as this. When the first explosion
occured after twelve, near Abbieann, it did immense damage, but even after the ruin, it
was believed if the flood had not touched good parts of Abbieann it would all have been
wiped out by fire, because fo get fires made every hill near Abbieann look like volcanoes
belching out flames continuously not only from their tops but their sides valleys and
flanks as well.The speedy forest fires soon extended to a portion of the Calverine
Hills untill a third of this mountain range was either in full flames or beginning to
show signs of conflagration. While these forest fires were raging onward, the whole
forest for many miles was in a state of tremendous agitation from the fire hurricanes of
wind. The clouds floating above were seemingly all aflame, and at one moment there were
fifteen big fires seen at the same time.

Men women and children fled in terror from their burning homes, and filled the
air with their cries of horror and distress. Indeed many hundreds of them had who had
not time to escape were trapped and burned in their homes. Day after day before the
explosion the fury of the forest fires increased, and the whole country of eastern
Calverinia seemed likely to be wiped out by fire. Enormous waves of flames spread
over the greatest forests, and in some cases moved tward Abbieann, and there was a
scene of horror and terrible results of the conflagration passing all the powers of
imagination. Even luminous clouds gathered above the chain of the Calverine Hills hich
which rang along the southeastern stretch of Calverinia. This cloud increased in size
each minute untill at last it came to form a sort of canopy overh a overhead of a
green and blood red color which even hung over the earth for hundreds of mil s miles.
In proportion as this cloud grew, the forest fires spread forth and gained fresh
fury, burning all before them. On the morning of May the last, the cloud seemed to
suddenly break up into flames, and a tract of country extending from Point Calverine,
to the north as far as Aberdeenia, to the north and west, and covering an area of about
a hundred and fifty miles, had entirely disappeared into the sea of flame. at once.

There stood the previous day the villiages of Tellington, and Baldeinbess. not one
of the inhabitants had escaped the fire had come up so suddenly. They and their villiages
had been consumed in the sea of flames.

Chapter Thirteen

CONCLUDING INCIDENTS, BEFORE STARRING
MAKES AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY. HIS CONVERSATION ON
SOME TOPICS OF THE WAR. HIS DESPERATE EFFORTS TO FORCE
.....GLANDELINIAN PRISONERS TO CONFESS CAUSES OF THE DISASTER.....

Few months in Calverinia had passed without some war disaster taking place at one
point or another of the normal war zone. Houses or whole towns have been literally
uproo ed by the conc ssions of explosions, fortresses by hundreds have been demolished
during battles, plantations ruined,, river islands broken up into reefs or blown
up entirely, and whole countr countries devastated by these terrible disturnances.

Thanks to the fact, that Starring will soon discover the real cause of the Abbieann
disaster, which will give the Abbieannian authoities ideas and means to prevent such
catastrophes in the fu u future by sending such immense armies as to clear Calverinia
of all the Glandelinian armies. All the volcanic eruptions in a the world combined,
all the mst horrid earthquakes, and hurricanes and tornados and other catastrophes
put togeth r are nothing t compared to the war horri horrors which have made such mercil
ess onslaughts upon the inhabitants of Calverinia, the poor unfortunate non-combatant
people, and yet all these horrible disasters as Starring knows from his own investigat
ions since th war started are even mild in comparison with the appalling cruelty.
destruction, that Glandelinian armies have shown to helpless women and children, in
their massacres, and other atrocities. While perhaps since the first part of the war
had started, a quarter of a million of little children have perished in these tertirot
territories because of these massacres and disasters of war, it is no conservatively
estimated that not less than ten millions e perished in the horrors of massace massacres
floods and other disasrers disasters, and in the terrible raids, and expeditions caused
and made by the Glandelinian soldiery. It was certain that there were nearly six
million child slaves who were formerly r scued by christian armies, that perished in
the succession of disasters, and many more in massacres and other horrors. General
Starring himself in one letter to the Vivian Girl Princesses written in late ninetieth
twelve related that whole cities were dopa depopulated by the Glandelinians who even
used little children as targets in the way that sportsmen shoot birds and pigeons from
the traps. He wrote that the Glandelinians fed their bloodhounds on little children
and infants, the older children being regarded as food too course for these animals and
so were crucified and butchered. These scenes determined him to spend his life life
in behalf of the christian cause, and the story of all his heroic efforts in these volume
volumes is to be the greatest of all known.

He wrote that the child slaves in the army fared as well a off as lost soulsin the
infernal regions.. The boys were condemned to labor and perish under fire while at
work, or in mines, or at breastworks, and the little girls to expire in the fields
at trench digging and so forth, no matter how terrific a fire from opposing sides may
be. Neither groans nor tears, nor the tenderest calls of nature could move their un-
feeling oppressers to relax their wicked brutality and tyranny. Indeed thei provisions
were dealt out to them in such stinted quantities that they seemed better calculated
to protract existance and to lengthen their misery than to enable them to live. Oler
older girls expired under the pressure of hunger and fatigue, clasping in the agonies of
death their dead or dying younger friends to their breasts, shrivled and contracted
with famine. The Glandelinians indeed were worst than cruel tigers, wolves or lions
, and the infurtunate were suffering always from a sharp and cruel hunger. For all
the time the war has raged on,the slaughter of these unfortunate wtretches, whom with
divers kind of torments, neither seen or heard of before in all past history of reality,
they have been cruelly and most inhumanly butchered and butchered and slain. Of the
three million christian children and grown ups in the six cities near Gravewhite
there remains alive scarce than four hundred persons. good sections of the country
of Calverinia not touched by flood fire, and explosion horrors, containing as much ground
as from san Francisco to Chicago, lies wholly ruined and devastated...

The River islands of the Mic Hollester Run are waste and desolate. The River islands
a score of them known as the North Bend Isles neighboring north of Evangeline St Claire
city, and others about sixteen in number, that had been as fertile as any part of
Calverinia, pure and temperate in air are now totally unpeopled and destroyed, so
that any ship going there, but at risk could only find remnants of people out of all
the half million or more seen there before the war. There are hundreds of other river
and lake islands that are totally deserted. For all these months before the gr at
great war disasters began, wherein the Glandelinians exercized these abominable
cruelties and destable try tyrannies, there have innocently perished over 12000,
12,000,000 child slaves, many children stolen from all parents being in this fatal
ki list, more Moreover Starring also believes that the number is nearer fifteen or
more millions consumed in this slaughter.

With the almost total extinction of the child slaves came the assumed necessity of
other child slaves, and children were stolen from christian towns and villiages during
raids and forays. It was the policy to use up the slaves by hard labor and ill treatment
for to the Glandelinians they were a cheap commodity, but by the aid of christians
in and the "terrible hooded terror" of night riders many of them escaped. The horrors
of the unusual struggle would fill many volumes. While while the rival armies were
annihilating one another in the fierce battles whole communities of child slaves
fled into the interior of the forest which were well nigh inaccessable, and where
they could either sooner or later find their way to friendly towns or villiages, or
christian armies, and also where they could defy capture. Even when Starring and his
force had landed at Island number two there was not a remnant left of the sixty hundred

was traversed by the flood in about seven days and even more the loss of life and of property was simply appalling. Survivors who passed thro through the experiance sadly declare its horrors its horrors even at Dorothy Gale, and Angelinia a Agathia to have been far beyond the power of a million words of books of words to narrate.

After the most thorough possible official sifting, accomplished mainly through the bounds of registeration, and inquiry the loss of life in the flood at Angelinia Agathia and Dorothy Gale was over the twenty thousand of whom 3,678 are not identified. For Dorothy Gl Gale, more harder hit than Angelinia Agathia, the exact figures can never be hit or reached, as many thousands more reported drowned, are supposed supposed to be missing, without any reports of their conditions or whereabouts.

As wellall know captian one of the most striking features of the horror, was that most immense dam of wreckage from hunareds of towns and from Abbieann too that formed as a long and high bulwark somewhere north and in front of the city of Mildred Greenburg, and extending across from St Marie, to Franciscanna, and a little to the north, of Collen Run and Dolorine Costellic cities. This was caused mainly by the formation of some slight rises of ground in this locality, which though the flood as said was deep enough to sweep over, was not able to carry on the wreckage as elsewhere and here the tangled sea of masses of shattered houses, railway bridges, trees, and all kinds of railway cars, and debris of all kinds, from all cities and towns, piled up in inextricable confusion, packed to solidity by the sea like torrent which carried them forward like a huge mountain of battering rams. Mingled with the mass they say were countless of bodies of human beings, and animals. It was at this point absolutely impossible for even such a flood to seperate or force onward the confused heap, of such an extent, and had the water done so, the cities of Mildred greenburg, Big Girl Knool, Angelinia Agathia, and Dorothy Gale, and others in the same line would have been devastated even worse than Abbieann was by the flood, and mainly by this onrushing sea of wreckage. This prevented the disaster from being quadrupled. This war so far has smitten many Calverinium and Angelinien cities with fire flood and disaster, sometimes with great loss of li life and property. But the four recent big flood disasters, thus known, are the greatest of all. and give facts most completely the irrestible strength of natures forces, when forced by the enemy to direct itself against the feeble works of man, even in this age of his greatest material progress."

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Chapter Eighteen.

GREATEST DISASTER TERITORIES ARE UNDER THE
abABBIEANNIAN FLAG.

It

Chapter Fourteen.

It can be said by now that under the Holy Flag of Abbieannia, Abbieannia herself possesses some of the most desolated countries in the world, and the greatest of all forest fire scenes, and many explosion craters, some bigger than the biggest volcanic craters in Hawaii, and a war that is raging with a fury and a power that no one can can concieve. Calverinia paradize of Abbieannia, ravaged now by the very fires of thr the wars inferno, from what it had once been a smiling land of winter and tropic beauty and beautiful islands in the west ad as fair and pretty as those of the American gundwi c witch islands, and these too are devastated. Calverinia is now the land of the cruel war god mars, which overwhelms all nations in the worst catastrophes of all and that is war and all itshorrors.....

Angelinia state, too though so far escaping most of the discord is a region also of the wars great activity. to make a statement more fair, Calverinia, the immensest state of them all occupy a central portion in the Abbieannian empire, about two thousand miles west and south of the Abyssinkile State. And the famous Blangiglomeneen Islands occupy a central portion also near the Bay of Vivian Wickey, and the grup group includes eighteen inhabitated islands all of volcanic origin, and having having all kinds of Be blangiglomeneen creatures, the most beautiful animals of all kinds ever im imagined or pictured but ravaging in them their fury to glandelinians whom they detest.

The largest of the group is catherine Island, and it includes nearly three quarters of the total area. Here also stands the highest mountains of any i la islands known but these fortunately of all the islands are not volcanic, and the mountains have the same names of the islands, the names of the Three most famous Apostles. St peter, James and Andrew.

If the enemy ever obtained possesion of these the war would be lost.. put to return to Abbieann. Starring, after his visit to the first enormous break in the earth caused by the explosions went to another, a surprisingly monstrous pit, thirty miles in cir circumference, and two thousand feet deep. The vast irregular floor contained all kinds of debris. There were two gaps in the crater, where the munitions that blew up must have torn openings in the side. Not a tree, shrub nor even a tuft of grass obstructed the view. Starring was awe stricken at this sight, and could not compreh comprehend what really must have done this. Another explosion crater he discovered was nine miles in circumference and perhaps a thousand feet deep.

Nowhere else in any volcano was there any craters to compare with these. Neither could these craters be entered and explored with ease and comparatively safty. horrible as they proved the evident force of these " eruptions" it is needless to add that no million volumes of description can give any one an idea of the incomparable magnitude and splendor of the scene. In the center was a hole about half a mile wide that looked like a bottomless pit, but Starring had means of making soundings and found it opened into a cavern or something of the sort about five hundred feet further down. Or was it the opening in the roof of one of the huge mine galleries. That Starring wished to investigate. He decided to enter the crater, which was affected by means of strong ropes. He let himself down to the farthest extremity below the dark hole of the pit, but seeing by the aid of a torhc torch water below the dark aperture and not knowing how deep it was he gave up the intention of landing below but to go far enough down to see the interior. It was not a cavern and only part had water which was under where he hung. It looked to him like a cavern however but not made by nature. It was evident the explosion dug this cavern too. All of the debris of the crater and around it above was all earth, rocks and stone. Nevertheless it was an awful margin, and as Starring looked down over the crater walls, he wondered what explosions must really have produced such awful big holes.

Beyond him he could see easily the strange movement of the distant forest fire. The tendancy of the current of flames if it may be so called, seemed at that distant like a long hekl hell, though at times it varied, flowing to one side like a lava stream, while along the borders of the distant forests, waves of darkened apparently slumbering forests, apparently as un unmoveable as those through which Starring had just passed appeared in wringled folds and masses or like dark green clouds, heaped against the distant shore of the big river.. let if one watches these wavy forests closely however he will presently be observe what appears like a fiery red serpent appearing at some other portion of the woods, and apparently creeping through and under them , like a chain of brilliant flame, its form lengthens as it goes, untill it embraces a great section of the forest. Then it begins begins to spread and rise as though the body of forest had burst asunder, and was disolving into fire, along its whole length into the fierce flood of turbulent fury, which was seen elsewhere.

Soon the broad thick mass of forests, thus surrounded, which seemed fixed and immoveab immoveable slowly burns forward as it seems and soon the whole disappears in the dreadful ravenous vortex of the fire. F occasionally the fire seems to launch huge shrieking streamers and fountains high into the air with a noise like the roar of many fireworks and Skyrockets, presenting a spectacle of wild fire beauty within the entire woods.

According to what starring felt about the matter, was that the world considered glandelinia a most dangerous x dangerous nation of all times, and she and her numerous provinces and states formed a class of wicked countries by themselves. landelinia was proving this now. landelinia by all other nations was feared more than any other country, and the nations feared the dread result should landelinia win her bloody and and most wicked of wars. And the history of calverinia in this longest of all stories tells more tales of horror as regards the loss of life and property as may be read in reality in all histories according to the disasters throughout the world.. There have been since the war started fatal catastrophes, and ruin has been wrought which seems terrible in comparison with di disasters of real history.

While at this spot Starring became nervious of the situation produced by the forest blazr. He saw from his point of observation near the crater a large town in the path of the conflagration. He knew long before the fire had advanced tward this town, and

for several weeks had spread through the dense forests which belt the region, creeping swiftly northward, threatening this beautiful portion of the country with the fate of the lost scale in h ll. He knew that for three weeks the inhabitants had watched th progress of the conflagration which came a little nearer every day. Should they flee or not.? Would their beautiful homes become a part of the conflagration? Indeed such questions suggested themselves as they sightly and daily watched the nearing glare and clouds of smoke smoke, till the flame waves met with obstacles which headed it off in another direction, and the suspense was over.

Only gigantic causes can account for the gigantic phenomena of this forest fire. Before threatening this town the fire had traveled sixty miles in a straight line, and was from fifty to sixty miles broad, according to the formations and density of the forests through which it burned..The fires had already lasted for many months for about thirteen probably probably, and had already burned up more than five hundred miles of fors s forests. Four here forest fires was raging indeed with terrible fury, the flames surging and roaring throughout its length like a hurricane with a power and fury perfectly indescribable. It was nothing else than a hell upon earth, with a speed without the help of wind varying from ten to twenty miles an hour.

From the scene of these conflagrations, whose united lent a length was unknown the main conflagration in reaching the vinicity ttttAbbbbbbbbbbbbbttAbbeaA Abbieann divided itself into four streams, between which it shut up men and beasts, and all refuges . There it ran ragged along the river it extended the shore line for miles destroying all before i .It.From the slopes of one burning hillside, strangely enough produced by the heat of the flames flowed a rapid stream of red hot m lted rock, rolling rushing, and tumbling like a swollen river bearing along in its current lava rocks that made the river of molten stone almost foam as it dashed down a precipice, to form into hard substance below.

Starrd Starring recieved this story from nother survivor who had experienced the shoc shocks caused by the explosions. The man told it thus,;;

"At first, thought the shocks were a series of earthquakes, but as the shocks became more startling every minute and so many too, and when their succession became so rapid that the countryside quic quivered like a boilingpot, nearly all the time followed by so many large reports , became nervious. The effects of the trembling was to me like that of a ship struck by heavy waves. Though I saw no such movement the crust of the oith seemed to rise and sink like a sea in ro storm. I heard a loud noise and as if big rocks were rent, as if mountains were falling, and buildings and their contents were being shattered, trees swaying like reeds,, and saw animals run about demented, while the frightened population of the town in was near thought the judgement day had come... I was the most scared and did not sleep the rest of the night."

Sometimes Starring had inclinations to believe not the reports of the explosions having cracked the countryside in thousands of places for hundreds of miles, but he had discovered that the streets in the town of palbon near the main explosion crater, had cracked open, and thatthe shocks and explosions further off were as frequent as the ticking of a watch. watch.

In La Polama City three hundred shocks were counted during those fifteen or twenty min minutew minutes. "n avalanch of debris from a mountain side slide down, swallowing up houses, trees, people and animals and travelling four miles in as many minutes, burying a town with two hundred and thirty one people, and many animals, and seven hundre seven hundred heard of cattle.

The people of the valleys routed out of their beds had fled to the mountains, which themselves seemed to be splitting in all directions, and collecting on an elevated spot with the earth reeling under them, they spent a night of terror. Looking tward the river shore they saw it sink, and at the same time by what ap appeared to be a sudden most tremendous eruption from the plain they saw a wave of fire among the forests, which whic flames appeared to be hundreds of feet high, hurled up into thesir with all the flaming forests to fall in a tremendous fire storm over the surrounding country.

It seemed evident to Starring that the entire southwest shore of Lake Angeline sank from one hundred to four hundred feet from the concussion of such mighty explosions which invole involed in the complete submerging of a large part of eastern Abbieann, the destruction of a number of lake shore towns, and beautiful fring of shore forests.. The region was very thickly people, and the number of lives therefore sacrificed by this disaster is never known, cut from the reeling hills hills, the crash of the explosions , the fiery inundation of the forests the floods, and other complications of horrors produced by this explosions the terrified survivors fled to the north, each with a tale of great woe and irreparable loss... Strange as the forest fire disaster, and its accompanying horrors are, many travelers journeyed from afar to the vinicity from all over the country to see the grand display of the flames. The spectacle could not v viewed perfectly at night from the tallest buildings of towns two hundred miles away and places of safty within twenty miles of the conflagration.....

Across from the north of Abbieann which Starring was able to observe from a high elevation, is a continuous chain of explosion craters, which proved to be a string of some of the past mightiest explosions in in all The worlds record however inthis story for the size of an explosion crater is the biggest one which Starring had visited. "oweve However a storm of forest fires had prevented his right means of approaching it, and and when he had attempted to reach it by crossing a portion of the road, the fire obstructed his passage.

He tried to reach the crater by means of goingthrough a rocky gorge, from seven to eight hundred feet depp deep and averaging seven hundred yards wide, but this too was forested. The fire persued him and his followers through the gorge, and the flames persued him all the way past the region of the crater. Tremendous explosions somewhere followed, throwing rocks to enormous heights. Starring knowing the fi flames had spread over the forested plains below in great seas of fire many leagues wide believed its saftest to try and find the crater and seek refuge in his confines. He passed a region were twenty r villiages were in danger of being destroyed by fire, and by efforts managed to warn fifty thousand inhabitants, who got away on time. The conflagration following him was fifty miles long, and in places twelve to firteen miles wide, and theheight of the flames was from six hundred to one thousand feetf feet. feet. He couldn't find the crater yet and had to trace his steps back to Abbieann for safty..How soon if ever, another such disaster may burst forth no one can predict.

But long before that hour approached the work of destruction, had commenced, an eye witness and sufferer during this dismal night says;

"The fury of the fire hurricane o was indescribable, worst than a tropilca tropical hurricane, and the havoc which met the eye, as building after building was consumed in the fm flames or torn down by the wind contributed to subdue the firmest mind. The howling of the hot tempest, the noise of the terrific clouds of flame, the incessant roar of falling walls, and crashing of falling houses, the dismal shrieks of the fugitives running through the street , the scream of despair as escape was cut off, the lamentations of woe, and the screams of women and children calling for help on those whose ears formed an accumulated sorrow and of terror too great for human fortitude too vaste for human conception.

The inhabitants, seeing the flames burst upon the town considered it unsafe to remain in the town, they fled to the river shore, and to lea large clearings to avoid the fierce flames. The cattle had broken from their folds and their dismal bellow ing incr ased the scene of horror. The force of the storm of winds and the seething of seas of flame surpassed all conception, After the passage of the fire hurricane a scene of desolation was presented as if viewed always after the passage of a big forest fire.

The face of nature itself seemed completely changed, not a single house or building in the town however strong or sheltered or big had escaped being burned to a total ruin. The town was a heap of smoking ruins, not a single house left standing, and all the forest trees had been burned down to mere stumps and the whole country side was a smoking sea cloud from smouldering ground and forest debris. The big church Church of St Michaels with its lofty steeple was leveled to the ground by the heat of the flames, the town hall, the post office, thecastle and the fortifications shared a similar fate. Two big lumber yards whih which cost ten million dollars a 1 piece were destroyed.

Had it not been for the partial protection afforded by a large clearing the total destruction of the towns population would have been unavoidable, it was large enough to keep the flames from crossing, which rushed and spread with fearful impetuosity around it damming them in a sea of fire. They suffered fearfully from the heat but they survived nevertheless by lying close to the ground to breathe.

There was no loss of life outside the town, but those who did not escape and were burned to death were said to have been about thirty, and the loss of the town including the lumber yards was never fifty million dollars.Most of the live stock and horned cattle perished, the cane corn and ground privi provisions were to totally destroyed by fire, and famine threatened those who survived the catastrophe. More fatal in its effects proved the forest fire and its hot winds,when it struck the city of Barbadoes Junction seventeen miles northwest of North pond. It struck the city ten minutes after devastating North Pond. Two big river vessels, the ship called the St Ann from Pandora and a large River Schooner called the navaria from the same place attempted at that p riod to bring away as many people as possible but only succeeded in getting about seventeen hundred before the fire started to burn the 1 city. The rest of the in habitants had to either trust to ravines or the clearings in the forests, t or find the margin of a lake.

The destruction continued and the daylight of that awful morning, showed a scene of terrible desolation, never witnessed even during any Calverinian Typhoon. At this place the inhabitants blew up a levee of the river with the hopes of stopping the progress of the fire upon the town and the water had risen in the lower streets to two or three feet, and in many places as high as five feet.All was confusion and alarm, and every person sought to escape the awful destruction which tottering houses, the roaring gale, and the rise of the water threatened.As the day advanced the forest fire came nearer, accompanied with terrific heat, clouds of smoke, and a blizzard of sparks and despite the flood the houses all began to catch fire nevertheless.

The misery in the town or city offered only a parallel to the distressing scenes in the near by country towns, many of the lumber a camps and their towns were destroyed and a great number of the smaller houses in the country side burned to the ground.

Yet the city itself was the main sufferer, The fire and the flood destroyed nearly all the city, the fire of course doing the main damage. The continual flashes of immense tongues of fire shooting across the sky was awfully grand, and the fire gale blew as fiercely as a hurricane.

At one o'clock the terrific rage of the hot winds increased, and if the fire storm then had not suddenly shifted its direction the town might have escaped. The flames reaching high into the almost upper regions illuminated the whole sky in by incessant stretches of flame, the quivering sheet of blazes being surpassed in brilliancy by the clouds of sparks and flaming embers which were soaring in every direction.At a little after two the astounding roar of the flames was bewildering, and so many houses were burning at once that the flames m leaped a thousand feet high. The scene of the awful conflagration was inexpressibly terrible, and great fragments of flaming mass from the forest blazing like giant skyrockets flew through the air like fiery meteors, one flaming mass of mass of a globular form, and a deep yellow red hue was observed to rise perpendicularly up to a fa vast height.

On reaching the clouds it assumed a dazzling brightness, and an elongated form and being finally torn apart by the wind, seemed to spasin through the air in the same manner as melted ore would have done, and then went out. A few minutes after the appearance oe of this phenomena the deafening roar of the wind sank to a distant sound, and the flames, which was spreading round the town rose frightfully up tward the overspreading clouds high in the sky with noval and surprising action. The vast body of flames from so many burning districts of the city, appeared to join with those of the forest fire. while this remarkable phenomena proceeded the winds of the fire storm hurled the vast clouds of smoke down upon the burning city, and issued forward flaming tongues of fire, which were humbly returned from the other houses upward. The strange coruscations of the flames, for the space of time they continued instantly succeeding each other from different spots at once, this strange quivering and darting of tongues of flame, up and slandwise and sometimes almost downward may be compared to the minature blazing produced by the rapid and irregular discharges of opposing lines of volcanoes in action. While this remarkable phenomena proceeded, the earth vibrated in a manner and in time answering with the crash of many explosions, now near and now distant. Before the fire came up altogether the hot winds was blowing with a violence beyond conception, hurling before it millions of flaming missiles, the fragments of every burl burning house. The strongest houses all aflame were caused to vibrate to their foundations and then cave in hurling a blizzard of sparks in all directions, and the surface of the very earth smoked and blazed as the flaming destroyer raged over it. The horrible roar and yelling of the wind, the noise of the tumultuous ocean of flames, whose frightful white hot waves engulfed the whole city in a blazing hell if all the other elements might spare, the crashing of falling trees and buildings, the falling of roofs and walls,and the combination of other sounds by the millions it seems, formed the most hedious din, which no hurricane of the tropics

tropics and which appalled the heart and bewildered the mind. After five oclock the storm of wind suddenly abated and the hell of flame rose straight upward, at which time the dr adful roar of the elements partially subsided, the falling of burning buildingswhich by the last dreadful gust had probably been carried to a great height the shriek of suffering victims in the ravines who fought madly to keep the fire from coming down there, the cries of the terrified refugees in other ravines, and the howling of the dogs who had accompanied them, the crying and shrieks of children, were clearly audible, and awakened the mind to a distressing apprehension of the havoc and terrible carba carnage which had been and were still desolating the countryside. This continued till seven, when the crackling flames had consumed everything and bec ame less, and the miserable population of the city were now destitute of any shelter. At eight am the dense clouds of smoke beb began to break up, and at ten oclock in the evening the moon tried to shine through the smoke to dart its rays over a r prospect of wretchness and woe more repleto with real misery and sickness and terror to the heart, than the worse field of battle ever presented, and a sea of smoking embers as if the world had been devastated by the foul mouth of the infernal regions.... And in all the region where this damnable hell had swept in all its fury lie two great explosion craters which starring risked heat, smoke and blinding torture to observe for his purpose of further investigation.

One of these craters was a circular pit, something like one of the huge mine crate craters made during the "World War" but immensely bigger, one one tre three or four miles, not in circumference but across, and at the bottom below all warring to the winds, and covered partly with burned forest debris hurled down by the fire storm, respos respondd a lake of clouded blue. The sides of the abyss was of gravel and dirt, and it was no gentle acclivity the spectator looked down, but almost a wall, which was a bare crag from top to bottom, curving around the edge one stood at its highest point, and yet on the other side, about six miles further, the other crater, much bigger yawned before Starring and his followers. He stood on a ki knife edge of rock, above its rim, a thousand feet below was a little water. The immense mass of rocks and dirt that had filled these immense holes had been all blown up by one tremendous seconds duration explosion. The winds of the upper atmosphere and borne much of the smoke and dust tear ing tward Calverine, but as it fell it entered the contrary current of other winds, and borne eastward again, it fell at last all over that section of the country, while the smoke of forest fires caused for weeks and weeks darkness that might be felt, and prostrating mens minds with the fear that the end of the world had cone.

Starring finally came to the city of Barbadoes Junction. All the men population of this ruined city had collected in large numbers at the approach of the "Red Plague filled with desperate purposes, to stop the flames if possible. The Mayor was chossen Chosen as the leader, and all the men coll3 collected in increasing numbers, and with all kinds of tools started to work like demons in making a clearing around the town, and just when it seemed impossible to stop the fire, the desperate resort led to blow ing a gap in one of the levees, but though the flood also broke into the town, it did not check the flames, and all the men had to run a like deer for their lives.

A matchless scene of horror had ensued therefore, and twenty thousand men, broke through the blazing sea, but could not stop the blaze. The population however had fled beforethe fire came up, but some were caught before they could escape, those in churches where they had fled to implore protection, virgins were burned to death at the very alters, weeping infants hurled down into the fires by falling walls. Amid the shriek of the sufferers, and the shouts of those trying to save the city, the finest city in this part of Calverinia was reduced to ashes, and smouldering ruins, its splendid churches, its stately palaes palaces had been wrapped in flames, and the wretched futig fugitives who had escaped from the scene of horror, in to wide clearinhs, by the margin of a near by lake hovered in terror for fear the fire coming also upon their last refuges would engulf them also. Thus fell the city of Barbadoes Junction, the most stately monument of Calverinian opulance that had yet arisen in this part of Calverinia.

Starring viewed the ruins with emotion and disgust, and said;

"We can't yet fi for fair blame the enemy for the big explosions and the awful flood, but Glandelinia is responsible for these fires."

"Yet it is strange how the disaster could have happened if there was no such a thing as a volcanic eruption." said the Chief Ranger. "The first of June at athat after midnight hour was even exceedingly hot, because of those distant forest fires, and not a breath of air stirred. Even where I was located at the time at abo t about one minute after twelve, I heard a noise like loud thunder at a distance, followed by a strange sudden secondary shock, followed sh rtly by a second and more intense noise and shock somewhat stronger than the first, accompanied by a loud hollow rumbling noise like dist ant thunder along the far distant horizon. At this most of the people of the town of Janet at which I resided were awakened at of their beds, and began to run out of their houses, but a series of other more severe shocks at nce supervened, and in a bout a minute, for it is said that a score of terrific shocks lasted even only one third a minute followed by a terrific rolling roar, four fifths of the town was in ruins, and the levee burst from the concussion and the waters of the river was rolling over the city. The streets on the north side, on the north Band brink of the river harbor where the sand had been mostly steepl banked up were the first to fall, not as from an earth earthquake but from a terrific windblast, next fell two churches and a tower and the lower streets of the city were in four or five fathoms of water, and then fell the northeast side of the town, to which many had fled for safty and these buildings buildinh buildings disappeared into dust ruf ruin and water, the flood from the river rolling completely over the place where it stood.

Then the whole portion of that town, where the shipping had been, disappeared at once under deep water, while the houses near the central section of North Bend, sank or were covered nearly up to the eaves, others up to the first floor, and others again one or two feet only, accordingly to the distance at which theywere situated from the waters edge.. The shocks of the concussions in fact shook or blew down the very artifically sustainedbanks of sand. As the sank sand shook or fell dwn down and spread out out the houses subsided, while the river waters rushing in underneath underneath as well as above from the force and pressure of the waters, gushed up in spouts into the streets and completed the ruin. Fort St Andrew, and the houses that stood on high rock foundations alone, were shattered as if by a windstorm but romained above the water. This part of Janet which however still partly stood, though terribly shattered, was standing upon a rocky plateau and therefore missed devastation by the river, and the main flood that struck later washing nearly the whole lower town away.

It seemed strange that the force of the concussion did not dissipate and dissolve the very foundation of it.,, and that it did not fall to pieces and scatter under the water, as the rest of the place did for the shocks a hundred of them withinin fifteen minutes were so violent that it threw people about like footballs.. on their knees, faces and made them do dart wheel performances, as they tried to run along the street to provide for their safty, and it was impossible to keep any one on their feet, or for every thunder and crash in the distance the ground heaved, and shook and vibrated like an earthquake.

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Unusual was the condition of 100-

thousand persons whom the radinig rading and fierce Glandelinians had found there a week before. Their pitiful tale was told only by some caves where thousands of mergled human bodies of men women and children strew the ground. The Glandelinians in thi this neighborhood remained unsubdued, and no force had yet been able to dislodge them.

Outside of Abbieann in the hilly country where some Glandelinian forces, and Starring believing these knew something of the Abbieann disaster decided to try and surround and capture them all if possible. He had still over 10,000 of his men followers, and therefore the expedition started. Starring offered to each Ranger s who should capture a Glandelinian officer a commission in his rank of work. The force employed against these Glandelinians consisted of four regiments of Calverinians, and the whole force of Rangers with him. He learned that within his stay here in Abbieann the Glandelinians beyond had greatly increased, noth notwithstanding all the measures that had been concered for their supression, to the great terror of many inhabitants of neighboring towns. The Glandelinians of which number Starring knew nothing about, was under command of Colonel Coddoe, and he was a formidable Glandelinian guerralla. Under his leadership the various bodies of fierce Glandelinians were formed into one great force and well organized and brave as lions. Coddoe was as dangerous as well as he was a military head of his force, no party could be sent forth by the christians but he knew it in time to lay ambush or descend with fire and sword on the region left unprotected.

He was thus alwa ys a supplied with arms and ammunition, and as all his men were excellent marksmen, never wasted a shot, and never risked a battle in the open, his forces naturally increased, while those of t his enemies were desciminated. His men w re never captured, and never took a prisoner it was impossible to tell when they were def defeated, and the only men who could obtain the sligh.est advantage against them as we will soon see were Starring and his forces. Yet the rebels had every topographi topographical advantage, for they held possession of cockpits..These highlands are furrowed through and through as by an earthquake with a series of gaps and ravines. These chasms vary from three hundred yards to a mile in length, the rocky walls are a hundred feet in height, and often absolutely inacessable, while the passes at each end will admit but one man at a time. They are thickly wooded, wherever trees can grow, water flows within them, and they communicate with one another, forming a series of traps for an invading force.

It is not strange s then, that in many parts of the war zone, that the highest military authorities, at this period have pronu pronounced the overcoming of the fierce Glandelinians a thingbmore difficult than to obtai a victory over the biggest army of evil spirits. But how to execute such an expedition through such a ruinous country devastated by explosions, forest fires, and floods was also a difficult problem. no assault such a position without annihilation was impossible. Starring was willing to try but most of his higher followers were inconvientiently cautious, as the expedition was exceedingly dangerous. In case of misfo tune would come Starring selected one of the most difficult passes, posting in the forests a series of large outlying parties to signal with their whistles one by one the approach of any of the Glandelinians on the rear, which would warn Starring, and he would retreat. Through this perilous country Starring and his bunf bands bravely advanced, but whistle after whistle they heard sounded, but just then there was no other human noise in the woods, and they advanced till they saw the smoke of distant Glandelinian rifles before they caught a glimpse of any Glandelinian soldiery.

In his very first attack, he was miserably defeated, and almost had to fly for his life amid a perfect panic of the bands of m n in which some fourty or fifty were killed and wounded. Starring had been disguisted by this defeat, and he desired to have revenge,. He hated these Glandelinians most because despite all things their bravery were overshadowed by the shockingcruelties they committed in their expeditions and he firmly believed there were many glandelinians among them hthat either knew or even had something to do with the ernormous disaster. He learned that these glandelinians in an attack upon a town compelled a number of priests, monks, nuns, and even children their prisoners to carry and plany the scaling ladders against the parapets of a high earth breastworks, hoping to see these poor creatures killed by the fire of their own c countrymen who defended the town. A Convent held by soldiers that had made a bold resistance, on surrendering, was set on fire and burned to the ground with the garrison in ot it. In many prisoners had died under the tortures that these glandelinians inflicted on them. In the brilliancy of the success of this glandelinian commander many others had joined him in great numbers. There was ne large Glandelinian war cruiser in the river, but the men who were in charge got drunk and the ship was suddenly blown up whether from the drunkness and carelessness of the crews, or the direful revenge of some Calverinian citizen remains a matter of doubt.

It was said that nearly fifteen hundred men on board this ship had perished. Starring had followed the news statements of the attacks of this Glandelinian horde and knew that his next operation was an attack on La Polama before the disaster, which town however repulsed the attack. Yet these merciless Glandelinians fierce than piratical depse desperadoes were accustomed to shut up their prisoners, even children in Catholic churches, where it was ess to either keep guard over them or torture them. At the captured villiages of Tli, and El toro in this instance so little care was taken of the captured that many of these unfortunate cut captives were actually starved to death in the churches, while the Glandelinians were revelling in their dwellings.

In cruelty and wickedness many a Glandelinian general made the famous Pirate Morgan seem like a great saint.

General Coddoe was near by being destroyed on one of his expeditions for a consider ab e force of Calverinians had had time to put in order a fortification at the entrance to the town of Colso, and three extensive battiercof cannons were stationed on all r roads to cut of the generals retreat. But the Glandelinian general fought a d battle as desperate and as terrific in losses as two Gettysburge put into one, the two Calverinian batteries were captured, and he took the third. He then captured the town

and enraged over his loss of more than sixty thousand in killed and wounded gave no quarter and killed all the garrisons of the town, and made the women and children all prisoners, and enslaved them. The general then departed from the still smoking ruins of that unfortunate city, taking with them one hundred and fourty four house horses and ten thousand mles loaded with spoil, and sixteen thousand women and children pris n prisoners, part of whom were deatained to carry burdens during the march, and othe others for the ransom expected for their release. All the women and ch ldren were made to suffer cruel fatigue fatigue, hunger and thirst, and artfully made to apprehend being carried or shipped and transported to glandelinia and sold as slaves, that they might the more earnestly evdeavor to procure mney for their ransom. It was in vain for these poor creatures to throw themselves on their knees, weep or tear their hair, and to begg of the foe generals to let them return to their families, their brutal answer was a kick a blow or a stab. Then as oon soon as the Glandelinian fo es forces reached the recesses of these difficult hills, a division was made of the booty, accord ing to the proportions agreed upon. Coddoe fearing sooner or later amonsterous army would be sent against him, determined to withdraw quietly to the hills, which he did to hide himself from the danger of the enraged Calverinians. Starring though repulwed repulsed in the first attack was determined to try again. Lots were then cast as to how the attack was to be made this time. The lot fell upon attacking by a fient while setting fires to burn the defenders out of the te rritory territory, even if it is at the risk of starting a new forest fire.

Prepartory to this arduous undertaking, Starring made preparations to surround the whole region. " hen the Calverinians approached again, the Glandelinians fired again from all hidden recesses, but the Calverinians were now too weel acquainted with the habits of these Glandelinians to be discomposed by them, and this time the terrific Glandelinian fire did not seem to have much effect. The Glandelinians however made a more desperate and obstinate resistance than was expected, and finally at night Starring himself and his followers had to give way again. During the long battle Starring had given orders to give these glandelinians no quarter but the Glandelinians had fought doggedly and Starring saw that unless he resorted to the fire, he could not oust these Glandelinians. Six hundred of his men fell, while he believed the Glandelinians did not lose a single man.

During his advance tward his strong holds Starring and his followers had observed further signs even in this district where one of the most violent parts of the disasterous floods had swept over. All shipping belonging to the town of La Polama further north large and small had been seized and torn by the onrushing waters, and shifted about like pieces of paper, many had been aground in the deep mud completely completely, some thrown high and dry among the trees on the sloping sides of hills and many others hurled ne on the other pellmell in frightful confusion. In the town in which the enemy was in possession, and countryside itself there was not a house that was secure, and besides the loss of life attendant on the shipwrecks, numbers of people had been killed either by falling walls, the crashing down of the ruins or by the masses of different objects which had been wildly driven onward by the flood.. At the lowest estimation over sixteen hundred lives had been lost, and two hundred and seventy seven vessels wrecked and destroyed, and the surviving population had abandoned the town and no now general Coddoe occupys the remainder of the ruins as a position.

The scene all about the countryside near this town even now was most frightful. In every direction masses of vessels appeared above the water still remaining, standing up one might say like blades of grass in a field. Countless places of wreck, boats, fragments of houses, trees, boats, spars, cases of cargo, and debris in every shape covered the stan st gnant water in a manner that defies all description. hips of all kinds and sizes were scattered about in all imaginable pos tions, sometimes in most incongruous positions and situations, one a large steamer had taken p its station among the remains of a large grove of pine trees far above even the high water mark of a river. river.

In another part of the emaining flood, alongside the eastern end of the town, were q a score of ships piled literally on one another. One a Calverinian brig of some fifteen thousand tons was seen to go down against the river docks at the outbreak of the flood and was lying entirely under water no part of her showing, and when she was cleared later by the receding waters on her was discovered a steamer of nearly twice her weight with one part of a topmast above the receding waters, on her again, two other big ships, each two thousand tons in weight, and on top of all, and resting on the latter of the two big ships, though herself half under the wreckage of all descriptions deposeted there by the waters was the huge Abbisannian war cruiser, called the Columbian.

Starring found an eye witness of this terrible section of the disaster, as he saw it from a vessel that though caught in the flood survived the experience. he told Starring;

"At a quarter past three oclock in the morning after the concussion of distant exploding noises in the distance recedded, nothing could have been more natural ,and in one sense peaceful than the whole scene. A day afterwards what a change there was. Several of us were leaning over the side, watching people inspect the partial wreckage of their town, when without the slightest warning, sudden as a flash of lightning came such a shaking of the timbers of the ship as yet perhaps no vessel had every experienced. It was not a quivering as produced by an earthquake, or by the shocks that night before but a downward and upward shaking which threatened t leave not one bolt in its place, nor any planks together in the ship.

Indeed sir it cannot be described, the scene on deck during this strange incident. Many Many fancied that the machinery had gone wrong, and ran though this was not very east to look at the engine room.

Yet to make it more strange to us the firemen and engineers swarmed up from below, the crew were on deck in a moment, the passengers made a simultaneous rush for the hulks to the ship, and crowded the quarter deck, consternation on every face and not a word was spoken till the ship was again quiet quiet, when a murmur went round" somethinge wrong with the river. It's running off its course".

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And so it was.. And persons on the ship who had lived on the river sho. s for any many years and who were in Calverinia for fourty years, declared that such an action of the river surpra surpassed anything of the kind that they had ever seen before.

Over the action of the river there was no composure among any one on board, and many of the more timid women became almost almost mad wiyh fright.. The smaking and noise of explosions the midnight hour twenty four hours ago, had probably terrified the them out of their wits, and now h when they were just beginning to forget the terrible impression this strange new calamity coming in its startling suddeness quite overpowered them. some fell on their knees and broke out into frantic prayers, some raved about the decks in frantic curses,, and some tore their clothing to pieces in the intensity of their fear.

A quarter of an hour passed away, during which time we noticed the direction of the moving waters, against the cranary current of the river increasing, and then we sawlooming behind the hillsides a tremendous foaming flood rushing on us like a tidal wave. A small river steamer happed happened to be passing outside, bound to some other location location, she turned her head northward and seemed to ride over it, and then to disappear. A moment more and the wave of foaming waters reached the town, and in and in an instant the whole town up north was a mass of foam and tumbling wreckage being hurled forward by the tremendous fury of the torrent.

No words were spoken among the passengers the ladies clung to those nearest them in silence, a few of us got them life belts, in silence, a few of us got them life belts, or made them take hold of hen coops or seats or hatchways coverings.

Some of them climbed into the rigging so as if possible to float clear of the ship ,some went forward to the bows or went to the paddle boxes with the same intention. But the timid ones, half wild with terror before became perfectly unmanageable now. About twenty of them almost blind with fear, rushed headlong into one of the life boats, and their example induced one or two ladies and some men and children to follow them.

One instant before the tremendous flood struck us, the forward tackle of the life boat broke, and it fell down nearly perpendicular dropping all in it to the water below. In the meantime the terrible sea of waters rolled swiftly upon us, but neverthe less we had few minutes to prepare for the shock, and it may be well imagined, thou h though it is impossible to describe how th those two minutes went by. pown on the devoted ship came the roaring tor e torrent, literally piled up like a wall in front rolling upon us at the rate of seventy miles an hour, with a perpendicular face and carrying all before it as it tore through the town with a loud crashing thundering roar. The measurement in comparing it to one of the highest houses it struck was actually actually a hundred and fourty feet.

Most fortunately for us about a mile outside of our position, a long stretch of high elevation ended in a low point. This expl exposed to the f ll full force of the torrent, met it like a wedge, and it was ov observed that at the moment the sea of raging waters reached this point, it first hurled up a cloud o of or wreckage of every description with a deafening roar, that shook the ship then broke and dropped so that when it struck the ship it was not quite so high. We had been lying all morning morning head to the north, but the water receding from this portion of the river by the northward suction of the flood like a millrace to meet the wave, turned our ship round, so that it took us on the stern. When the first rush of water came it slewed her a little more, and the main force of the waters itself fell full on the sturbard starboard quarter. The waters came with a roar of a hundred Niagaras and contrary to all expectations our ship rose over it like a dush and was borne along zlong with the flood. The water smashed the quarter boat to ribbons, twisting the davits like pinwire, breaking in pieces all the upper works on that side, and flood ing all the saloons and cabins, and some of the masts went by the board.

The coal hulks had been fortunately cast loose, two drifted straight away the third sank in its place like a stone. The life boat with so many panic s ricken stricken in it, as I said fell just before the flood struck us, and it is a mystery how the ladies and children hung onto it in safty, while all the men were thrown out instantly, and n t one was recovered. Probably all the men were drowned, while afterwards the women and children were rescued. Had it not been for the point of that high elevation which broke the full force of the torrent, it is likely the steamer must have gone, and the chances of saving life in that torrent would have been almost none. It was impossible at the time of the shock to catih a catch a word.

The low rumble heard on the first appearance of the flood had increased to such an extent n that no human voice could have been heard, and as it passed on carrying the ship along with it, and beat in awful fury on the next town, the sound as it increased mingled with its echoes from the distant hills, and seemed for moments as loud as the roar of a big tidal wave.

A secondhorror of a town going to piece s was hardly noticed, so occupied were all on board in watching the advance of the devouring flood. As the ship outran the flood or got clear of it later on, and the chief danger had passed,, yet the great fear that had fallen upon all onboard restrained as it had been during the crisis ve by the very extent of the emergency itself now claimed undisputed sway. Had the cowardly fools been away it might have been different, but the effect of their their uncontrollable terror on the women and children was very great, tall hulking fellows were howling and crying and stamping about the deck like so many children.

By degrees however a little order appeared through the chaoes.

A boat lowered immediately ad after the ship had got out of reach of the main torrent to pick up the women and children in the water, and carried them to higher ground. The confusion was then somewhat subsided. put in a few minutes there came a rumor that the ships cable in the shock had wrec wrenched her stern and that in view of the consequences of the increase of the awful flood, the captian considered it advisable to send all the passengers on the higher elevations. This was done as quickly as possibl e, though unfortunately no time was allowed for the collecting necessaries for the night.

During many days and nights aw after the flood continued to increase without one moments intermission,. We were not exactly in positive terror of our lives for on the square in front of a house we were tolerably safe. Not for a single instant did the roaring of the waters cease, and at intervals sometimes of two or three minutes, sometimes half an hour, floating masses of houses and debris passed by, while from the wreck resounded cries f of the unfortunate people in them, and the crash of toppling buildings. Inpoint of fact it was simply one continuous sea

sea of water for all those awful days and nights. I can tell you how terrible were those nights and days, deep and sincere our thanksgiving to God when it had all passed, leaving nothing but its terrible memories behind."

D During his travels like this Starring recieved another witness of the unusual catastrophe, and he told it this way:

"During the night of June or ay the last which ever day it was, the weather was even unusually warm for such a time of the year, the sky in the south was aglare as if the heavens was raining down fire and brimestone at the end of th world, and overhead the sky was overcast, but with smoke, and far off in the north there was a flash and a sound like thunder. Soon afterwards the sky darkened in that direction, and debris of the land, stones, fragments of trees and what not poured down in torrents, while a strange powerful odor of something like powder exploded prevaded the atmosphere, the flashes in the distance increased in vividness, and the thunder of a most peculiar sound and with an unusual v reverbration crashed for nearly twenty minutes in the distanc distance terribly and deafeningly loud with intermissions so short of duration as to be unrecognizable entirely.

After the lapse of about five minutes after the uproar ceased, the darkness began to increase and then it was seen that the strange earthly and wreckage showers was bringing down fragments of buildings, torrents of crops, sand and even water, mud and clay. All this debris fell for about an hour, covering the ground to about three feet, and during that time everything despite the darkness had a dull leaden aspect, while the falling mas stuck to the roofs of the houses and the leaves of the trees.

There was no concussion of the ground here but nevertheless the windows in the houses of the town were blown out and roofs shaken off, and some buildings wrecked.

The Calverine River which runs past my home became immediately a raging torrent but going contrary to the direction of its current, bursting one of its levees and flooding the land through which it passed, and creating great dir destruction, but its waters became of a strange muddy color, and for three or four weeks after the unusual event the color of the water remained though in a decreasing degree. It is worthy of notice that the great body of water came from the vinicity of the big flood,, for the lower tributaries of the Calverine River were very little swollen.

We found that the scene of the explosions, which we at first throught tyought thought were eruptions was about eighty miles east of our town, and the detris was hurled to the west. I heard that a small vessel which was about thirty miles down the river from the scene at the time of the explosions, experienced a shower od debris similar in every every respect that fell in our town.

The area then over which the debris fell must have been at least a hundred miles." Starring in p inspected inspected another explosion crater, and saw that at a great distance beyond the crater the trees were destroyed, and the earth was covered ten to twenty feet deep in some places with earth debris. Here and there stumps of blasted trees were sticking up a few inches or a few feet from the debris, giving a full and striking evidence of the force of the explosion.

Most of these stumps were quite shattered even by the debris, and in many were found embee embedded large pieces of rock. On removing away some of the debris from the ground at some distance away from the explosion crater large splinters of wood belonging to houses, and blouched leaves were discovered. Beyond this zone of desolation, the forests were destroyed to a great extent as if by a whirlwind. Branches of trees, broken and twisted off from the parent stem, had fallen to the ground, and by their weight crushed down all the forest undergrowth. In spite of the heavy ruins of debris and mud and water and other ejex ejecta of the explosions which were almost continuous during the uproar, the leaves of many trees still tenaciously clung to the branches.

Some streams which ran through the ravines radiating from the explosion district were in many places dammed p with large ammoncammounts of wreckage and with splinters of wood.

Yet it was a long distance to the explosion hole, so onward and onward they pressed, the smoking trees increasing in desolation as they plowed through a zone where the fire wave had passed a week before. The immense pine trees with such a cloud of leaves which had been so thickly growing here were now gaunt smoking skeletons, threatening to fall upon them as they passed by. They plunged into a depth of smouldering ground, and to make it easier to travel they had to lift themselves up by successive broad steps and cling to rocks and ground for aid. Emerging from a portion of this cooling but smoking desolation they came upon another and more warmer zone of the fires past rage, where the bigest trees with shrubbery and brushwood once so twined together that a path had to be cl cut with a cutlas was now mere dwarfts and the region was co h such a sea of smoke that they had to turn off till they came to a path washed in into deep cistern like cavities, down which they descended on one side, only to climb out at the other.

Emerging upon a small smoking plain covered also with tree skeletons, they saw beyond a fire smudge which was impossible to pass, even though it was the aftermath of the fires passage. Here there was not even a tree, and the s smoki smoke rising from the smouldering rubbish on the ground obstructed the view. For an hour and a half after submerging their themselves into water to wet their clothes clothes, and with many stops for breath they continued onward, and then Angeline Richee pointed out a l narrow ledge, where some fire fighters had been trapped and perished, and was found afterwards almost charred into ashes. They followed the narrow path over heatened ground, and they could not see at any location in the distance, and blasts of hot air tainted the atmosphere for many miles around. Starring and Angeline Richee peered into one smoking ravine, glowing like an oven or fire place, and it was like a glimpse into a lava filled volcanic crater, for the whole interior and bottom of the ravine was still full of glaring smudges and up came such blasts of heat, that they were glad to escape with only a few slight blister burns on their hands for their pains. The crater they reached shaped like an immense deep ravine, six hundred feet down and had a lake of water in the bottom.

Starring had heard much details of the fury of this forest fire in this whole region, and which had raged when he was so caught in Abbieann and could could not get the ship to pass North Bend. The town of North Bend had been in its pa path. It was on the morning of Stempter September Ioth when slight apprehensions were felt by many persons of the the town, by not the only unusual violence of the wind, and the increasing warmpth, accompanyed by smoke, but by its crazy actions. The preceding evening had been hazy with smoke and unusually dark, but at first nothing serious had been apprehended.

Yet that morning the wind, and the heat increased, the smoke also, and at noon several houses in different parts of the city were blown, and the ships in the river bega began to drive. The ship called the name of the town, slipped her cable, and stood down the river to avoid the fire storm the captian saw coming like a cloud. As the night approached the wind increased in fury, and appeared to have reached its height

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and e even swelled like a rolling sea(tis a strange comparison for the effects of explosions) by which means many houses now standing were shuffled and moved many yards from their places. One whole street which had been six hundred feet broad a its whole length(a greatmany houses though wrecked, which however are still standing on both sides) is said to be twive fifteen hundred yards across now as before the the concussion , and in many places the ground had crackled, and opened and shut, quick and fast for every concussion, of which small openings I have heard the Mayor and others say they have seen two or three hundred persons at a time in some where of of many people were swallowed swallowed up, some the earth caught by the middle and squeezed todeath, the heads of others only appeared above the ground, some were so swallowed dwn entirely down entirely and were never more seen. These were the smallest openings however, other cracks of which were more large, swallowed up great houses, andout of some of the gapings would issue whole rivers of water, spouting up to a great height into the air, which seemed to also add to the flood from the river. The sky though dark and starless during the night because of such forest fires, was in a minutes time become gray dark and reddish and full of eruptionscof flashes in the north, all these dreadful circumstances occuring at once.accompanied all the whole for fifteen minutes with prodigious loud thunfering crashes in that direxion, and also a hollow noise in the sky, a great roar of clattering, and people running from one place toanother distracted with fear and panic looking like so many lost souls, and more resembling the dead than those of the living, made the whole so terrible that people thought the desolation of the whole globe of the world was at hand, indeed it was enough to raise the most melancholy thoughts in a man, now to see the chon chi neys and tops of houses, and the masts of of ships sloops and steamers, which partook of the same awful fate, appear above rushing water or floating off, and when one first comes to the flood area, to see so many heaps of ruins, many by their largeness showing that once had stood an immense house, so to see so many houses shattered, many fallen down, the rest desolate and without inhabitants, to see where whole houses had been swallowed up by the flood, some appearing on third above the water, and of others the chimneys only, but above all to stand on the river shore, and to look over that part of the large stretch of land which for many miles as far as eye can see was quite inundated, there were where once many wide and handsome streets of stately and beautiful buildings stood, appearing now ni nothing but moving river floods, except here and h there a chimney.

What you desire sir, concerning this concussion of explosions, I will answeras near as I can to what I saw and heard, Janet city indeed being the sad place of many towns and cities where I lived before I became a Ranger..At the time of the destruction I was there visiting my parents, wife and children, which I do every month. I'll tell now of my own experience. I had remained up with all my folks untill about twelve oclock that night, and I was telling my own children, and all rather of my own experiences in patrolling forests and fighting fires, and arresting would be Glandelinian firebugs, caught in the act, when we felt the house shake suddenly as if a tornado was raging, , and saw the bricks begin to rise in the floor, and at the h same instant heard some one in the street cry" Earthquake, Earthquake. "Immediately we all ran out of the house, where we saw all people with lifted up hands, begging Gods assistance. In the north there as a rolling sound like thunder, the sky was lurid with flashes, and we continued running up the street, while on the other side of us we began to see the houses, some swallowed up by a suddden raging flood, others thrown in heaps, the sand in the streets and the asphal asphalt and stones in the streets also rose like waves of the sea, lifting up all persons that stood upon it, and immediately dropping dow down into pits, and at the same instant a terrific flood of water breaking in and rolling over those poor souls and hurling them over and over, some catching hold of beams, and rafters of houses, others were found in the sand, that appeared when the water was drained away with their legs and arms out, we beholding this dieual sight. Indeed the large piece of ground upon which we stood, thanks to be to God did not sink. As soon as the violent shaking and the uproar was all over, every man woman and and child was desrious to know if any part of their family, relative or father and mother were left alive. I endavored to go toward my own house upon the massive ruins of the housew that were floating upon the flood waters, but could not, at length I secured a sort of half buttered motor boat, and chug, chugged up and down the flood waters tward my house, where I saw a number of men women and children floating upon the wreck out and down the flood, and as many of them as I could I took repeedly into the boat, and still went on till I came to where I thought my house was or had stood, but saw no remains of it, and thanked God that all of my family and relatives had escaped at the time I did.Seeing all people who survived endeaboring to get to the higher ground as the flood more from elsewhere than the river was increasing immensely obliterating even the river itself into one sea, I went among them in hopes I might regain my way to where I had left all my relatives, but for a long time could not.

Next morning I went from one refugee camp to another beyond the flood which now covered the whole town except that on the high plateau of rocks, till at length it pleased God that I met my wife, children, and my parents.

The flood had remained over that town to day sir, as it is not far off from here, and indeed the ruins of the submerged town is said to be pa plainly visible in calm weather, and irregular masses of masonry can be descerned under water. The popular belief is sir that incalcuable wealth can be found among the ruins, for our wharves were laden with the richest merchandize, and the markets and stores displayed the glittering beauties of gifts from nations beyond."

Some time later Starring decided to explore the remains of Abbieann covered by a part of the lake. One trial was attempted by him, by diving under water as long as he could. He came back upon the surface soon, and stated, that there were surely a sea of buildings under water, and that he had entered the top floor of a all building , that he had found a railroad station but had been unable to enter it. He said many house houses were full of drowned persons half skelentons by now. This was evident a good section of Abbieann, the size of New York was thrown under the lake by the explosion shocks. Starring was more dumfounded than than ever, and in his diving suit he made many explorations, and indeed discovered that the whole section of the city was under water, as many places the tallest buildings even on a clear day shoe showed above the water for scores of miles. The land hel here had entirely subsided, and the waters had completely o rolled over this section of the city. Here it was seen above the water line that houses and whole forests had went down before the concussion shocks like reeds. In a few seconds time this surviving section of the city above water was like a town sacked and burned by the enemy, and a large part of the wealth of an accumulation of a hundred yars years had disappeared into thin air.

Starring again decided to try his luk on the strong hold of Goddes. He dispatched the Ranger with his forces to strike at the left while he led the front, while the force of Calverinians were to co-operate by the right. This time by the nature of ferocity of the assaultm and its dogged teanciousity, panic and disorder had paralized

all efforts on the parts of the Glandelinians, and the assailants to their wonder and surprise finally gained access to the places and drove the Glandelinians before them capturing many prisoners. They continued to rush on , and now found nothing in their way of of progress, till the three attacking parties met on the slopes of a small hill. The Glandelinian soldiers up above, poured down a hot fire, but the parties taking advantage of the thickness of the trees andbrush pushed on, and finally the foe

after resisting stubbornly for a who e day fled with haste and precipitation, and gave up their fair positions to the mercy of the adventurers. Starring was severely wounded, and two hundred of his men were killed, and two thousand wounded, but neverthele nevertheless the conquerers set about securing their position, by entrenching themselves, turning the captured guns of the position a so as to sweep all the approaches from the country. A portion of the Glandelinian force were still in position to the left, too much unerved by fear to make any exertion to save their position from being assaulted by a mere handful of enemies. When night closed in they glided by stealth from their stronghold,and joined their panic stricken men in the interior. The next day Starring despite his injuries took further measures to secure his conquest, which he help held in absolute possession for a month. The glandelinians increased in numbers however, and he ordered the Glandelinian positions he captured to be destroyed.

But the enemy in their efforts to drive him out which a months fighting did not accomplish set the forests on fire here also, but this did not work. In this sad dilemma, the Glandelinian commander was forced to send his full force to demolish the adventuering force by main effort. Two hundred cavarly, and ten times as many soldiers were employed freshly every day through the cool of the morning, and the cool of the evening in trying to force Starring at of the neighborhood. But Starringe peitions were well fortified, and the utmost efforts of Coddoes men produced nothing but serious losses to himself in killed and wounded. Finding his object beyond an easy attainment and the heat of the forest fires he made pressing heavily on his men, negotiations were commenced, and Starring demanded of him to surrender, but the orrirance occurance of an untward event exasperated Starring, and suspended their progress for a time.

Two Glandelinian soldiers, meeting a courier belonging to Starring, bearing dispatches from him to general Coddoe in their uncontrollable thirst for revenge over the sutiation of Coddoes army ran him through with a bayonet. Though dreadfully and mortally wounded, the courier craweled back to Starring, and fell dead, while trying to give an account of the affair.

The rage of Starring at this insult and tragedy was terrible to behold. Two unfortunate Glandelinian officers both lieutenants, were sent to the Glandelinian commander with the orders that if the murderers were not sent to him immediately Coddoes whole army which now is surrounded would recieve no quarter, and that six prisoners would be hanged every day untill those who c killed the courier were delivered into his costody. The following evening the two murderers were sent to him, and he made their very own countrymen held as prisoners hang them. Coddoe then wisely surrendered unconditionally, and having discovered the real case of the ruins he marched these prisoners into the ruins of Abbieann unarmed, devoided of belts and suspenders for their trousers and made preparations to question them concerning the disaster. Active exertions were now made by all to force these Glandelinians to tell, but to the disappointment of Starring, who expected much information, these Glandelinians either knew nothing, or would rather die than tell.

Starrings par patreitsm patriotism was aroused at this vaunt, and the Glandelinian commander was informed that should the real cause of the disaster be known, all of the Glandelinian armies would have some difficulty to rain any part of Calverinia they now possess,.

Chapter Fifteen.

ANOTHER WITNESSES ACCOUNT OF THE SCORGE OF THE ABBIEANN DISASTER, AND ITS EFFECTS.

While roaming there, starring more than once heard the story of the appalling disaster at Abbieann, the beautiful city situated between the two rivers of the Arrenburgs Run and the Mic-mollester . Starring to save his life could not comprehend how it could be that in a very few minutes hundreds upon hundreds of thousands of the inhabitants were killed or drowned. Yet he came across the little black haired girl who in that city had befriended Angeline Pichee, and her venturesome friends before the catastrophe and who with them had survived and was indeed a perfect eye witness of the whole catastrophe as it actually occured, having not been in bed that night for fear of a dread event, as at that time the sky far off was lighted like an inferno by the distant forest fires and she had dreaded some sort of a catastrophe.

The narrative produced herewith, and written as the conversation goes be brings the detail before the reader with aforce and simp, simplicity which leaves no doubt to him of the exact nature of the disaster. Starring knew the little girl by the description furnished by Angeline Pichee, and the latter had fortunately met her in one of the refugee camps, and bad her come and follow them, as for her goodness to her and her companions she decided to make her a little girl scout.

Starring first asked her;

"Are your parents living little girl?"

"Yes sir.

"Where are they?"

"They are in Pandora sir.."

"How did you come to be in this camp."?

"I came myself sir. I refused to go home untill Ifound Penrod who was so good to me."

" hat is your name child?"

"Jame Georgeiana Torio."

"I would like to question you about the disaster, since Penrod, says he knows you, and that you of the inhabitants, including your parents were the only survivors. There is reports in news papers, magazines, and so forth that this disaster, was a big "earth

earth quake followed by a severe volcanic eruption. I want the exact truty little girl which I know you will give me, for you look as good as a little saint."

"I'll tell the truth sir. cross my heart and hope to do and die if I tell a lie."

"Was the disaster an earthquake, and a volcanic eruption?"

"No sir. The shocks were too sudden to be an earthquake. Why sir as bad as an earth quake is, it would give you more time than this shock did. According to the way it seemed to me there was no earthquake. There was a roar like explosions, and the effect upon the city was more like a terrific cyclone. I felt no con cussion below at my home at all, and yet all the building suddenly fell. My home didn,t."

"Well I won't question you for a time now. Tell me as much as possible of your experience."

"It was about twelve oclock sir, and I and penrod had just left each other about half an hour before, and I returned home. I did not go to bed, and neither did my father and mother because there was a terrible forest fire raging southeast of the city and the wholecity had been alarmed and feared it would strike the city . I was seated in my bedroom, just readying my prapr prayer book, when there was a loud crash like thr loudest thunder but far away. The noise was miles away, but it sounded as terrific as the most loudest thunder would when crashing right overhead. Believe me I was scared, the windows went out, the house jumped as if there was a shock more in the air than elsewhere, and the table at which my mother was sitting reading a bible jumped high, and knocked her and the chair pulmp to the floor spilling all the book books on top of her.

The shock was like a terrific cyclone, there was no earth, tremble, and yet buildings fell as if they were blown down, and I could not percieve a breath of wind stirring.

While my sister ran in to terror to the door, I was reflecting with myself what could be happening as there was no shock from the ground, but without having the least fact as to the real cause just then, there came again a long roll of such loud thunder like a volley of cannon, big enough to stretch a mile, and the whole house shook and swayed to its foundation, and a frightful hissing and thundering noise came from the very sky above, and a terrific glaring fiery cloud came down upon all our houses and into the street, and there was then a something like a horrid blast of hot wind. We threw ourselves down the stairs almost scorched, and suffocated, and there we remained in suspense, wondering whether we should stay in the cellar or chance the perils of the hot cloud in the streets, as the danger in si insidd a inside and out seemed equal. In a moment I was stunnde stunned with a most horrid crash, as if every building in the city had fallen down at once, while at the same time came thundering that was four times as loud as before and rolled long and fast. The house shook with such violence that the upper stories immediately all fell, and though the cellar which was almost under the ground did not become enthomved as we feared, yet every thing was thrown out of its place in such a manner that it was with a no small difficulty that I or my parents and sister kept our foot and expected ex pected nothing less than to be crushed to death, as the walls continued rocking to and frr fro, opening in several places, large stones fallinb falling down on every side from the cracks and the ends of most of the beams and rafters started out from the ceiling.

And sir what added to the terror and horror f of the scene, the sky was covered with such a cloud as to make everything so gloomy that though it was night outside before it was now so dark that I could not see anything at all, it was like to me of the awful Egyptian darkness told of in the Bible, and it continued for many hours.

As soon at my father summoned nerve enough to s light a small candle which he brought with him during the flight into the cellar , the first objects I saw in the cellar was my mother sitting on the floor with a crucifix in her arms, all covered with dust, pale and trembling. My father looked worse, and my sister appeared too frightened to even scream. I asked my father whether he thought it was all over, for it was silent outside now, but his consternation was so great, that he was not able to give me an answer. My sister asked me in the utmost agony, if I did not thin think the very world was at an end, at the same time she complained of being chocked, and begged me to procure her some water from the cellar faucet. Upon this I went to the faucet, but found the water would not run. However recovering his composure my father told us all that we must not think now of quenching our thirst, but of saving our lives as the house was just falling upon our heads, and if a second shock of whatever it was should come would certainly bury or entomb us all in the cellar and we would never get out.

We hurried up stairs, father and mother forcing us girls to go first, but keeping close b hind, and leaving leaving the ruins of the house made directly for that end of the street which leads to the Mic-Hollester River. "

"Did you reach it?" asked Starring.

"Yes sir, the passage was entirely blocked up with the fallen houses to the height of their five stories, and all that sea of wreckage sir was smoking like a cloud and bright flames pierced those clouds and the smoke blinded us. To escape that awful heat we turned back and proceeded to the other end which led to Central Avel Avenue, and there mother and father helped us over a vast heap of smoking ruins, with no small hazard to ours as well as their lives. And just was we were going into this street as there was one part we two girls could not climb over without assistance of my father and mother, and the help of our hands and feet too, I desired mother to let go her hold for a moment, which she did remaining three or four feet behind me, at which moment there fell a vast timber loaded with bricks and such stones from a tottering wall, and barely missed us all. If it had fallen upon us I and my sister, mother and father would have been crushed in pieces.

So dismal a sop spectacle affected us in the highest degree, but the dread we were in of sharing the same fate ourselves, and the many instances of the same kind which we were forced to observe all around us by the help of the light of the flames, were so so shocking as to make me think nothing else but of the horror.

We now were going through a long wide street, with the wreckage of houses on each side piled six or eight stories high, the highest ten and twenty story buildings all thrown down, or parts of them continually falling, and threatening us with a terrible death, at every step, a number of dead persons lying in the wreckage within our view. For my own part sir, as destruction appeared to be unavoidable, I only wished that something would happen to me at once, and not have my legs or arms broken, in which case I would except nothing else but to be left upon the spot. lingering in misery, like those poor unhappy war wretches, without recieving the least help from any person, as none were there to render aid, and my parts and sister would not have been able to help me.

And then as self preservation is the first law of nature, these sad thoughts did not so far prevail as to make me or my ot own part parents totally despair. We proceeded on as fast as we could with any convienice convienience, though though with great care and caution. We at length got clear of this horrid passage, and found ourselves safe and short in a large open square, which had been thrown down a few minutes before, Here we stood for some time, considering what we should do, and not thinking ourselves safe in the situation, we came to the resolution of climbing over the ruins and get back to our own home, in order to get to the rivers side, that with the help of day, we might then be able to see our way and get as far away from the tottering houses in case of a second crash. This with greater difficulty we finally accomplished accomplished, and here Penrod found me and brought me off to his girl scout companions. As we reached the lower section of the city, we living on the north side, we found a prodigious swarm of people of all sexes, of all ranks and conditions lying dead amid the rooms of houses half fallen or half exposed in the ruins. There were several priests who had run from the a t alters in their sacerdotal vestments lying in the ruins of a church. ladies half dressed,, and some without shoes, all these laying amid the ruins, with the terrors of the horrible death they came to in their faces. During the awful shocks that night the consternation among the dying people had been universal, and the shrieks and cries of the people killed first in some other district of the city could be heard for blocks. At the same time we could hear the fall of the tallest buildings, whereby many persons were killed on the spot and others mortally wounded."

"Where every one in the city as far as you know killed outright?" asked Starring.

"No."

"Why then was it reported in the papers that the whole population was destroyed.?"

"The flood did it." answered Jane." We with Penrod, w and his girl scout friends were crossing over a small section of the rising flood by means of a long windrow of wreckage, when on a sudden I heard a cry from Gertrude." There is a deluge coming. It's like a tidal wave of the sea coming. Hurry everyone. We must get across or we are lost."

Turning my eyes northward tward the slowing increasing flood, which at this place was was getting to be about ten miles broad I could perceive the water in the distance heaving and swelling and increasing and spreading in a most unaccountable manner, as if waters were coming in tremendous torrents from some huge dam of a big lake that had bursted. Then in an instant there appeared at some small distance, a large body of water rising as it were like a moving water wall mountain high. It came on foaming and roaring, and rushed toward us with such impetuosity that we all immediately ruced across that wreckage jam running for our lives as fast as possible. we got to a high section of the city on time but then we were above our waist in water, though we ran up twelve blocks from the bank.

For even my own part, I and my parents and sister had the narrowest escape, and we would certainly have been lost, had we not grasped a large floating beam, that

came within our grasp, till we mag managed to o work it to a higher section of the street, which we did with great rapidity. There now appeared as much danger from the water as from the land, and we did not know where to retire for shelter, as the flood was quickly rising higher and higher. My father took a sudden resolution of returning to our own section of the city which seemed too high for the flood to come and this we all did, with our clothing all dripping. Here we all stood for some length of time, and observed many ships of the river tumbling and tossing about as a tornado on the river had struck the,. some had broken their cables, and were carried out of sight, others were whirled round and round with great swiftness, many large boats were turned keel upward, and all this without any wind, which seemed the more astonishing."""""

"Well so far your description slightly differs with those of others"said Starring. "But there is one thing I have heard of which I do not believe. What happebed happened to that part of the city facing Lake Angeline?"

"It was swallowed up with all the people in it in their beds by the lake" said the Girl. At the same time all the lake wharf boats and small vessels anchored in the harbors, all full of people going out on midnight boat excursions were all swallowed up as in a whirlpool of some kind, and never more appeared."

"Such a thing seems exaggerated" said starring. "Penrod do you believe that really happened."!

"Penrod shrugged his shoulders." I was in that part a few days before the disaster came." he finally said," and after the disaster I never saw southeastern Abileann no more."

"Maybe the flood swept it away." suggested starring.

"Probably." submitted Penrod.

"What do you think of it.!" to Angeline Richee.

"The lake fell over the city during the disaster" said Angeline Richee. This dreadful event none of us saw with our eyes as it passed many miles from the spot where we were then but myself had the account of it from many masters of surviving ships who were anchored within two or three hundred yards west of that portion of the city and said they saw the whole catastrophe from their lookout stations. One of them in particular informed me that when the last and main shocks and crashes of explosions came on, he could percieve the whole city waving backwards and forwards, like the sea, when the wind first begins to rise, that the agitation of the earth was so great and the eruptions so tremendous, that the shock even under the river thr threw up his large anchor from the mo oring which as he termed it acted as if it was swimming on the surface of the water, that immediately upon this most extraordinary concussion the river rose at once nearly fourty feet, and in a moment subsided, at which instant it he saw of as much of the southeastern part of the city as the darkness would permit with the whole concourse of buildings of every size and height sink down beneath the outskirts of the great lake and at the same time every one of the boats and vessels iwithin sight were drawn into the cavaty or the lake which he supposed instantly closed upon them in frightful waves in as much as not the least sign of a wreck was seen after the disaster. He says that any persons who do not believe it, can makesoundings of that part of the lake and they'll discover buildings under the water."

Jane herself then went on;

"We had not been long in the partly flooded area of northern Abbieann, when I felt a shock of some kind produced by the flood, which however was less violent than the concussions the night before,, the waters rushed up up higher and all of us for a time remained up to our waists in water, though all of us had gotten upon a small platform above the street at some distance from the river with the ruins of many intervening houses to break the force of the flood. At this time we al all took notice that ty the waters were rising so impetiously that some ships were being forced into the streets of the flooded city. The flood we could see was rushing on at terrific sweep carrying away whole swarms of wooden buildings, and throwning down the remainder of the ruins in such sort that it was justly dreaded Abbieann would now meet the same fate which a few weeks ago had taken Heidi junction and other citi s. We were all in a suchtia such a situation now that we did not know which way to turn, we were faint from the constant fatigue we had undergone with a whole night of no sleep, and we had not yet broken our fast. Yet this had not so much effect upon us as the anxiety we had of getting out of such a horrid place of death. And we were in the most greatest danger. We determined to go and learn if possible if there was a way out of the ruins. We proceeded with some hazard to the large space before a ruined cathedral which also had been thrown down. Passing through this section which was only slightly flooded, we found it full of wreckage of every description, even of night coaches, wagons, autos, horses and mules and auto trucks, deserted by their drivers, and attendants. From this dangerous square we found our way through a long steep and wide street. Here we met new scenes of horror, which exceeded all we can think of, but all was stillness in death.. There was not even the sound of a sigh, or a groan, and we could not hardly take a step without treading on the dead. We expected here to at least meet with some survivors who would be crying over the deaths of their relations or dre dearest friends, but all was silent. It was a street of annihilation. In some places lay carriages, wagons and even autos, with their masters, horses, drivers, and riders almost crushed inpieces or buried almost out of sight in the ruins. What struck us most was to see many mothers with children or infants in their arms, buried under rubbish, or even women and children richly dressed, with also priests, and friars and gentlemen of all kinds either in the same horrid exposed condition or entirely or almost entirely buried. Those seen had their backs and bodies broken, with many great stones on their bodies. We came across an orphan asylum where all the children we felt sure were al cost all buried in the rubbish, but there was not a sound, for they had all perished with the rest...At length we arived to the spot opposite to the school I used to go to before I and my parents moved north, and finding this as well as all the other buildings blown or thrown down, and seeing the flood was ever rising foot by foot every hour, we thought it was high time to hurry and get out of reach if possible. In less than an hour we reached an International house, kept by the city authorities, near a big city burying ground, about a half a mile from my own part of the city, where persons of many nations usually gather. This building was leveled to the first story, and it was or had been a five story structure,."

Did any

"Did any of the city that might have been spared from the flood burn?" asked Starring.

"Yes, and an awful fire it was. We were in the city for a whole day and night

before we got out, and as soon as it grew dark, we were horrified by observing a terrific glare in the sky that we have never seen before, or at least I had never seen in my life. The whole city north of us not touched so far by the flood was in an awful conflagration, and the glare was so bright that the very stretch of the flood and a good section of the lake was lighted up. It looked as if the city not touched by flood was on fire inat least a thousand different places at once, and after we had left we had hured the fire heard the fires had continued to burn for many days altogether without it intermission, and there was no one that livedthat could have stopped its progress. It was an awful fire."

"It must have been" said starring."For from the nature of the ruins I observed the fire had consumed everything the flood and the shocks had not destroyed."

"What caused the fire I wonder?" asked Angeline Pichee.

"I could never learn but believe the forest fire had struck it somewhere," said Jane."Some believe it was caused by that strange cloud of fire that the explosions hurled upon portions of the city, but I believed there were other causes, which occuring all the same time, will surely account for the prodigious havoc it made. The forest fire that had kept me worried all the time since I heard of it coming did strike parts of the city not hit by the flood from the northwest, and the conflagration quickly spread to the neighboring houses, and there being joined by the fires starting through other causes among the ruins increased to such a degree, that it easily destroyed the whole section of the city not swept away by the flood, as it met with no interruption. But sir what would appear an almost incredible to you were the fact moreotorious and public is that immediately after the disaster, gangs of hardened Glandelinian soldiery were busily at work in setting fire to those buildings, which stood some chance of escaping the general destruction. I cannot understand what could have made them do such wicked things, except to add to the horror and confusion, that they might by this means have the better opportunity of plundering the ruins with security. But there was no need for the enemy to go through all this trouble, for they could have easily have done all their vandalliem without it, since the whole city of population is believed to have been annihilated within that ten or fifteen minutes that night, that I believe not a soul except us remained in it, escepting those dity scoundrels, and other roving glandelinians of the same stamp. I believe it was possible some of them might have had many other motives besides robbing, as one in being particularly apprehended they say he was a foriegner, confessed at the gallows that he had set fire to the ruins of an orphan asylum with his ownhand, at the same time glorying in the action, and declaring with his last breath that he had hoped to have the chance to burn up all of Calverinia, so Glandelinia could win the war..... We always kept ourselves hidden and when we feared we would be attacked by the vandals, my guardians always had their pistols ready, and believe me my friendly companions proved to me what good crack shots they are."

"I heard, and read,,, "" said Starring "That the whole number of persons that perished including those who were burned or swept away by the flood or crushed to death while in their beds is supposed on the lowest lowest calculation to ammount to more than eight million, and though the damage in all respects cannot and never will be computed I suppose, yet you may form some idea of it, when you know this extensive city is now nothing but was what has been, that there were no survivors. Do you my child believe that such a horrible thing has happened."?

"That is hard to tell." said Jane." It may take many years before such news can be confirmed. But in order that you may partly realize the awful havoc that has been made, I will mention one more instance among the many that have come under my notice. This I witnessed myself during the first explosion from the window of my bedroom. My bedroom window faced a high arch passageway, fronting the east door of an enormous palace, on the left hand was the famous Tribunal Building, and on the right of the street many houses ten and fourteen stories high. The street was wide but did not prevent the disaster I saw. At the first shock, numbers of night roving people who were then passing under the arch, fled to the middle of this street for shelter, those in the dwellings who were awakened, and as many as had time to get out did the same... Then came the first awfulest explosion of all, and at that instant the big arched way, with the front of the two enormous buildings, and all the skyscrapers all inclined one tward the other,, with the sudden violence of the shock fellll down, and before my very eyes every soul as they were standing here in the middle of even that wide street were buried under a mountain of rubbish and wreckage."

"Well whatever may be the facts of your statement" said Starring," the portion of the the earths surface that was convulsed by the shocks of these unusual explosions is estimated by many various newspapers, books, and magazines, and by many persons in general who experienced them in all directions and in every city and town, to have been four times greater than the whole extent of our distant friendly countries, Europe and Asia. The shocks felt like air vibrations also were felt not only in parts of Angelinia and Angeline vine states but in Glandelinia, and Abbieannia they were one third as violent. All Calverinia was shaken nearly as violent.....

At a place about twenty four miles away from Angelinia Agathia city,(Calverinia) the side of a great mountain slipped down from the shock, and the entire villiage of Evanston with all its inhabitants, upwards of 18,000 in number were buried under that awful avalanche."

"I heard of that" said Penrod.."I read that the shocks were also felt as far to the westward as the Belngiglomenean Islands, of St Johns, Catherine Isle, and Robonnia Island, where the tide which usually rises about three feet, was suddenly elevated about fourty feet, the water being at the same time agitated as if a storm was raging. Even the lenglglomean Creatures were terrified, and kept in the sky or in the waters for days afraid to return to land, and this not only in the islands but they fled from Calverinia and Bengall state. Twurd the north est in Abbieannia State the shock was noticed as far as Concentinia Province, whose great inland lakes rivers, cities and towns were all disturbed with enough force to drive all the people

out of bed and into the streets in panic.. Tward the east it extended to Abyssinkile to Pomobia, Prionlongolia, where houses swayed as if a cyclone broke loose. and in northern Angelinia state the waters of all the rivers rose and fell repeatedly. Tward the southeast, the shock was sensibly felt throughout the flat forested country of Calverinia, in Jessica city, and in Big Girl Knool, and along the country side of the Mic-Mollester Run. I even heard that at sea, one hundred and ten miles west of Vivian Wickey, ships were strained as if they had struck on rocks, the seams of the decks opening, and the many compasses were upset.

On board a war ship one hundred and twenty miles south of the Belngiglomenean Islands the shock was so violent as to toss men up perpendicularly from the decks. The great sea wave procu produced by the concussion rose along the whole southern and western coasts of Calverinia and Angelinia, and the eastern coasts as well, and at Vivian Wickey it is stated to have risen to a height of sixty five feet.

At Angeline Junction on the north western coast of Angelinia state, the tide rose and fell a hundred times in rapid succession. At Gertrude Angeline City, where the usual ebb and flow of the tide is six feet, it being low tide at the time in all probabilites, the great wave rolled in sevety feet high, and at once not only raised the level of the water many feet above high water mark but flooded Gertrude Angeline city destroying many houses along the shore. This immense tide rushing into the city caused great damage beyond comparison, and several other large cities along the coast were similarly flooded.

The tide was also suddenly raised on the southern coast of Abbieannia, the shock was sensibly felt at Andrean Island, and a sudden rise in the waters followed almost immediately after.."

"That is what was reported" said STarring" and all these tend to show that the convulsion which produced this greatest of all disasters must have its origin from some other source than a natural eruption or an earthquake, and that the disturbance was more violent than any earthquake ever estimated and far more sudden. The shocks continued only for fifteen minutes, and yet all that destruction was done. This catastrophe will long be thought of as the most disasterous of all, because its force was spent on a big populous capital city of Abbieannia, where national and international commerce, and travel and all railroad centers, and show houses, and every convienence convienience made the facts conspicious at once. Artists will paint, and aurthors will write of its horrors for many centuries to come. The scene of the disappearing part of the city under the shore of Lake lake Angeline where so many were in their beds and drowned like rats in a trap is and will ever be considered one of the most dramatic and terrible incidents in the whole historyof all disasters.

Chapter ~~Nineteen~~ Sixteen

STARLING TRACES THE EFFECTS F THE EXPLOSION SHOCKS,
AS FAR AS ABBIEANNIA, CALVERINIA, AND A' 'LI"IA STATE.

Sterring continued the conversation saying;

"The concussions of these awful shocks produced by the explosions, though said to have been felt in Abbieannia and Angelinia state were not as violent as as felt in Bengall state and Calverinia. The portion of the Vivian Hills in Bengall state I read were devastated by the shocks, and the whole of this zone of disturbance appeared to be connected with the great explosion horror around Abbieann and at Adelehe-"eid."

"It seems strange for shocks to have reached so far" said the captian" but it is absolutely sure. I have mys lf on the maps traced the extent of this concussion, which in its worse effects throughout Bengall state, and parts of Calverinia extended from east to west, not only to within a short distance beyond the shore of the Calverinian and Mic-H Whirthion seas, to Gertrude Angeline City and W Vivian Wickey, but so far as one can judge, twwra the Beingigiomenean Islands, and also the Boyking islands and through the region of the Catherine Isles. In this vast region the shocks were most violent in Bengall state and Central Calverinia."

"From the way Abbieann is wiped out, that seems evidently true." said Starling. "The first news of the disaster told that the concussion had destroyed the town of La Polana and that a flood finishes the disaster. The shock was felt throughout all of Calverinia, and it extended upon the other side of the Angeline Vine State, to Angelinia Agathia, Jessicia, and the Abyssinkillian mainland. The highland in the neighborhood of Big GirlKnool was violently convulsed by this shock. The earth shook in secondary motion with each explosion, and the reports that the earth there undulated likea sea, portions being raised from eighteen to fourty feet above above their former level, and then depressed as far below it seems unproved. Yet it is stated that the concussions caused the opening of great fissures in the river dikes, whence water issued and flooded the land. Even Vivian Wickey experienced a hundred succession of secondary shocks for fifteen minutes, and nearly two thousand houses were overthrown, the enemy and besieging armies were thrown into consternation, and the sea rose so high as to flow flood the sea front of the city..."

"That part of the news seems unfounded" said the captian,2 " but I do not doubt it nevertheless. I heard the coast line of Lake Angeline in the northeast boundary line of Bengall State was also violently shaken, and that the force of the explosions formed large openings in many places in the ground, from which were ejected loth of water and mud. A large river was drained at Aldeen, who while near the same place, near the lake, a large piece of land sunk down was and was totally submerged, drowning two small villiages and all their inhabitants. Sixty square miles of the coast subsided. It was said that one small mountain sank down untill its summit only remained visible, while another dps disappeared altogether,. several other hills were rent were rent asunder, and chasms from thirty to sixty feet wide were forced near and connecting with the craters by the force of the explosions. The many towns upon the land that subsided were overflowed, and one was submerged upward of twenty feet. The districts of Mullencatt, were also agitated very much by these successive second ary shocks. It was reported that the undulations of the ground was quite visible, and it was with great difficulty that soldiers on guard in camps could keep to their feet, and the camps were thrown down. The town of Aldrove was overthrown, and twenty hundred of the inhabitants were said to have been crushed in the ruins. Several other smaller towns and villiages shared a similar fate... At a great mobilization camp a fort witynite towers and walls fell to the ground in a mass of ruins, and even at Turner much further to the west, the great fortification of St Ann, was overthrown."

"When I went to inspect one of the explosion craters" said Starring, I came to the hills in the neighborhood of Abbieann West, and observed that several large masses of rock and earth and forest debris were detatched and hurled into the valleys but nevertheless the appearance of the landscape around was otherwise not much injured. The eastern channel of a stream which name I cannot recall however, which flows through this region tward the Arronburgs Run, sank to a depth of five to seventeen and twenty five feet near the region of Adeleheid lying to the northwest to St John, and from ten to twenty feet in the other parts of the channel. The fortifications and the town of Also Aronburger north of Adeleheidwere at the same overflowed, having sunk down so machee that only the tops of the houses and even the walls remained visible above the water after the shocks, which however at this section had not thrown a over any of the buildings. But I discovered a tract of land, over three or four thousand square miles in area, was at the same time so much depressed, according to many reports which were confirmed, that the waters of some big rivers and inland lakes rushed in, and converted it inot a large lagoon. This inundation overwhelmed many villiages and towns and there remained above the water little more than theupper parts of the town which having sustained no injury, afforded temporary shelter to the inhabitants, who escaped in boats the following days. "

This occurance seems to be the more remarkable from its having happened so far from the explosion area." said one of the rangers. The nearest site of most terrific disturbance is at a distance of upwards of two hundred miles from Abbieann, inthe south eastern corner of Bengall State. The strange phenomena which resulted from this terrific terrific disaster are highly instructive. They illustrate the manner in which similiar interchanges of land o and sea many have been produced in other parts of the country by the effects of the tremendous explosions but of which no record yet has been obtained.. There are also manifold traces of susso successive similiar depressions on the shores of Lake Mic-Hollester. The force of the explosions might have undermined so much land as to pru produce effects similiar to natural earthquakes. The city of Latori suffered severely, a considerable portion of it having been above one of the spots where as of the explosions occured, and the town had been almost blown into the air.. A large part of the town of Contender was destroyed by the same explosion in the same way, and some mountains in its neighborhood were thrown down by the con cussion. At gane town, the concussion of the explosion was attended also by a strange fire cloud and a violent gust of wind. Also from the sudden and though secondary concussion a mountain in the neighborhood was apparently cleft in twain, and one

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of the main halfs sank down considerably and buried a villiage under it.. Many Many houses were blown down in the town and many neighboring villiages, and the loss of lives lives never will ve known. The Ban Balnketburg Peninsula was violently shaken, and three hundred severe secondary shocks were reported to have been felt at Windsdale in fifteen minutes, and as many at Ricksenville. The center of the disturbance the reports reporters said seemed to have been in Bengal State, where the shocks were accompanied by as many loud thundering explosions. Many houses were overthrown at Ricksenville, and at other places. All of the central parts of Calverinia were severely shaken. particularly in and around the Big Girl Knool region two hundred miles south of Abbieann. The succession of shocks were said to have continued for sixteen minutes a hundred secondary shocks per minute, the earth undulating like a storm tossed sea. with much dist distant, but noise in the air that sounded like loud thunder.

Mount Calverine in the neighborhood an extent volcano let loose an avalen avalanche of rocks and stones down her slopes and the burying of two towns occured there.. Many houses were overthrown in Hardick and the neighboring villiages, for a circuit of more than fourty miles. One villiage was engulfed, by the big flood, and the loss,,, loss of life was unestimated but severe,......"

"I can relate much more" declared Starring. "I know it is reported that all of the central parts of Calverinia was violently shaken, but the greatest concussion haco havoc comes between Bengall and Daisy states. Many good sized cities were overthrown, and no one can say yethor not whether all of the inhabitants perished or not. great rents were formed in the ground, and even in the solid rocks. All witnesses say that the waters of Lake Angeline was much agitated during the commotion. Even Mt Joan and its very neighborhood was violently convlado convulsed. The secondary shocks were quite noticed, and great landslipes took place from the big mountain and did immense damage, thirty small villiages being overthrown, with much loss of life. Even all of the big state of Angelinia was considerably disturbed by the awful concussion. There were repeated secondary shocks felt at Angelinia Agathia and a number of the concussions were severe. The shocks to the same degree were felt at Dorothy Gale, and Jessica and its neighborhood were severely shaken simultaneously and thousands of houses were overthrown.."

"That seems unusual but it the reports are true it will be more unusual yet" said the captian. I was at Angelinia Agathia, near midnight June the First, and the shocks proved somewhat calamitous. I noticed shocks were repeated at quick intervals for nearly a quarter of an hour, and nearly one quarter the number of the houses were somewhat damaged or overthrown, and a number of the inhabitants killed.. Large masses of rock were detatched from Mt Ricksonia and many houses were crushed by their full. I heard that halfvof the remainder of the city of Heidi Junction was destroyed by the concussions and twenty two thousand of its inhabitants buried in the ruins. Then the ensuing flood des p destroyed the rd rest of the town and killed nearly all the population. Fourteen big fourts in the vinicity were so completely swallowed up that not a trace of their wreckage could be discovered. The concussions and ensuing floods worked similar havoc in the neighboring towns and villiages, and the entire loss of life caused by the two almost su simultaneous catastrophes is not known.

I heard a large portion of the city of Lucillie Ricksen was affected if not totally destroyed, causing much loss in human life, and great distress among the surviving inhabitants. Loud rumbling noises more like in the sky preceded every shock which continued for the same length of time. It was said more than a third of the city was totally destroyed. The great St Michaels Cathedral fell, burying however no one in its ruins as it happened nto be night and no one was in it. Most of the inhabitants fled the city at the beginning of the flood, and then scarcely a house in the city was not injured to some degrees or less. Fortunately the inhabitants then encamped in the hills, so that there was no such fatality as during the shocks, when a great many perished, eleven thousand six hundred being recovered from the ruins. The Mic-Hollester city was also seriously affected, and here the havoc was fearful by both the shocks and the floods, about nearly a million houses being destroyed, and many thousands of people killed. In the town of Rosana not one house was left standing and all of the inhabitants were taken out of the ruins dead.

The confusion which prevailed in the neighborhood of Mic-Hollester City owing to the nature of the frightful war raging close to the place for several months, was still further increased by these concussions which did so much damage to property, and caused the death of many people. A Glandelinian fleet of river warships was then anchored close to the city, and the waters of the enormous river were agitated enough by the shock to lead to a request being sent to the Glandelinian admiral by the comm commander of one of his ships, that he might get notice of an attack by some christian fleet. o fleet came. The concussion caused the death of two thousand persons in the city of Glorinia , yet the town of Chamberstor suffered the most severely, and of all its houses not one was left fit for habitation. A great many villiages in this neighborhood was destroyed, and nearly all the inhabitants were made homeless and destitute. Because of the enemy, and the flood, and combining forest fires, no one could come to to their relief, and although the shock had also been very severe upon the opposite neighborhood near Glorianna, it was from th there that the first boatload of provisions, tents, and timber were dispatched to be seized by the enemy. More than five thousand persons perished in this part of the disaster, an as the population of the villiages were annihilated, and among the survivors over fifteen thousand were more orvless severely injured. As it was impossible for the survivors to clear away the ruins, the town aurthorities had to be content with pulling down the walls which were still standing, and to prevent a plague they spread posions over the layer layer of stone and lime beneath under which more than a scores of thousands of corpses were believed to be still lie lying. Of course all of the country was said to be severely agitated, and again there was n one hundred and fifty persons killed in the town of Perkins. The shock was also felt as far south as Angeline Junction, which though less severe caused great alarm, and at the same time the coast of Angelinia state was much

dist rbed, and the town of Handersburg was a good deal injured, and the houses of Point Furn was again were again much damaged, while the town of central was said to have been completely destroyed.... The series of secondary concussions, wrought terrible havoc in Gertrude Ab Angeline City. The first shocks however were the slight est, but the last with the accompanying sounds of thunder in the distance did the most injury, and the uncertainity of the danger and the cause was much alarming, especially when the sea swamped and flooded the city also. During the prevalence of these many secondary convus convulsions, the people for the most part fled out of their homes and for the rest of the night and the day camped out on higher elevations, and thus it happened that the flood from the city sea, although doing most immense damage damage to property did not kill many people. The total loss to human life was not known, but outside the city a great number of cattle on swamed farms perisjed the great death rate among the latter, being due to the fact that at night the animals were housed under the lower stories of the cow barns or in roughly built sheds in the fields. The towns of Herdrune, and Serpool were completely wre ked, and the inhabitants a re are living even under any shelter they can put up, mats, boards, ld clothes, or branches of trees."

"Such Such ds descriptions seem exaggerated, but it may possibly be so" said Starring. "But nevertheless the whole of Pengall State, and central Calverinia felt the severest... of the shocks, for in these sections every house in every town and city was leveled to the ground, and every public building, bridge, and work of masonry as was destroyed. The loss by flood fell mostly on planters, and manufacturers. All kinds of farming cultivation was destroyed and famine threatens Calverinia. All the largest factories of in all in Abbieann were totally destroyed with their machinery, fifteen hundred railroad lines were wiped out, and the villiages erected by the farming communities destroyed beyond redemption. Abbieann is entirely destroyed, as we can see, scarcely a building in the portions of the city left to view escaping more or less injury and almody almost all burned. In all about three or four thousand cities were completely demolished, The loss of life is unusual mre than all our battles made t put together on each side of fighting combined. Abbieann is the center of the horror. And the enemy is to blame but we cannot yet find evidence. What do you think about it Jane?"

"I think if it is true you'll find evidence yet." she replied.

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inhabitants suddenly sank beneath the lake without giving a single person time to even

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THE FIERY TOUCH OF NATURE....
WHAT STARRING AND THOSE WITH HIM IN THE EXPEDITION FINDS.....

Part 2 of Chapter 16

STARRING now was in probably the heart of the region where the greatest of all calamities he had ever seen, had fallen upon Calverinia, and her sister states. He wrote down in his dairy stating that the disaster as far as he can comprehend is most complete, that as a city Abbieann has ceased to exist, and that no war or catastrophe before in the past put together has ever brought on such a loss of li e life as in this city, not mentioning the whole countryside swept to destruction as it was. He was firmly resolved to hold to the opinion of his believe that over 10,000,000 to thirty million people may have lost their lives, and that over fifty to a hundred million are a were and are still homeless, and facing all kinds of complications of horrors. starvation, disease, the perils from the enemy and forest fires, and the various weathers of winter and summer.

The situation was more than he could comprehend, and though there is even from the start the most urgent need of all kinds of provisions is imperatively requir ed he could not even imagine how the relief could be forthcoming.

And what worried him most was that the governer of Calverinia, while expressing his thanks for the marked success in his work so far, informed Starring by telegram that Pandora and even the whole of Calverinia is still threatened.

The Governer of Calverinia even requested Starring that for the purpose of reassuring the people who are in such deadly peril and threatened with all the horrors night and the war can give them, that he would try and open some kind of a communication if he can as soon as possible, so that the refugees could have means of transportation from the whole stricken area of Calverinia.

The The State of Pengall and perhaps others in that region were still even now menanced seriously by the effects of the calamity which has taken so appalling a form ih in Calverinia.

The Governer stated that the Emperor himself has directed the department of the Treasury of War and of the Navy to take such measure for the relief of those scores of millions of people as lie within their executive discretion, and he earnestly commended this case of unexpe e unexampled disaster to the generous consideration of the great christian general Starring.

This seemed an errand that starring had not been sent out by violet and her sisters, but out of human kindness and sympathy for the afflicted starring did not intend to refuse, for he had a terrifiic terrific realization of a most stupendous calamity to even be impending, and that the whole nation needed to prepare to meet a still most appalling situation with unbounded sympathy and generousity. He knew that even at the first awful news it made the nation the leadder in the movement to relieve and succor as far as possible the hungry and homeless survivors of one of the worlds most greatest of all disasters known, and to care for the sick, and injured that increased terribly in numbers with each report from pointsof refuge, besides to have to keep an eye on the enemy too. Even from the beginning of the disaster in November 1912 untill these of now the Abbieannian Governments has been continually characterized by the promptness and liberality that distinguished the Abbieannian people.

Even now still the Abbieann people actining as individuals or communities were still continually engaged in the work of raising funds, and supplies, and from one end to the other of the nation the appeals of relief committees always met with quick and liber liberal responses.

Even when the news was finally spread broadcast the horrible Calverinian disasters likewise struck a sympathic chord throughout other nations, and within a few days from the time the first news of the awful Abbieann horror was recieved, the sufferers witnessed the grand and enobling spectacle of the entire civilized world rushing to their relief. One big fiery touch of nature caused by the enemy had made the whole world kin. The Governer of Calverinia to which the population of the stricken state belongs recieved many messages of condolence and announcements of contributions from the rulers of other states, but not one of these was more touching than that wiri written by Starring hi in his reply to the Governers plead; He cabled as follow s, as cable was the only means of communitions,

"Pandora. Calverinia.
To Governer Saunders;

I pray your Excellency to accept my profound sympathy, in the appalling calamity which has come upon the people of Calverinia, and which cause and result I am now investigating for the good and safty of the cause. I had been many weeks before profoundly profoundly moved by the news of the terrible catastrophe which had overtaken Abbieann and the whole of central and southern Calverinia, and which has costs the lives of l nearly as many soldiers as perished in the battles just past. While I am performing my dangerous work here in Abbieann and vinicity, May Almighty God and His Blessed Mother comfort the hearts of those that weep for their irreparable losses, and aid me to succeed in my efforts for discovery as to the cause and blame of the calamity.

I beg you to accept my warm thanks for the commission you have offered to me, and I will comply to your pleas as far as possible for my own good as well as to the good of the cause.

Your Loving friend
And servant.
General Walter Heidi Starring.
General Vivians assistant."

Starring before he would proceed on his adventure looked over his list of those of other nations which had rendered aid to the stricken of Calverinia and her sisters and other provincial states. The Czar and Empress of the Nation of Protectentia he saw in his records had telegraphed to Emperor Vivian, that they shared with him a liver lively sympathy and feeling of grief at the great catastrophes that Calverinia was suffering and stated they believed that Glandelinia was becoming a danger to the

hole world in general and that something ought to be done to bring her to her senses.

The King of Blomlinia County had summoned the Abbieannian Ambassador to his own Palace, and expressed to him his keen sorrow on hearing of the great Abbieann disaster and also suggested that Glandelinia should be made to pay if she was guilty for. it. He also requested that he be kept well informed regarding the details of the enemy's ways and of the disaster and its result.

King Hallen of Hickensilo sent a personal contribution of over five million dollars.

King Handon of Mormonuia gave the same ammount. Even the frightened people of all the neighboring cities and towns of the same state were the first to do what they could to give practical relief,. The fleeing survivors from the vinicity of Abbieann took refuge in the largest numbers in the far northern cities. This is the letter that Starring had recieved from the Calverinian governer to which he had answered;

To General Starring;
My dear sir;

"This concentration of refugees in every one of our northern cities and towns threatens threatens a calamity as direful if not worse, than the explosion horrors, and the flood disaster at Abbieann and throughout central Calverinia, for unless they should be quickly provided with food they would surely perish. A number of coreespondents who came to Pandora at the time, told of the conditions of the people still unable to leave the disaster district. They are on a verge of starvation, fear of the enemy and the changes of the weather for the seasons, and the forest fires which threaten to wipe out the little the floods have left them. Many of the refugees coming into the city of Pandora to day are badly burned having been almost overtaken by fires. The city of Pandora and also other big places have become cities ofy of mourning. There is not a single refugee famil family in either that has not ne or more members who had not perished in the disaster. The distraught crowds block the stte streets. Thousands are given shelter in big factories and schoolhouses and Cathedrals, and every public place is filled with them. The sight of even old men crying bitterly as they walk, and of women collasping of hysteric in the streets is even though very common more than the real inhabitants of the city can bear. You cannot look at them. Great fits and convulsions of weeping sweep over the throngs untill everybmember in the dense throngs are inn in tears.

Famine, fear of the forest fires, the enemy, and the winter weather too redoubles the the misery. The neighboring cities and towns are doing all they can, but the food qu question is desperate, so ernormous are the masses of the refugees who must be careddd cared for. None of those who have crowded in Pandora has any idea of returning to the cities so wantonly destroyed. It is more than doubtful if Abbieann will ever again be rebuillded. It is no longer a city, and certainly no one whi who is in Calverinia will ever live there after witnessing the scenes that are all about us.

If you can open and restore communication on your own line of route I will appreciate your work very much."

Starring however could not understand how boatloads of provisions from other sections could reach the disaster districts when flood and forest fires and other horrors cut off communications by boat and train. The terrors of fame confronted the whole state because of the disaster, even though kind hearts and open hands were trying to provide succor. Though the great Abbieannian Government had brought its matchless resources into play that did not do any good so far as the endangered ones could not be reached. Even the River Naval Tugs and other boats, which had been sent speeding tward the disaster zone loaded with stores for the refugees in the disaster zone in tward the middle of June had never returned even now. By order of the Emperor the National Treasury Department was instructed to co-operate, which meant the employment of every ship of good northern towns and the medical officers of the marine hospital service, and the army were to be withdrawn from military service to aid the refugees of the disaster, and these could not even now reach the scene, and only got as far as Francis Atlanta, and was barred the rest of the way by waters of the still raging floods floods, interfered with by the enemy, or stopped by the forest fires, and other com--- plications.....

The war depe Department with its well organized supply departments, was regarded as in better position than any other nato national instit institution to take charge of the relief measures, and what could it do when there was no means of transportation qualities when all communications was impossible.

The Secretary of the Abbieann Navy, had immediately telegraphed orders to the captians of various ships, to ship all supplies to be offered them, and to sail at the earliest pssible moment for the districts that were in dire want. They were also authorized to extend relief to other sections if they found any necessity in doing so.

These ships never came back.

The adjutant general, quartermaster general, commissionary general, and surgeon general, were charged by the Secretary War Hanson, with the arrangement of that part of the relief measures pertaining to the war Department. Also official orders were dictated for the guudiance of the threeee supply department's, giving the sceme of distribution as follows;;;;

Three chief medical officers, with over fifty millions of dollars of medical stores, ect.... one or two subsistence officers, with over seventy five million dollars worth of stores, consisting of every food material on the market, one officer or maybe many be many of the quartermasters department, with 100,000,000 worth of clothing supplies, for mostly only women and children. The orders directed that those officers and stores be sent on ships. They were sent on June the last. It is now nearing the end of Sepetember and they have not been heard from yet. what happened?????????!! The character of the Emperors instructions to the departments concerned in the relieff work may be gatve gathered from the n x n text of the following lneo letter, which was delivered to the Secretary of the Navy, after the Emperor had heard of what caused

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inhabitants suddenly sunk beneath the lake without giving a single person time to even

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the great flood of June reaching and almost devastating Angelinia Agathia, and all her neighboring cities and towns and the whole country side...
The letter is as follows;;

"I the Emperor instruct all the Governments of the States not touched by the horror, to go to the furthest limits of discretion for the rescue and the relieff of the afflicted sections of Calverinia, and to have all regid investigations as to what made the disaster, whether Nature did it by the reported volcanic eruptions from the ground, or whether the enemy was responsible..2

Emperor Vivian. "

Indeed Emperor Vivian had been so eager to set the treemendous work of relief in action, and to have the disaster investigated as far as possible, that his Royal Cabinet had difficulty to restrain him from going ahead in advance of what was hoped for of restored communications. He had orders cutting all red tap into shreds already, for the army and navy and all shipping departments to utilize all the supplies they had on hand with the utmost speed forthe relief su expedition, when Count De Biff found it out;.

"But Your Majezty." said the Royal Count, "I cannot be done. No ship can make headway down any river just now because everything is oblivion from the flood. The nation may become involved in serious difficulties from a horrible loss in shipping if you go ahead.."

"But those scores of millions of people will die of starvation and exposure, if we lose lose a single minute." was his reply..

"That does not alter the situation" said Count De Biff. "You should understand the awful situation. They cannot clmm communicate with us, and we cannot reach them. Even we are cut off from the rest of the world and how are we going to help them."

The Emperor was forced to compromise by instructing Dargar and his many Gemini members to go out and investigatie the situation, so that plans can be made to have everything in readiness for action as soon as anoopening can be had. The Emperor at that time had some doubts as to the true situation, and he did not wish to lose a single minutes time is dispatching as many relief ships as it was possible. Meanwhile generous communities all over the land had been pouring money and supplies into the hands of the aurthorized committees for shipment to the stricken region when it seemed of no use. Among the voluntary offers of assistance was one from the Governor of Abyssinkillian State Louis Handor. He Telegraphed the Abbieannian War Department offering to furnish many nurses, and provisions for the stricken states. When he recieved word that it seemed impossible for aid to be sent immediately he said that the Navy could furnish warships for the purpose of navigating the flood.

The Pandora Chamber of Commerce, the Mayor of all Abyssinkillian cities, and all public officials sent cable grams asking how they could help in spire of the destroyed communications by rail and water.. An original suggestion came from Pandora, Abbieannia State in the shape of a letter advising the draining of the flood by mining levees of rivers near their mouths, and this was done without result however. The Navy department also undertook to transport to the homeless people of the region a large quanity of building lumber by river barges which the Abbieann State government donated. The lumber came by rail from Abyssinkila to Heidiford, the treasury officials aurthorizing its passage through the Domdobian and Concentinian States without payment of duty. This lumber worth $#000:$700,000,000 was now in the hands of the foe" thanks to the flood"

Finally on June the 29th amid the tbbthingtof tooting of wis whistles from many craft in the Sacramento City Harbor, the provision ships, first of the cargo carrying relief ships loaded to the gunwale with food and clothing for the famine stricken sufferers of Calverinia sailed from that city on their errands of mercy at about ten thirty oclock in the morning. It had been planned for the ships to leave early in the afternoon of the day before, but trucks laden with government stores kept coming in under orders untill the den fender bars were drawn o in. T For two days of the time these ships sailed a force of fifteen hundred laborers were kept busy loading the ships. They had relieved a shift of equal number which stopped work at seven oclock the night before.. The cargo of one of the ships alone was estimated at 34,568 tons sufficient to feed the people of the stricken region for only two days according to the immense number to be relieved. The bulk of the cargo was purchased out of the appropriation of one ship alone of nearly four hundred thousand dollars made by the Government of that State for the relief of the sufferers, but there were also contributions from other sources.

More than twenty million dollars allotted to the quartermasters department was spent for women and childrens clothing, and for tents. The Mayors of the cities too expended three hundred and seventy five thousand dollars given to them for food supplies. For ne barge there were over four hundred tons, consisting of rice, codfish ham, corned beef, chicken soup, bread, milk, bacon,, sault, and vinger and other articles, besides vinegar, coffee, tea, and malted milk. About a million dollars worth of medine medicines from the medical department were also taken,. In addition to the officers and the crew of the leading ship, numbering in all three hundred and sixty men, some officers of the army, and members of the hospital corps, this ship called the the River Serpent carried a distinguished party of very scientific men, about fourty. These ships then sailed for the disaster zone. Only one of those ships returned with the purpose of telling in reports that no ship can go through and live in hell. The situation seemed to have awkened even Hickencile to the extent of the disaster in Calverinia. However it was rumored that the Kickencilian presses in their newspapers teemed with rebukes of the Uh "Unwary Governments of the States thus devastated, and one printed an article in which it attacked the governments of Angelinia And Calverinia States, on the charge of being too overconfident and claiming they were as wholly responsible as Glandelinia if the disaster was her doing.

Intend for g'ancing the scenes observed at Abbi nn was beyond his conception and even now he co ld hardly believe his e ..... He had been even in his earlier days a resident of the city, and now h where the most picturesque city of the Calverinian State had stood, he and his followers found only a perfect necatomb of wreckage, burned buildings, and natural immense funeral pyres of charred bodies of human beings and also animals.The scene was more appalling, than the desolation of Adeleheid, for in the latter city the victims were buried out of sight entirely, beneath the wreckage of the buildings, while in Abbieann they were to be seen in every concievable position, lying as they were killed, in buildings partly standing but walls torn out, amid the wreckage of fallen buildings or in any place and in anywhere where the Red and Explosion death dealing horror overtook them. And Starring also was surprised to have heard and even to know that among the first of any vessel to reach the scene, and which braved every danger of the trip even in the work of rescuing refugees from forest fires, and still facing dire peril, was the Mary Jane the very ship of which captian he employed. No other vessel had even so much as dared to procede the Mary Jane, and so from no other source but from the Mary Jane could come any graphic description of the sights and scenes in the stricken country and the city itself.

And the members of his party were only two real military officers, the Rangers of whom each number took turns for each day out, some Volcano Scientists which were of much value at that, and others.

Starring had now been in this vinicty for four days and all this time partial darkness overhung the town, ever since the Mary Jane entered the roadstead of the city, owing to the pull of forest fire smoke which rested above the scene long seas of clouds forwarning the approach of a great storm. The coast w river front was alive with all kinds of wreckage floating past, and at times the water was even now filled with w swollen bodies and masses of debris from the wrecked houses from the upper parts of the town.

They had first entered the city from what had been the scene of the main shipping and had remained in for four days, and then went on board the boat, for a day or two and then were in the city again. Ner the curve of the river, several small houses were found but little injured, but their occupants had all perished. They had apparently died from suffocation, or by the shock of the blasts. They were not burned, and some were found sitting in positions as easy and as natural as though still living.some were lying in bed half so skeletons all of them. The extreme northeastern section of the city which was thought to have perished altogether without even a sign of a house remaining was found to have escaped almost entire. The flood of waters stopped and turned aside within two hundred feet of this section of the city.

Starring and all with him went through all the principal streets of this part of Abbieann, including Central Avenue, Abbieann Avenue, and Crossroads Street. The residents residents or residences on upper Abbieann were utterly annihilated instead of spared as the note said. The lower section of the northwestern part was still swimming in flood waters. Complete destruction had fallen upon all parts not even touched by the flood, and the wreckage of many houses not belonging to Abbieann had been swept down into the level below. Starring believed that the upt uprooting, twisting, and breaking of the trees was such as might have occured in a tornado. The trees were all lying bent toward the south. what astonished the party most however was the comparatively small number of bodies found, and yet it is known that probably the whole population had perished.He said;

"It is written in the news that some 30,000,000perished in Abbieann alone. Evidently Evidently millions of bodies were cremated by the fires smouldering for weeks in the wreckage or of those who were swept away by the floods. Indisputable evidence of this has been found. In numerous cases of parts of bodies which we or others of our follwers have found the rest were consumed. It is believed that the majority of the people died in the ruins and those who may have tried to escape into the streets up here, were killed by the posionous smoke hurled by the explosions. This has been indicated by many of the corpses, many of which we have discovered with their hands lifted to their mouths, as though to avoid suffocation."

"I could recount many strange incidents in this city."said one of the Rangers. I"I found the charred remains of a little girl, with a silk handkerchief, unburned and in perfect condition, held to her lips. I saw also near a heap of smoking ruins, side by side with bodies burned to a crisp, other bodies but slightly burned or not burned at all. Some articles of clothing also on the bodies were not even scorched."

"Yes" declared another Ranger," and I havescseen persuses found almost intact. I also found contents of houses h to not totally ruined, sucked out as if from a vacuum and also in other half ruined houses the contents had been entirely destroyed, except the bee bedding and the picture frames on the walls. I observed that remains of furniture were left in some cases, and in a few instances have come across places were all the furniture was in good condition."

"It's a wonder these ruins are not under military guard, assisted by the Navy and the Marines" said Starring."Of course i seems impossible to patrol the entire area of such ruins, but you must know" that in spite of the almost complete destruction valuables everywhere are exposed rich temptation for the Glandelinian invaders and ghouls should they arive. Goods in many of the storehouses are burned and destroyed of under the rubbish, but much that is of value remain to be preyed upon by Glandelinia Vandals.."

"Isappose we'll have the forest fire covering us all the while we are here." said Angeline pichee who was with them on this occassion with the three other child scouts."The ruins is constantly darkened by this low cloud of thick smoke, which has risen from the distant and near approach of the fires."

They now came to where the main River roadstead was, and it presented a most fearful wreck. and appearance being littered with the wreck of many ships. The wreck of an immense steamer lay in the roadstead a charred hulk. The experience of these adventurers who went through the ruins of this section of the city has no parallel. It was a city accursed. Water could not be obtained except from the river, and the was filthy and hot, the air was hot and stifling, and a terrible sickening deadly odor of burned and decaying fleshhhpervaded the whole places. and the sights and the scenes in the streets made their feel ill.....

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inhabitants suddenly sank beneath the lake without giving a single person time to even

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not any of the dead could be recognized. No one had ever come to Abbieannto to identify the bodies from the location of the homes of the dead, for Abbieann had not been been open to approach. It had been expected that relatives from the interior and from neighboring towns would come to identify the dead, but no, no troops or men had ever come to inter the bodies, which had been burned in heaps amid the wreckage. The whole country was suffering from the general demoralization. Because of the disaster the whole nation was under a most terrible strain, and showed the results..... At every other disaster glandelinian prisoners of all kinds and been brought to the wrecked cities and pressed into service, why not here? Indeed it seemed as if the whole of Calverinia was totally demoralized, and it was almost impossible to preserve order under the awfull circumstances.

"The only living persons who we believe have come through the disaster alive are those who were in this river roadstead on some of these ships" said Starring."

"Yes and it is republe that many hundreds from the neighboring districts whose bodies strewed the waters of the still remaining flood were lost in a maddened flight from the forest fires, which they attempted in small boats. From some of the survivors it is learned I presume that in the insane panic, which attended the forest fires the people seized pon over the frailest boats to get away. In this way I am sure many were lost who might otherwise have been saved."

Talks with survivors of the disaster had confirmed the awful suddenness of the catastrophe. The explosions must have occured near the edge of one of the forest fires and therefore an enormous quanity of gas or heatened air was hurled forward toward the city, producing great atmospheric pressure, which overwhelmed everything before it. As hour after hour went by, for time passes even in a scene of horror, their work of investigation advanced with varying speed. Sometimes the forest fires were apparently near, and then again they would close in on the scene, darkening the path way of the explorers in the desolated city.

"It is only possible to penetrate the city from the south" said Starring. Where the houses were more thickly built, the debris hurled by the explosions have the great est depths. It is now hardening into the debris of the fallen buildings probably hiding the bodies of the countless numbers the falling buildings buried and engulfed in an indescribably horrible horrible doom."

Starring saw evidences of the reports that gases absorbed by the bodies of the victims caused the to burst, and the flames crept in the wreckage soon afterwards carbonized them.. In every hand here and there the wreckage had formed immensound and immense and horrid funeral pryes, and scenes beggaring description was here and there.. In the narrow streets, in the gardens and the fields, partly covered by the deposit of explosion debris that settled after the crushes had ceased followed by the whirlwind of of fire thousands of bodies are lying. Above and beyond the present horror there was in the mind of Starring a still greater horror. The plague stalks in the wake of this enormous disaster.

"It ought no lone longer be a disagreeable duty for us now" said starring."It is a duty to the cause. The many large numbers of the dead in this city must be disposed of or the country will be given over to a most tremendous plague that will sweep the whole world, and blot b the country of Calverinia from the world entirely. put we have not the means and the material for the work.It would take a forest of wood, and a sea of oil to help us in our plan. There are countless corpses in every direction and unless the nation soon provides means to get rid of all these bodies, a terrible plague will sweep the whole nation. It has not been possible for us et to approach the center of the northern section of the city, and our own work has not been progressing. It is not fame that we are seeking, nor honor, but trying to render our country a service. It would be impossible to do anything at all but for the despairing energy of the men who have lost family and fortune in the catastrophe. No one has any means of telling just or how many died in the overwhelming destruction of so big a city."

"Many cities are being crwoded with countless refugees of all disasters, past and present." said one of the Rangers," and food up north also is becoming so scarce that alarm was felt that it would all be exhausted before supplies could reach there. I have heard that refugees from forest fires arive by boatloads every day at Pandora. every ship obtainable and small river coasting vessels as can be found are busy in bringing in the refugees to that city.A a result of their efforts the people who flad to the hills behind the village of Perdride, nearly four hundred thousand were brought there. They are all in a most pitabl condition imaginable, hundreds and thousands of them frightfully burned, and in urgent need of medical care.And all the doctors and nurses in Pandora were said to be working night and day among the injured, assisted by scores of volunteer nurses, many women of the wealthiest families of Pandora giving their services. Many of the refugees said, that approaches to any of the towns of the flood zone is still impossible, and that it is feared an awful famine is raging.

A week ago sir, a number of steamers, including the government Vessel Rubistor, started from Pandora for as I heard for the flood zone. They carried government deligates, a number of marines a detatchment of regular infantry, and thirty priests and twenty nuns.The vessel also carried a quanity of fire wood, petroleum, and quicklime for use in the necessary cremation of the bodies of the flood victims. This ship never reached its destination.. It came back saying the way was unapproachable.. The refugees had as a general rule assembled at Calsa Mc-Hollester and Salisbury Run

not far from Pandera, and it was reported that over ten thousand f[illegible] had died, since the fearful [illegible] of fire had driven them from their homes, from the fire and other injuries they had suffered....."

Starring took a walk up and down the shore of the river for a considerably distance, and saw the river as far as he traveled was covered with the wreckage of the river vessels sunk in the river harbors of Abbieann at the time(get your dine) of the disaster, and ashore in the direction of the explosion area only a few trees, all bent riverward by the force of the explosion air waves were left standing out of a gigantic forest of those days before, all consumed in the fires.while investigating this, starring noted the thickness of the forest on the opposite shore, and thought to himself, " if the forest fire ever strikes there I'll claim the world is burning." The heat from the smoking ruins beyond was suffocating, and the stench from the corpses strewn steeets streets was simply dreadful. This had not been looked for but on all sides were found portions of corpses, which were still remaining all half skeletons or entire skeletons. Not a drop of water could be had, and the darkness caused by the cloud of m smoke continued to shroud the town, and continuous rumbling sounds added to the horror of the scene.

At the landing place by the river some burned and ruined walls indicated the spot where a custom house had formely stood, and traces of many larger ships shops could be seen. And in that neighborhood hundreds and thousands of skeletons or half skeletons could be seen and were lying in all kinds of attitudes in their half burned beds amid the wreckage showing that the victims had met death as if by a lightning stroke. Curiously enough, the features of those still not too totally decomposed were generally calm and reposeful, but grim piles of half skelontons were almost stacked everywhere, showing that death had stiken these while they were vainly seeking escape from inside the down crushing houses.

And as a result of his inspection. starring reported to the captian of the ship, and who wrote down the reports, that crevices and valle s had been formed by the immense force of the explosions near the northern section of the city of Abbieann... Fortunately that part of the country had not been inhabitanted at the time,,, but nevertheless tha that kind of a change appeared to be remarkably unusual.. starring also recorded down in writings of the fact that the dearth of provisokns provisions was beginning to be felt throughout o the country, and recorded also the numbers of the numerous families, whic which had been completely ruined by the disaster, and who were without shelter, while the means at the disposal of the Calverinian authorities were absolutely absolutely inadequate to cope with the unusual distress.....

Though even now it was so late in September all communications were still practically cut off with Calverinia, and the whole world by boat and rail, and wire and telegraph and so forth, except by stray river vessels seized upon by the inhabitants of the flood region to fleefrom the disaster zone and seek refuge further north,, and to escape also the fury of the enemy.. starring also said to the captian;

"To morrow I want you to make a trip into the city and see for yourself. The destruction is more appalling than ever the greatest descriptions of the news, and the magazines even gave. The streets are in many places ten feet deep in debris and smoking cinders cinders, which covers countless thousands of the dead bodies, scorched black and shiny as if they had been plunged into boiling pitch.. Many of the dead were not touched by the fires in the ruins, and many of the houses and woodwork shattered by the concussion of the blust shows no signs of burning. At Center Street the only street navagiable to some degree, in the southern portion of this northern section of the city, the city hall is still standing as high as the third story, while the Juvinile Court building some distance away, you can see the most massive stone work is calcined. The church tower of St Andrews Catholic Cathedral built by the money of the people over a century ago of Cyclopean work, mostly masonry, is now like a huge heap of old metal.

The stench throughout these sections of Abbieann is terribly offensive. All the streets I have gone through are all obstructed by huge huge piles of debris and dead bodies all half or whole skelontons by this time.

If it is ever done in many weeks past, the work of clearing the the thoroughfares will necessitate the employment of large numbers of men for years. Only portions of Center Street I is preserved to some degree, and a great number of buildings at Esther and Melborn Avenues are slightly subject except for the loss of windows, but all the people found in bed there are were skeletons and the places swell worse than any one can conclude.. I don't believe a single person in the city survived. Those not killed by the explosions and the crashes of the falling buildings no doubt died in the flood by drowning. Assistance to the whole nation is necessary."

"What because of the section of the city near Lake Angelino?" asked the captian.

"They say it sunk under the water." said Starring."There is some evidence of that happening. The Abbieanian State Consul at Punr Pandera, Signor Paloma, recognized evidences of this and so did his daughter who came for the purpose to see what the scene was like.. West of the lake I hear many houses were seen partly submerged in the water. The scene is unusual more like that of a natural earthquake. In investigating the spot it was found that a section of the city covering over two million

inhabitants suddenly sunk beneath the lake without giving a single person time to even awaken from their sleep."

"I'll have to see that to believe it." said the captian. "some fanitic must have been tremendously excited to state such a thing. If it did happen then this disaster is a natural phenomenom....."

The way to Center Street was almost impassable, but the next morning Starring and the captian went there, followed by only Angeline Riches and Jennie Turner. The streets leading to the Central division was also almost impassable ever for one on foot but they strove to go through. The streets were filled with the trunks of trees, and general wreckage hilled hurled from the hillsides, and the debris smouldering in places were exceedingly deep. The entire hillside west of the city boked dangerous, appearing as though it might entirely collapse. From a careful inspection of a dead horse and rider is was apparent that their limbs became ridig rigid the moment they fell. The rider's left leg was in the air eacthough it had become stiff while he was in the act of falling. There was seen to be another corpse under the horse, showing only the portion of one leg.....

There was very little odor perceptible in this vinicity. This was probably due to the fact that all the exposed parts of the bodies were burned hard and dry. Starring hit one of the bodies with a stick and it sounded as though a stone had been struck. He also observed that under the fallen trunk of a large oak trees many bodies lying in a perfect line in beds also arranged in line. How these got here in this position was a mystery. The streets here only contained charred and burning remains. Starring secured some relics from one of the Cathedrals at Abbieann. He took the relics for safe keeping on account of hearing that Glandelinians were really around. Starring had at last began to wake up to the fact that Glandelinians were coming into the ruins, and that they were on the look out for him.

Once already he had to call his assistants to him for help in battling off the Glandelinians who were once closing in on him to capture him. Eventually about fifty of the Glandelinians were shot down, and the rest dispersed. The Glandelinians however still kept at work among the ruins of Abbieann keeping an eye on him, and starring not being able to cope with the situation, although he was doing his best, kept a watch on them too, and many were killed or wounded in the course of fights with starring and his hands, and the Glandelinians were to be seen occasionally in considerable numbers. Among some of the captured Glandelinians was a former deputy mayor of the town of Galisbury Run. These traitors were sentenced to face the firing shquads for Glandelinians shadowing starring recieved no quarter.

Various mobs of starrings men tried to linch Glandelinians caught shadowing starring and others, and cries of linch them filled the air, and it absolutely was done when they were caught. Even by these Glandelinians many bodies, safes and strong boxes in the ruins were robbed, and ghouls began to overrun the burned city, so that starring and his followers were in constant danger. Pattering crowds of gangers and soldiers on the ship roamed through sections of the city in search of these Glandelinians, and summary justice was dealt to the vandals when they were caught red handed at their fearful work which was done on purpose to frustrate Starrings investigations, and rifle fire was heard continually.

About fourty of the Glandelinians were surprised and captured, and brought before Starring, who ordered them brought on the ship and place placed in chains in the hold and to be guarded. He decided to question their being there as he was suspicious. He was sure now Glandelinia was responsible for the disaster for why should these Glandelinian soldiers strive so desperately and persistently to frustrate him in his work.

During the time of this excitement, the distant forest fires again resumed a more threatening aspect. On the slopes to the far south, three luminous seas were visible. Similar pints were observed several days before. Starrings men showed renewed alarm. During one of the skirmishes with the Glandelinians, Starring passed a railroad station where a large pile of bodies were lying face downward as if the victims had fallen while in the act of running to escape the fate impending over them.

One one wrecked distillery a quantity of alcohol was found intact in casks.. Outside of the skulking Glandelinians no other person was seen anywhere. Even late as it is since the disaster, many buildings in the city and the surrounding fire district were still burning.

Starring made a visit to the site where St Michaels Cathedral had stood, in the face of all these perils, and where he observed a portion of the building was still standing. The large bells lay in the center of the ruins, but the whole alter had not been destroyed, and the golden chalices were still there, damaged however by falling debris. In one chalice was seen the ashes of what had been the Host. A small chalice was full of the little Hosts not one of which had been charred. It was known that many persons who may have escaped from the buildings in the first shocks and escaped and took refuge in this cathedral perished, but their bodies were scarcely visible, being covered with the debris. A large statue of the Virgin on her high alter was hurled yards distance from its base. This together with the fact that huge trees were torn up everywhere around the Cathedral and laid flat scarce one being left standing, and other evidence changed that the concussions of the explosions may have produced air waves of extreme hurricane velocity. Every house, not excepting those that were most solidly built of stone was absolutely in ruins. The streets here were piled twenty five feet high in debris, and hundreds of skeletons could be seen in every direction.. Near

Near Central Av nue Starring saw five t sely hundred bodies t at were burn d to a crisp, some immensely distended, and in an advanced state of decom sition. The body of a little girl was fo nd f und in a n ar by house, to which she had apparently fled in the hope of saving herself from the fiery clouds hurled by the explosions. A large body of bodies were observed in this spt. One house sheltered partly by a taller building escaped almost without injury. The windows of course were gone, but inside the furniture, papers, books, clothing, and the flooring was unscathed..

Starring and his investigating parties discovered safes, and molten precious metals in stores and burned dwellings of the towns. Near by was another Cathedral all down, with the exception of the left tower, and of the Priest house the walls alone remained standing.. The convent near by, which contained over thirty six hundred girls, and two hundred nuns, had disappeared, as did the college where a hundred and fifty boys, and twenty six presits preists and professors were teaching,

Starring and his followers discovered many strange incidents, as investigations went on. Bodies often were found in bed. In another house a mans skeleton was found sitting at a table with a pipe in his charred fingers and opposite him sat the skeleton of a child. A mothers skelton skeleton was found with two skeleton children in her arms. Another skeleton was found with a well preserved rosary in his hands..He had been killed while saying the rosary. All of the oldest families and generations of Abbi nn were wiped out.

Starring therefore knew that in Pandora there were many women and children so nearly starved that it was feared they might die before relief ca came, and indeed Pandora and seen Calverine became important centers in Calverinia because of the annihilation of Abbieann which had been the greatest commerci cial and industrial and railway center and the point of distribution of merchandise and every article for the entire country.If Chicago and New York would both be wiped out in the United States, the effects would be the same. Calverinia was paralized.Happily the large consignments of supplies from the neighboring cities and towns as well a as the wealth of the relatives of the victims of the disaster prevented great suffering there. Throughout northern Calverinia, and other northern Abbieannian States hundreds of great banks and small ones closed entirely o on account of the disappearance of the city which was the chief source of supply.

Abbieanniaysure was hard hit.

8-25-54

Chapter 3 ~~Section~~ Seventeen

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MIGHTY IA AGATHIA,

DOROTHY GALE,,,

AND ABBIEANN, THE MAIN CITIES AFFECTED BY THE BIGGEST DISASTERS OF THE WZR WAR SO FAR...

NEVER before has the whole of Calverinia yet experienced such disasters. True there had been real natural frequent earthquakes in Calverinia and the other Abbieannian States, and all along the Angelinian Coasts, and also accompanying some of the eruptions of their volcanoes, and occasionally only slight tremers have been felt in other sections but the damage done to life and property in every instance was nil. Therefore these horrors at Abbieannia and elsewhere because of the Abbieann calamity took the people of the nation by surprise, and Starring himself could not understand how the city of Angelinia Agathia so many hundreds of miles from Abbieann could have been so seriously damaged by the same shocks. He was there himself on that awful midhour hour when the city was rent asunder by a series of profound shocks, that carried death and destruction in its path, and at first he took had the natural inclination of believing it was a real earthquake, as the volcano called the Big Catherine Hill was in slight eruption at the time. It was evidently a warning of some calamity, but Starring and the population at first suspected the volcano for the disturbance and expected t it to break out into violent action. There were twenty distinct violent shocks, but was surprised the inhabitants most was the dull thundering roar far away to the north that proceeded each concussion.

The force of the concussions may be inferred from the case that the whole country between the two coa t lines of the c States and as far north as Abyssinkile felt its power to a greater or lesser degree. Angelinia Agathia however, was among the special victims of this strange elemental destruction. One third the city was in ruins and two third of its houses was damaged beyond hope of repair, and one quarter was unihabitable for weeks. Railroad and telegrpah lines were torn up and destroyed. Fir f burst forth in different sections of the city, adding to the horror of the panic of ten people, and then to make it worse a big flood inundared the city. Many hundreds of lives were lost, over 10,000 were seriously injured, and property valued at nearly five billion dollars was wrecked or destroyed.

When Starring was asked by Jane if the shocks had been felt as far south as the papersreferred he said;

"An 3 Angelinia Agathia was shaken, and shaken, a badly.I was then in the city on a furlough from the army and was among a group of strong men who shared the experiences of that awful midnight hour, and which will make me carry the recollection of it to my dying day. I and my friends did not expect to escape. We made a sudden rush simultaneously for the same windows and doors, but before these openings were reached, all of us reeled together tward the tottering wall, and stopped, and feeling that hope of escape was irvain, that it was only a question of death within the building or without to be buried by the sinking roof or crushed by the toppling walls. Then the uproar also died away in seeming distance.

It was now still, and Oh that Blessed Relief that we felt over that sudden stillness. But how rudely the silence was broken. As we quickly made a dash down the stairway and out into the street, already on every side arose the shrieks, the cries of pain and fear, the prayers and wailing of terrified women and children, commingling with the hoarse shouts of excited men. On in the wide street the air was filled with a strange whitest cloud of dry stifling dust, through which all kinds of lights flickered dimly.

And on every side were hurrying forms of men and some women and children, bare headed partly dressed, any of whom were crazed and frantic with fear, anger and excitement. Here and there I saw some woman supported half fainting in the arms of her husband who was vainly trying to soothe her while he carried her to the open space at the middle of the street, where present safty seems assured, there a woman lies on the pavement with upturned face, and outstretched limbs, and a crowd collects to try and arouse her, or find whether she is alive or dead.

Through some windows overlooking a street, in one of the higher buildings a sudden strange light flares, and it becomes quickly brighter and in a few minutes the cry- of " fire" resounds from the crowds of people. A rush is made tward the spot in an effort to put it out. A men women and some children are seen through the flames trying to escape before it is too late. But at this amment somewhere, is h ard again and again the deep ominious booming roll which is already too well known for any one to mistake it for thunder.

It grows louder and nearer, and all is forgotten in the fe frenzied rush for open space, the middle of the widest streets where only there is hope of security from the falling buildings faint even though it be. The tall buildings on either ~~city~~ side blot out the darkness of the sky, and stars, and even seem to be hanging and overhanging every foot of ground between them, their shattered cornices and coping, the tops of their frowning walls appear piled from both sides to the center of the streets. Indeed it does appear that merely a slighter shock than necessary would now send the shattered masses left standing, down upon the people below, he look up to the, and shrink together as the tremor of the shocks again sways them, and the mysterious distant detonations and reverbration swell and roll along, like some infernal drum beat, summoning them all to die.

Finally again it passes away for goodddd good, and again it can be said passes or is experienced the blessed feeling of deliverance from impending calamity which indeed it may be be believed evokes a mute but earnest offering of all kinds of prayers and thanksgivings from every heart in the throng.

One of the most awful sections of the tragedy visited a good part of Dorothy Gale three days or more after the flood had devastated Abbieann. The flood raging with a fury so terrible than no words can describe its intensity, left death and ruins behind it. One hundred and seventy two blocks in a thickly populated section of this immense city were devastated, and not a house withostood the torrent. In the main and inner sections of the city, the buildings were not much injured, but the people were marooned on their upper stories for nearly a month with very little to eat and drink, and menanced by fires that threatened th cities. The few inthe devastated districts that might have held to gether if depended non their own construction and foundations

ground and yet as it were we could not restrain an awful exclamation of horror as we saw this mass of water like an overwhelming sea, solid like rock rolling along the plain carrying the trees, large stones, and whole fields and all the towns before it. All the population of the town we were in flocked to view the scene, but were horrified nevertheless, and there were outcries of prayers, exclamations and a noise of regular confusion, as they feared too their town would also be engulfed. Indeed I did not think of our own fate at that time as we witnessed this awful scene, and to think that the greatness of the peril which threatened the whole country, made me indifferent as to the fate of myself and my own companions. In all cases, when I saw one of my familar companions nearly carried off, I even then seemed to remain indifferent, and it was only after three others of my followers had had very narrow escapes, that I succeeded in shaking off my strange apathy, and going to their assistance."

When the adventurers, stared for the upper section and last part of Abbieann, THEY WERE ABLE TO JUDGE FOR THEMSELVES INDEED THE EXTENT OF THE DISASTER MORE CLOSELY when most of the forest fire smoke had cleared off considerably by the aid of a strong westerly wind. All the country north of Abbieann through which they had passed had been laid waste. Large masses of all kinds of rocks had been detatched from the mountains and obstructed the course of streams which had overflowed their banks, or changed their all course. Whole villiages far from Abbieann had been destroyed, and all directions still still even now, rose some lama lamentations of the unfortunate inhabitants who could not get over their distress so quickly. The region over which the floods of waters had been carried was no longer to be identified as the same, covered as it was with debris of every kind, and with a thick layer of sand and mud. The concussion of the explosions had overthornw overthrown all the houses in the towns with the exception about twenty in the largest town largest town, and even these were badly damaged.

All of the buildings which were made of solid concrete and iron and brick and other solid masonry including the massive churches, were heaps of ruins, and most of the very inhabitants had perished, Starring realized more than ever that in Calverinia, disaster of this kind was invariably causing the inhabitants who could to emigrate to other countries. Old men, women and children , formed themselves in groups, and traveled through the country. They even set the drama in which they all have taken part to music and they journeyed to one villiage and another, singing or shouting the rude verses they had composed, and then sending the hat around. Many of those who could by boat raft and so forth leave the flood regions of the south did so but it was slow journey full of perils and exposure.

The western half of Bengall State, as Starring traced on his map is also a part of the disaster center, including some of the largest and beautiful towns that have been injured or destroyed. Stretching from northwest to southeast, the strings of ruined towns and villiages beginning with Cosejose and Veigolumu reaches well into the big flood region. On the northwestern shore of the flood region lies the town of Monotombia, while between the flood and this town is the city Maya. Six of the best towns have been literally blown up, one of these explosions being heard as far as previously mentioned, and the force of the explosion threw dust and lighter dirt and fragments of buildings and forests over an area estimated at 1,300,000 square miles.

Even in the State of Calverinia the big city of San Salvador, once the capital of Calverinia, also was injured by the concussions. It was to the sizes and width of the streets of this city that many of the inhabitants owed their lives, as they found in the center of these streets a refuge from their falling houses. Of course the city never theless was reduced to ha a heap of ruins, not a single building being left standing. There were pre premonitory shocks before the greater ones, and many aroused from their beds took heed of the warning and escaped to places of safty or otherwise the loss of life would have been even more terrible than it was. There were many are towns totally destroyed than can be listed here and many lives were lost.

The shocks which caused the most damage, and though produced by the explosions has or had at first a strange kind of oscillatory movement lasting over fourteen minutes and ending in a general upheaval of the oith, the result being that solid walls arches, and strongly trunced roofs, were brok broken and severed or split like pipe stems..

In the vinicity of Clasuplania it was said that a large number of small villiage villiages disappeared entirely. The city of Calverine was much shaken, considerable damage was done to buildings specially to buildings and churches and other edifices of large size, several of which were reduced to ruins. The loss of life however was quite quite small. Neverth less this was the most severe convulsion of the country for the shocks were felt over almost all the nation, causing many deaths and dest oying more property than can be believed. In Bengall Bengall state over 100,000 people lost their lives, where the concussion tore down all the buildings of every town and villiage.

It is strange too the magnitude of the disaster, for Calverinian cities and towns are famous for their size, the smallest villiages having a population of eighteen, to twenty thousand. And yet so many have been destroyed or wrecked.

these successions of tremendous shocks, which although the loss of life was smallll were exceedingly destructive to property. At the midnight hour of June The first, the inhabitants of this district, were aroused from their beds by the occurance of a fifteen min tes succession of the most peculiar and most severe shocks ever experience, and never before had the oldest inhabitant ever experienced such a thing as an earthquake. Each shock was preceeded by a strange hollow rumbling noise along the northern Horizon, and every one of the last shocks did great damage to buildings of scores of towns it was severely felt on board every ship, passengers and sailors declaring that the vessels seemed as if they were lifted bodily from the water and then allowed to fall back.

The shocks were effected markly all railroads. The stone abutments of all railroad bridges crossing streams were cracked or undermined, and the earthwork sank in all places.

In many places even, the rails were were bent or curved, as if they had been intentionally bent. The first shocks were less severe than the last, the last shock alarming the population of every city and town, and driving the inhabitants at once out of their beds, and from their houses, into the streets. This earthquake shocks produced by the terrific explosions were also felt at Tonanda, where it lasted fifteen minutes also, moving many buildings from their foundations, and creating the most intense alarm. To what extent this tendency to the explosion concussion shocks threatened the whole of Calverinia it was difficult to say. Beyond question the concussions did do a great deal of damage to many far away towns and cities, and therefore so intense was the catastrophe, and so far extended that all efforts are being made to learn its real cause..

Indeed the country keeps the whole of Calverinia continually disturbed by the disasters and various calamities of the war. Even around the deep bayd of this vast and splendid region, upon the shores laved by the waters of the Calverinian sea, and also about the large inland lakes occured disasters of every description produced or caused by the enemy. The fires also that consume the forests, so etimes burns even far beneath the soil because of the terrific heat, and al often causes serious trouble to the very landscape. In all probabilities three times within the two years, the city of Angelinia Agathia and also Dorothy Gale have been alighty destroyed by the far reaching concussions of the most tremendous explosions of the war, and there is not in all Calverinia, Angelinia Angeline Vine, and Angelinia states or any other central State of Abbieannia a single coast that has not been visited by one or more of these violent disasters . when the most fiercest of the disaster disasters occur they give rise to very strange and most singular phenomena.

Of these disasters exp especially of the Flood horror Starring had recieved the story from another eye witness. He was a engineer of bridges entrusted with an official mission, who had witnessed the Abbieannian horror in the morning at about six oclock and though he sought to conceal his identification he was generally believed to be also a christian spy, and an explorer of strange countries. Upon the day in question he was sailing down the Mic-Hollester Run River, the weather being calm, and the sun shining through the smoke haze caused by the distant forest fire. After having secured his boat to boat to the store, he landed at the entrance to the town of Colno, com and ong a view of the plain dotted with towns and strewn with trees.

Upon the opposite shore ,(east) extended the main fire threatened forests, with the dense clouds of smoke from the conflagration in the far distance. The Mayor of the town having invited the engineer and his companions to come in and rest for the night, the whole party at that midnight hour were seated beneath the veranda of the house, engaged in pleasant conversation, suddenly a loud noise was heard in the far north. The night hawks and owls and other birds flew off in terror, the distant trees bent and writhed as if a cyclone was starting, and large branches of them snapped off shrub shrubs were torn off from the ground and carried across the river. All this appeared to be the effect of the fire hurricane rushing across the river, however the whole affair only lasted thirty minutes and calm was then reestablished inn in nature as suddenly as it had been idisturbed. conversation of course, was then turned upon the phenomena just then visited or witnessed, and the night going natives of the town maintained that an atmospheric disturbance of this kind are the forrunners of the advance of the forest fire, some of them declaring that a disaster of this character had just occured somewhere in the distance.

The Mayor who acted as host and who was an elderly man much esteemed in the district for his knowledge, went on to describe many such catastrophes since the war started which he claimed he himself an had witnessed. He spoke more partic larly of the big floods just past in 1912, and other horrors. He also told his guests that some ace captian of some steamship had told him that upon the following day, when more than one hundred miles away he had found the whole country covered by a sea of smoke, and had experienced great difficulty in threading a way for his ship down the river through this dense fog of smoke, which you could not see through even a distance of ten feet.

Everyone, including a foriegner had his story to tell, and while the party were still in conversation, a terrible noise far to the north like a series of long thunder rolls was heard and a shaking of the earth followed each detonation.

At first the shocks seemed to be rising upward and then descending downward, but after a few more moments they became transformed into indulations traveling southward. Expecting it to be a sort of earthquake they wondered why the soil did not undulate like the surface of a stormy sea, but nevertheless the stress within sight by the glare of lights from the house were seen to rock to and fro so violently that the topmost branches of the big trees came in contact with the ground and snapped off. This traveler and his friends, believeing themselves themselves to be out of danger were able to follow with ever increasing interest and some awe the strange rapid phases of the disturbance, then it finally ceased. But none ever went to bed that night not a single person in the whole town.

It was not till two days after that the flood came, as it took two days to travel this far down from its source even at a speed of fourty miles an hour;

"Our attention was called" related the engineer "To a terrible commotion in the direction of the river, but I cannot express what I then saw, but I dod not know whether I a was awake or a prey to a terrible night mare, or whether I was in the world of reality or in the world of spirits. or demons. The water of the river had reace reached an unusal height, threatening to overtop the highest levees, and then ward the north an immense roll of water was seen moving down over the whole country side, which roaring and flecked with foam reached so high that it intercepted the sunlight. suddenly it seemed as if the c wall of water collpased, there was a noise like thunder, and the foaming waves obliterated the river in one sweep, and rushed toward the plain. I could see people fleeing from the towns but the wave was too swift for them. I and my own companions would have perished also if we had not been standing non highly elevated

If the glandelinians should arouse themselves and cause another such awful catastrophe the results might be terrible indeed to contemplate.. Nevertheless all those who still dwell in the war zone had in former times become indiff indifferent to a to such a possible threat after many months of war nity, but such a disaster as that of Abbieann now arouses thought and directs scrutny once more in the direction of the dangerous Glandelinian armies. and their still more dangerous generals.

Indeed the outbreak of the war itself had brought a great ocession of concussion and an other disasters,, also to the number of recorded explosion shocks and flood horrors but Calverinia alone had furnished almost innumerable instances of the various disasters. of all kinds.

By the Abbieann disaster many of the big towns named which had been swept by the awful flood also felt the concussion of the disastrous explosions. The surviving sections of prientown, which was visited by a forest fire and partly devastated in 1912 . This city with all the territory around it including Solo Schlesder Town Town was a scene of tye the concussion catastrophe. A mountain or some sort near the district was said to be split in twain, and has since remained in its cloven position. The whole districts around and far north of Dorothy Dorothy Gale city, and Angelinia Agathia was absolutely affected by the concussion, overwhelming Roan and Topsy and other towns. A portion of the river above near Dorothy Gale sank down producing an overflow of the river,, and in several mountains in the neighborhood there were started large landslides. The city of Concussion near Dorothy Gale was swallowed up by the ensuing Abbieann flood, and the flood waters still remain over its site. The beautiful river port of Dorothy Gale citybin destroyed, and part of that city almost sank beneath the w ters waters. Of course the great flood torrent which rolled over the land fro from the north overwhelmed everything. Jessica city, the town in which one devastated by earlier floods, was violently convulsed by the concussion and one third of the city was reduced into partial ruins. The shocks were continued for upwards of the same length of time, and were rep a repeated every second. The main part of Jessica must have stood it would appear however in spite of the dreadful; supposed " earthquake " but north to a great distance the shoche w shocks were experienced with more disasterous effects over a district of country country extending about one thousand two hundred and twenty miles from north to south. very town and village comprehended within this district was partially or totally reduced to ruins, except of the stronger buildings d buildings.

The shocks however were felt though, though in a milder form, over a much larger area, extending upwards of five thousand miles from north to south, and more than four thousand miles than four thousand miles from east to west. All these towns without whether ruined or not however gave no loss of life. At Evangeline St Clare city the shocks which began at the same time were said to have been secondary also. Some faint idea may be formed of the extreme violence of these concussions from the witnessed description by the mayor of that city that the dead bodies of soldiers fallen in many battlefields and buried in the ground were tossed from the graves and landed in all different places. whether the shocks were vertical or not no one states, but even as far as Evangeline St Clare they were powerful, but nevertheless did not produce a enormous displacement of the ground without being destruction to all buildings which it sustained. however the city sustained no injury, the so soil was not rent, torn asunder, or twisted in ant any manner. There was no simultaneous elevation or depression of the ground here, and people in towns who were aroused from their sleep by the noise and shocks escaped by either climbing down fire escapes or running down stairs. I natances occured of whole houses jumping in dancing fashion without being wrecked. The people remained in the streets sus subsisting on the provisions they had in store for the space of two days, untill the floods threatening the city of Evangeline St Clare drove them to higher portions. There was no loss of life in the city, neither throughout the district most convulsed, but those rendered homeless was enormous, 145,000 persons having altogether lost all they had in property.

In the city of colleen in Galilliea Run itself, the ruin from the concussion was complete. Many investigators took a plan of the place after the catastrophe, but they could find nothing but heaps of wreckage of all description. The highest buildin buildings looked tornado torn. The city of Quero Bruno on galilliea run also was likewise overthrown by the explosion concussion. At manchucia, (Galilliea Run) the ruin was worse not a building having been left standing with even the first floor. The Cathedrals of St Michael, John, and Filemon were at the moment thronged with people hearing a Mid night special mass for a petition of the ending of the war. It is said not one escaped alive. All were believed to be bruied buried along with the objects of their Holy Worship under the ruins of their Cathedrals Consecrated buildings. The village of St Ann also on the Galilliea Run containing an orphan asylum in which upwards of thirty hundred children were asleep at the time, was leveled to the ground completely like a postage stamp while he orphan asylum though razed at the left wing, was only partly damaged and of the inhabitants these little ones were the only survivors.

Although at Big Girl Knool, although so distant from the centre of the explosion disturbance,, a great deal of damage was done done to the bigger buildings and the churches and other publick public buildings by the shocks,, several being entirely destroyed. The private houses and other buildings of smaller size and moderate height however were spared. The inhabitants of this fair city, having been greatly alarmed by the uproar in the far distance had devoted the next day to carrying in ps procession through the streets the images and relics of the saints, in the hope of obtaining the favor from God of appease the actions of the ground. They were doomed to learn by experience, that any part of the country that has too much overconfidence of what they think the enemy cannot do is a very insecure idea indeed.

The city ofv Carcartor was totally destroyed, though, and besides that all of the inhabitants were buried beneath y n beneath e the ruins, only a few were killed or injured. The shocks were more severe in the northern parts of the city. The Trinity and other Cathedrals, many of which were more than two hu two hundred feet high were reduced to a mass of ruins not more than four or five feet high. The subsidence of the ruins was such that even scarcely a vestige of a pillar or column could be located though the pillars had been twenty of thirty feet thick. The barracks of a mobolization camp near this city, disappeared altogether in the floods that came down upon it, and a regiment of infantry, under arms to take part in a movement against the army was the only surviving force from a troop troop of 10,000 men. Three quarters of the city vasctotally annihilated by the flood that afterwards descended upon it. The houses that were or had not collasped, and olny had been crashed to such an extent that the inhabitants did not care reenter them were swept away by the flood. To the estimate of the five hundred thousand of these inhabitants, homeless victims caused by shocks and floodmust be added the many from other towns near by, who also were homeless and faced starvation, and were in danger of perishing for want of foood and relief. The days and

nights fol wfollowing the disaster presented the mosth lamentable scene of desolation and woe which no one could ever conclove. The thick layer of dust also which ascended from the thick layer of ruins obscured the air like mist, had again settled on the groumd, the concussions had ceased, and the nights were calm and clear. The distant glare of big fires however lighted up the scene of the flood, and the aspect of the red sky was in striking contrast with that of a land strewn with ruins and homeless refugees. In some places were a death list was known, mothers were seen running about with their children wh m whom they were vainly trying to recalll to life. Many distracted families were searching for a brother,, a husband, or some other relative or friend, whos whose fate was un n unknown to them, but who they hoped might be discovered in the crowd of refugees. The injured lying half buried n beneath the ruins were mailing making piteous appeals for help, but over twenty thousand were taken out unhurt. And never did h man kindness and sympathy reveal itself in a more touching and most ingenious fashion than in the desperate efforts to relief the sufferers whose cries were indeed so heart rending and so heart breaking to hear. There were no tools to even clear away the wreckage to rescue them, and therefore the work of relief done by the survivors had to be performed with the naked hands, and other means..

The many sick out of the hospitals all who had escaped from the ruins of the hospital buildings were carried to the open streets and squares of the city,,,, where there only,,, shelter was the sky above. The beds, the lint for binding up wounds, the surgical instruments THE MEDICINES AND ALL THE OBJE T objects of immediate necessity were buried beneath the ruins and for men there was an awful scarcity of everything, even food. Water was also terribly scarce except what ne would get from the fo flood , and then then there were very few articles to get in,. The shock had also broken up the con duits of the fountains and water mains and water works, and the upheaval had blocked up the springs that fed them. It was necessary also, to dispose of the dead, with all dispatch, and in the impossibility of of giving decent burial to so many thousand of corpses, detachments of surviving men citizens were advised to burn them. Immense funeral pyres were erected between the ruins, and the ceremony lasted several days. The fierce hundreds of shocks which had in less than even in a minute occasioned such wide spread disasters, could not be expected to have confined theirdestructive effects to one narrow zone of the Calverinian and Angelinian Contendnts, and these of course extended to a great part of Abbieannia, Abyssinkile, and especially to foriegn lands as well.

The city of Poverty Row, Vignon, La pl Polama, pl verse, El pazo, San Antonio, Mandor, La Guayra, Mayqueta, ntimango,, La Vega, San Philipe, and Al Pronis, were partially destroyed by the concussion, but the death list was considered to be nil.

The whole eastern and Western Coast of Calverinia, was also violently convulsed by thr dsuccession of shocks, the last of which were of the most greatest severity. At some points the heavings of the earth were quite perciptable to the eye. The sea rose and fell to a great extent in the harbor of Calverine, and the ships hundreds of them a peared as if they were first forced through the water,, and then struck on the ground. The town of Anna Aror Arronberg, and several others, were, said to be somewhat damaged but not completely overthrown. sounds like the loudest thunder at a distance accompanied by the shocks, and it was felt all along the whole extent of the two east coast lines. The shoc s however were most disasterous in Calverinia . The series of shocks were felt to a slight degree throughout Abyssinkile over a large extent of the country, stretc stretching from the boundary line, on the northwest border to Abbieania Abbieannia a distance of three thousand four hundred miles. The effect was mst severe about thr the southern portion of Domdobia State, where a score of s towns were shaken t enough d ring the night to excite the populace, and in Northern Calverinia, the cities of Gallisman, Fix Piscoarna. Aricanna,, Tacnaanna, Port Ilayanna, and several others were somewhat damaged, and in the western parts, many places were shaken badly. A small city called groco was engulfed in the ensueing flood, and its site will always now be occupied by a lake formed by the flood.. owever it is claimed in this locality there wase no loss of life, or any one injured though hundreds of thousandw were rendered homeless.

The concussion shocks were experienced, and of a serious character over large areas around Delight's Junction. At Simbaam S Junction, the shocks of the severest nature lasted over ten minutes, somewhat with a veritical motion, as if the ground not only danced under foot but made the buildings also do many funny and yet strange atics. In Headrick Section of the city, two big Cathedrals and many buildings were damaged and barracks of thebesieging armies housing millions of soldiers looked as if they were blown down. No one however was killed, and the shelterless were forced to seek refuge in the higher sections of the beseigning lines from the floods, and much damage was done to pr property. Some of the most disasterous effects of the shocks visit d Calman and Headwick City, the region of its influence, extending all the way from from Abbieann. It was felt perceptibly at Headwick City, ten ten thence it traveled north but losing intensity as it went, untill it reached the southern boundary of Abbieannia State, where its work of destruction lessened. southward it traveled, beginning with great intensity injr injuring some buildings in Mandrill, Aldron, and dr destroying in some parts the cities of Cucuta Run, San Antonio Junction, and Santiago Crossroads, and yet causing no deaths, but rendering homeless many scores of thousands of people.

During the shocks, for fifteen minutes a succession of strange rumbling sounds in the far distance was heard,, not beneath the ground, but along the northern horizon line,,, and for every sound the shock was felt, with intensity according to the measure of sound and concussion. The premonitory symptom was followed by the last and worst sounds by the most terrific of the shocks. In Apirania , it shook down the walls of houses, tumbled down churches, and the principal buildings, and rendered the citizens homeless. there being a loss of life of near sixteen thousand or more. The worse of the shocks completed the ruin, and to add to the horrors of the calamity, the piana forest region east of the city broke out into fierce conflagration, the fires gaining in such immense quanities of conflagration that the city was threatened and all surviving men of every town went to fight the fire and fortunately brought in under control.

Ekm some of the severest shocks of the concussion was also felt throughout Mullegatt State, which destroyed a considerable prtion of the town of Miles center. The worst shocks only lasted twenty seconds, but in that time the portion of the town facing the direction of the sounds was laid in complete and total ruins. Every one of the population in that section were killed. T...

Chapter Eighteen

THE FIRE HURRICANE CROSSES THE RIVER.
WHAT OCCURS ON THE MARY JANE.
TERRIBLE AND HARROWING SCENES.
THE ROADSTEAD OF ABBIEANN SWEPT BY A WHIRLWIND OF FIRE. SAILORS SCORCHED TO DEATH AT THEIR POSTS. SCENES ON THE MARY JANE, AND HEROISM OF CAPTIAN SAUNDERS AND STARRING AND CREW OF THE SHIP. ..

To begin with on the twenty eight day of september 1913 starring and all those on board the ship waiting for another favorable moment to enter Abbieann to explore the Lake Angeline Section which was said to have sank beneath the waves had the worse and most tryingexperience of their lives, a when a whirlwind of fire that burst in fury from the southwest and east simultaneously swept the citys River roadstead clear of everything within sight, save Starrings ship which though set afire and badly damaged was released from her moorings by the scorched and burned survivors among her crew, crawled pitifully away with dismantled rigging and charred sheets, an unrecognizable hulk gray with ashes blown from the forests and wi h with dead men lying where they fell among her decks. The vessel had been on the west side of the river harbor when the fiery conflagration of the forest wraped the shrouds of the densest forests around eastern Abbieann in sheets of flame.

As if in terror of that withering sea of fire, the waters of the river seemed to change its course. The force of the f hurricane accomplished this and for a distance of a hundred feet it swept backwards in a wrong direction seemingly tward the vortex of the fire hurricane, which rushed in persuit of the fleeing waters. In another moment the mighty river returned to its course and like an enemy turned upon its persuer, and like a fearful tidal wave it swept back tward the north lifted the burning ship high into the air, and engulfed a part of the ruined city. When the strange river tidal wave had spent its force, the waters of the river were thick with the burned wreckage of the shore and city, and in the midst of it the sailors of the Mary Jane were strugg ling desperately for life. And as they fought and chocked, and fainted and sank, the fiery hurricane raged furiously and hot around them, and yellow sulphuricus fumes and thick chocking smoke hastened the merciful h end for many.

It was a terrible experience for starring for few of his followers came out of that awful bat baptism of fire and water alive. The experience goes as follows;

The Mary Jane had cast anchor and held in the rivers roadstead ever since the arival of at Abbieann, and Starring had investigated the city for about six days with some findings which seemed to prove the indications that the disaster was not caused by volcanic eruptions. She had passed once already through a terrific bath of fire on her way to Abbieann and with some loss at that time.

Angeline pichee was in a boat alongside the steamer chatting with starring about the adventure so far, when one of the Rangers on deck noticed it was growing very dark as if a thunderstorm was coming, and a greaw great winstorm was rising while in the southwest there was a terrific sheen of light extending from the horizon from end to end.in another direction about the southeast there was a terrific wall of rolling smoke and it seemed to move forward with the speed of a tornado cloud.

Thinking it was such he shouted" Tornado."

Angeline ichee with her heart almost in her mouth from the shock looked, and saw the tremendous cloud of smoke spreading with terrific rapidity over the southern n and eastern section of the great forests near Abbieann, a forest so thick that only you could go through by roadways and paths. elsewhere a body could not squeeze between the trees. she looked in terror and quickly or an instant later the corner section of this forest was enveloped in a sheet of flame that spread like a flood, and the terrific wind rained sparks and flaming embers on board.

"Quick for heavens sake get on board" s screamed the Rangers, " and she did so. She had just time to climb on board, when her boat disappeared, and the terrific hurricane increased to a cyl cyclonicwind and before you could wink an eye the whole wall of forests before their view burst into flames.

"clear the deck every one of you " shouted starring, grabbing Jennie Turmer by the arm and pulling her along with you."Captian get the ship going quick."

Several of the crew started for the pilot house but were quickly scorched to death. Starring rushed to the Engine room yelling frantically;

"Get the engines going for heavens sake."

"Why whats the matter"!Cried the Engineer."Are the glandelinians attacking,!" and he asked this question as he rushed to obey the order.

"No its worse than that" shouted Starring."The world is on fire."

"Good God" cried the engineer, and by supper human efforts, having steam up fortunately the cable was slipped, and the steamer buoled away from the shore, and then started .. scene worthy for a million dollar moving picture of this drama alone.

while the ship started to back off, the Mary Janes officers and crew had a thrilling experience which never again o would they wish for. As the ship started a rain of fiery embers began to fly all about, and sulphurious ps posionous fumes from the burning pine and hemlock trees , began tl to envel pe the Abbieann harbor, and the flames reaching clear across the river, and sh eting the very sky overhead with a cloud of booming flames threatened to envelope the ship.

There was a terrible uproar on shore as if a tornado was lashing the burning forests which became like a molten planet, and the captian ordered all speed ahead, and dashed for the pilot house himself, and steered for the open waters, closing the door to keep out the heat and the wild windows also.

Amid the terrible excitement the officers and crew jumped below, and closed all the hatches to shut out the flames and smoke. The captian remained atbhis wheel too

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was finally forced to run below, badly burned, and the ship with no guiding hand at her helm ran her own race for safty, but seeming to close in more nearer to the burning side of the shore. The chief clerk, five of the crew, and the supercargo, jumped overboard before they could be restrained and were scalded to death in the water.

The suddenness of the unusual catastrophe nerved Starring and for a time he was not courageous enough to dare take the hem helm himself, and when he then summoned courage to try it, Jennie Turner threatened to shoot him if he placed himself in that dangerous place. Five sailors were seen to fall dead at their post, while assisting in the work of slipping the anchors. As far as eye could reach the fire ran along the shore like the speed of a hurricane. The river was moving back on its course at the time instead of running its usual way.

The water was finally coming back however and the ship was tossed high in the air on a crest of water like an upheaveaned ocean, whirled around, and its deck houses went in splinters. The engineer with str steam on, crowded on all speed for the open river to escape what did seem like the fulfillment of the biblical prophecy of the end of the world but as there was no guiding hand at the helm the ship was was drifting closer to the roaring seething hell on shore.

those daring to take chances experienced the greatest difficulty in trying to reached the burning pilot house, and appalling sounds were issueing from the flame swept valleys and hillsides east of the city, which were shrouded in smoke and flame. All the Rangers were up, and some despite the peril were trying to obtain photographs of the scene, and Angeline Riches and Jennie Turner thought they were fools.

Suddenly Starring and the others heard a tremendous explosion on shore and wondered what the fire had struck. The wind blew thick clouds of red hot ashes on deck, and he could see a black s cloud sweeping down upon the river. He ran below into the lower cabin, taking the two girls with him, and sprang into the room and shut the door to keep out the heat, which was almost unbearable. The ship rocked, and Starring expected that every moment it would sink.

"For heavens sake open the door" cried some one outside. "For heavens sake open the door."

Starring had to summon courage to open the door, but he did. and dragged the first mate in quickly.

It soon became unbearably hot inside, but as it seemed the wind had died down Starring took the courage to go on the lower deck. All about to his horror were lying dead and dying. some of them were moaning for water, and Starring did what he could for them, while a sailor took the helm. Starring obtained water, but when it was held to their swollen lips, they were unable to swallow because of the heat which roasted the inside of their throats. One man took water in this method, and risn rinsed out some of the ashes, but even then could not swallow, so badly was his throat burned. He sunk back unconscious, and a few moments later died.

All aft the ship was afire, and from the burning landscapes came drafts of most terrible heat, and the distant hillslopes looked as if they were covered with glaring lava. One man becoming crazed from the heat, flung himself into the river, but starring jumped overboard after him. The water was almost hot enough to parboil him, but a wave of fresh water soon swept in from the north bringing with it cooler water. Starring and the man he had rescued was caught in the wave, which was of tidal velocity, and carried down the river, and was washed against an upturned sloop to which he clung. The man Starring had rescued was in dreadful agony, and kept begging piteously to be put back on the ship. Picking up some wreckage, and a floating tool chest, starring managed with the aid of others who came to join him made a rude raft, on which he placed the man he had rescued. Seeing an upturned boat, He asked one of the six men to swim for it and bring it over so the rescued man may have an opportunity to live. The man succeeded in getting the boat righted, but instead of being able to return the current of the river swept him and the boat down stream and he was drowned.

Seeing the ship coming back for him, Starring made the raft head for the ship and he and the man were helped aboard. The others had taken to the shoreward of the city to escape the biting heat.

The gangwayman whose life was saved, by Starring, told of a woman and child on board the ship was was who was burned to death while she held her aby inher arms, protecting it with her own body from the fire that filled the air. The children were alive long after their poor mother had ceased to suffer.

Another officer of the Mary Jane who was saved also by walter Starring, was Henry Altaths the second mate of the Steamer. While the rescue work was going on, there was a sudden and most terrific report, and a part of the forest seemed to give vent to an ugly mass of dark rolling smoke, which spreading over the entire region for about seventee seventeen miles suddenly broke into a solid flame of fire. The fire had struck an oil and tar bog in the forests, and this flame spreading with hurricane speed, spread the densest black smoke over the river and forests and over the entire city, enveloping all the view in a perfect maelstrom. A tidal wave of shooting fire passing over the river , and fire, mud, flaming oils, and hot stones rained upon the decks of the Mary Jane. Starring was again forced to take refuge in the cabin, burying himself in the bed clothes. The man however who were not dead nor disabled fought the ships fire desperately, while the captian again took the helm. The awful cloud of fire tepeling rising and surging and roaring across the sky from the blazing forests was seen to sweep with lightning spp speed up the hillsides, and toward the city and the North end of the river.

"My God, if it reaches there and caches we are trapped" shouted starring. "Engineer put on full speed. We must race the fact." fire."

"I've got on all the steam she,ll give" the engineer cried. Everyone was scattering before the rain of fiery debris, when again with a frightful roar, and something like a like a terrific fireworks display, another cloud of fire swept up over the straight north bursting all before it, and taking a racing speed for the north end.

"We have to beat that horrid fiery choking whirlwind of fire before its envelopes north Bend." said Starring. "Jennie Turner go to sh below and see if you can aid the engineer put on more steam. Mary the ship is afire aft, and the men are fighting it forward. We must succeed or we cannot escape and will be burned."

One of the firemen who was off duty at the time and who had been on deck admidships and who had escaped the horror rushed below. another man got to the windlass, and some thing knocked him flat. The captian though sticking to the ships helm was horribly burned. It seemed he had inhaled some of the flames, but he hung on to save the ship and the rest, even though some of the other crew wanted to jump into the river. Indeed the captian was a brave man too brave to be burned to death. It was now five minutes since the terrible scene started and the captian finally got the ship into the middle of the stream. One of the seamen who was so frightfully burned that he could not live havi having inhaled flame, said in weak tones that no one would pull through the " hell". Starring sure hoped to beat in the race with that cyclone of smoke and fire, but such was the poisonous choking nature of the smoke that it seemed to burn worse than the fire, and no one of the survivors could remain on deck. The cloud seemed bigger than the biggest storm clouds, and the fire seemed to burn the forests everywhere at once and the heat was so tremendous that some of the ruins in the city far away began to smoke.

Another member of the crew escaped death, when after being thrown overboard, he fastened himself to the bowsprit of the vessel, which stood out of the water, when the ship for a moment or two ran aground on a river shallows, and he was saved, just as the vessel plunged into deep water again. Just as he was saved there was a roar that rent the air and sky, and mas made the masts of the ship to quiver, and the ship to shiver as thoughshe were alive. No one could describe the noise for it left some of the hearers sense senseless for an instant. The whole sky was black, and there was a great upright sheet of flame, that must have reached for numberless miles, and which pierced the great rolling clouds in undulating waves.

Once the ship was only a few hundred feet from the shore, and it seemed only an instant before the fire began to come clear up the to the very edge of the shoreline burning the trees now at the very waters edge. The whole forests seemed swallowed up in an undulating sea of fire. The fire streaming onward also reached the edge of the shore of the River Podstead, and there was an awful hissing sound, as the burning trees and fire brands fell into the water. The air was seething with flames, the sky was all afire, and hell indeed seemed to break loose.

The mad race for north end was on. As the ship steamed on with her engines running almost above their speed, Angeline Riches taking the chances after wetting her clothes went on deck. Just as she did so some one hollered;

"Look at the forest on shore."

As she reached the deck she saw the vast cloud of smoke and fire, and the same man shouted " it is coming over the river. Go below for your life."

Indeed she rushed to the saloon. just as she reached it she experienced a feeling of suffocation, followed by intense heat. The ship broke into flames at another quarter as just as the flames aft were put out. The ships carpenter assisted Angeline Riches and Jennie Turner and the two boy scouts to a better quarter. with the help of a ranger he brought down a cot, and upon this the two girl scouts were placed. While this was being done another sailor died. The carpenter brought the two little girls water at great personal danger. The two girls suffered some burns. It was a long run for the ship to pass through the shower of embers and fire and clouds of smoke to race the conflagration to north end. The ship had half war more to go yet, and the ship was covered with a mass of fine gray ashes from the wind blown smoulders from the blaze. In some places it lay in drifts on the decks. This had fallen in a red hot state all over the steamer setting fire to everything it struck that could burn, and when it fell on men on board burning off limbs, and large places of flesh. This was shown by finding portions of human remains, when after the excitement was over and the decks were cleared of the debris.

The rigging, rops, tarpualins, and awnings, were charred or burned, and most of the upper stanchions and spars had been swept overboard, or destroyed by the heat of the fire on shore. Skylights were smashed, and cabins were filled with smoke. The scene of ruin was deplorable.

Faster and faster went the ship, and suddenly Starring observed the black squall of smoke to approach the ship on the land side, and the air grew darker than ever. Starring knowing the nature of this suffocating smoke, yelled out to everybody to stand clear, and almost in an instant the whole ship and landscape was enveloped in total darkness, and the air again seemed to be filled with flame, and falling patches of fire, which ignited everything they struck. The fire took hold of the ship in all parts and the remainder of the crew who had dared to come aboard on deck again rushed about frantic with pain and fright. Starring of course had gone into his cabin and shut the shut the door, and closed the port before it admitted the hoae heat. As soon as he could get out of the cabin, he rushed to the engineroom telegraph, and signalled to the engineer to keep the engines at full speed, and waited for an answer. The cable chain had been melted away by the fierce heat of the fire on shore. Starring tried to help the captian work the wheel to steer the ship which was again drifting for shore, but the steering gear seemed to be stuck or jammed, and would not work. Nevertheless the engineers was keeping the engines going ahead and astern alternately, hoping the ship could thus be headed to the middle of the river. While the captian and Starring were maneuvering the ship, it nearly collided with a floating house inthe river.

Huge tongues of flame was rising from the upper section of the house. Many of the crew had rushed below, and after a time Starring having the stronger stronger hand got the steering gear to work, and the ship was headed from the burning shore once more.

As the sky again cleared a little, and it was possible to see around the deck, the sight was ghastly. Men were being screaming and writhing in agn agony all around.

Starring believed he himself was in a bad state, almost unable to lift his hand, and the blood from his wounds and burns on his forehead, kept running into his eyes.

Starring decided to win the race for north Bend at all costs, and with the help of

[illegible] sailors, one with [illegible] and the [illegible] in, he succeeded in [illegible] the ship to the center of the stream. During this terrific [illegible] all around were [illegible] the time, working in the [illegible] raising steam, and [illegible] to do what they could for their dying shipmates. The chief mate died a horrible death. He succumbed from the first hurricane, as they endeavored to get the ship from the shore. Not finding his men below he came on deck to look for them, and was struck by a falling limb all aflame, which burned one side of his face completely off. And in the time occupied on this terrible voyage, the experience of the survivors was still worse than that already gone through. The brave captian and his men fighting the fire,, exhausted and burned by the heat, str struggled and worked trying to do something to assist their dying shipmates.

Those working below strove to keep up the steam. The performance of both the captian and starring was most wonderful, and the more so, with the formers pitible condition. No c one could understand how he kept it p up yet they did, even when partial darkness came upon them.

Everybody who survived was badly frightened for they feared the fire on shore would win the race.

"Crowd on more steam," sStarring, again signaled to the engineer, and he needed no urging. Faster and faster the ship drew away through a suffocating atmosphere, gaining on the fiercely racing fire, foot by foot, yard by yard, and at last the curve of the river came into sight through the haze. They were passing outside the hells mouth. It was like an escape from hell. When Starring looked at his watch he had found that they had only been about an hour reaching the bend. It had seemed an eternity. Whatever it was the decks of the ship was covered. The blistered effects of the heat could be observed on the surviving masts and woodwork, and the more timid of the passenger passengers on board had not yet gotten over their fright..

Starring said that no curiousity would ever get him near the fire zone again.

During the swift speed of the ship, Penrod was among those who miraculiously escaped He was thrown into the water, with four sailors, and almost scalded by the near boiling water. Penrod held on to a piece of floating wreckage and saw a scene of most magnificient horror. There was an incessant blizzard of sparks, and the air whistled and cracked as if a heavy fusillade was being fired.

Meanwhile the boy had been drifting down the river, but the wind shifted and he was carried tward the Abbieann side of the shore. He and his companions kept afloat on their improvised rait for two hours and finally saw a burning ship while drifting about. After being adrift for about three hours, the boy saw a boat, and swam to it. It was a canoe. He found it full of water, but he managed to empty the craft, and he got into it. He could see none of his companions. Some hours afterwards, they wer he was discovered from by those on board the ship just as it neared North Bend. He was picked up. All this while the smoke was still troublesome, and ruins of the city was burning. With the wind drifting the smoke it became dense like a fog, and shrouded everyt everything out of sight.

The ship made signals to the shore at North Bend but no replies were recieved. The ship then lay off for the time being to enabled the dead ones to be buried, and while this was being accomplished, those recieving treatment for their injuries and others witnessed a most remarkable specatcle of fire and smoke, and many dead fishes were floating on the river. They were cooked. Everyone on board were covered with ashes their eyes were weeping from the smarting caused by the smoke, and the heat was intolerable. Despite the plight of the boat the crew of the ship were forced into a rescue drama.

As soon as North Bend was reached crowds of fratic people were seen on shore, and these were rescued. Some of the refugees came in small boats, women and children nearly naked and all were crying. Some of the children brought dogs and kittens as all their property. Their clothing who had any was thick with dust. A number of big pans were filled with cooked food and placed on deck, and they were surrounded by a crowd of the refugees.. They were all on board within an hour. The ship was still waiting for the last ones when there was again a tremendous report of an explosion in the direction of the fire, quickly followed by a series of other reports. These explosions caused great excitement among the others on shore and the last boat returned to the ship bringing the remainder of the refugees. including the last. They had been frightened by the reports, and jumping into the river swam out to the boat. The ship after this trying experience saved sixty women and children from the endangered North Bend, where on account of the wind there was not so much heat. Let the reader take pride never-heless in the fact that Walter Starring and his followers were the first ones at the scene of the Abbieann disaster.

Donald Ele [illegible] where

flaming eddies, whooling about in whirlpools of their own, and hissing and roaring in hellish fusion, all this showed the heat of the fire, all this also showed that the heights of the flames were not disturbed by the tempest, even to heavens the flames forward in all the rushing convulsive violence of the general and most terrible commotion. Both mountain and valley in the path of the infuriated flames were covered now with white clouds of smoke, against which the f wind first struck, and which from high pints, was lifted up like spray, but in all other places, was h hurled along with the intensecrapidity of the motion untill the whole prospect, seemed seemed one sea of drifing white smoke, dashing along furiously to its dark borders by the howling fire storm.

In the meantime starrings followers below, had gathered themselves together in the glen midravine below, and yet sustained through the fire storm without loss and in tru triumph. It was not the least remarkable, and by far the most comfortable cdir circumstances in this combination of all that is grand and terrible, that furious as were the winds, towering and threatening as were the trees all aflame about to fall toward the brink of he the ravine,, they pr preserved their coolness against the fury of the one, and their maintainceo in despite of the alternate heat from the other. True it is, they were made to fight for their very lives. True it is they were made to retreat fro from one part of the ravine to the other, still they continued to fight their way through. At such a moment it was a matter of profound deliberation which most to admire,------the majesty of god exhibited in the wind and fires, or his goodness and wisdom in enabling his creatures to contend with and overcome the fierce fire elements, even in the fierceness of their anger.

Starring cast his eye abroad to the scene that almost surrounds him, and he might have said to himself;

"I'm like an escaped soul in the midst of the flames of perdition and yet they do not touch me, nay ye indemitable waves of fire, shall bear me no harm and ye winds shall not waft me onward to the heart of the flames."And yet there he was in the fullness of this fourful experiment.

He never could believe it possible for any forest to be swept by such a hurricane of wind and fire, without the very countryside also being laid to ruin, for he was persuaded had the same forest fire passed furiously upon any big city , during the same length of time, only twenty five minutes, the flames would not have scarcely left a single house standing..Hence where Starring was, as long as he remained there, there was little danger, but if he left his perch to go anywhere else he would have perished. His way to the ravine or glen was cut off.

Soon however the atmp atmosphere became so thickly curtained with smoke that starring lost sight of the ravine, and the gnevglen. Therefore starring called loudly to those in the glen and raine ravine, to know if they were all right, but there was none to answer as nothing co could be heard above the roar of the destruction. Finally seeing a subsidance in a part of the fire, starring took the nerve to climb down the tree, and therefore wetting his clothes by a small stream dashed through through the leaping tongues of flames and fairly threw himself into the slopes of the ravine. Finally recovering himself to see if he was not injured, and seeing all of his followers still safe, he walked up to them and asked;

"What are we going to do now.?"

All were for a time silent as they did not know what to say. And now it began to rain embers down into the ravine, and trees crashed down with noise like thunder, and flames roofted the ravine in a very dreadful manner, and the heat increased stilllll still greater.....

"Then Radcliffe said;

"Oh thatvwe had kept on ar way our way."

"Who could have thought that this path should lead us into the western western path of fires." said one of the guides. IW"I believe the whole country is burning. So itvseems anyway,.,,,"

"I was afraid of it at the very first, said Angeline Riches, and therefore gave all of yonthat gentle caution. I would have spo spoke more, but it seemed of no use to do so."

"Good girl scout be not offended" said the captian" I am sorry to have led all u of us out of the way, and that have put ourselves into such great danger. Pray my dear girlscout forgive me, I did not do it of an evil intent. Who could tell what move the fire would take."

"Do not worry about it now, we all forgive you, and believe too this shall be for our good."

"But" said starring," we must not remain thus too long, let us try to go back again. I know a point there fire is not heading for."

"I am glad" said Radcliffe, " we have with us a number of good leaddr leaders, and and guides."But we must not remain very long here, for the fire may scorch us to death when it reaches its worse. The glen is saftest..Let us try to get into it before the flames surge over us."

"But" said Starring;" let me go before."

"No" said Radcliffe, "let me guide our way through, that if there be any danger I may be the first to be in it,....."

"No, said starring almost sternly"You or no one else shall go first if I say so, for your minds being troubled, may lead you out of the way entirely."

Then for their encouragement, they heard one of the other guides saying;;;;;;;;

"Let . us lead the troops tward the glen."
But by this time the raging flames had greatly risen about all sides of the ravine, threatening to even cut them off from the avenue leading into the deepp glen, which made the way of going back very dangerous.
Yet they made attempts to go back, tward the glen, wetting their clothes beforethey before they did so, but the heat was so fierce, the smoke so black and dense, and the flames reaching all about and soaring up to a height, that in even attemping to go back they had liked to have been scorched nine or ten times, or overcome by the fumes of burning wood, and ground.
And they could not even with all the skillthey had, get again to the more shaltes shaltered part of the ravine. Now there was not far from the ravine nor the glen, a large stream and beside the stream a forest rangers shack, where explosives had been stored with the purpose of use use in blasting trees and stumps.
It was in these dangerous grounds, in which they were seeking refuge, and somehow or other feeling a sense of some unknown danger Starring climbed part way up the slopes, t of the ravine,. and in looking over the cor cooler portion of the burning forest caught sight of the explosive sheds which were three stories high... Seeing the words on one of the barns plainly written in Red""High Explosives, he yelled to his followers. They in terror asked him whence the sheds were, and whatthey did in this part of the grounds, and when he told them, he said;"Good God boys dangerous as it is we'll have to fight the fire from getting to those ca Cants or is are all [illegible] lost.""""
"owever Radcliffe said;
"We are out of luck anyhow. We could not get there in time. See the fire hits them already."
They were therefore forced to be prepared for what might come. But they were surprised to see the sheds flare up in torches and no explosivion explosions occuring. then said starring;
"I believe the sheds are empty. and therefore the fires does not cause any blasts. We will have to force our way to the glen however for more safty. Who's brave enough to go along with m f me first."
They all felt they were forced to go, for fear of the explosions that might yet come was stronger than that of the flames.. They also had but little to say, for they had known themselves in a fault for suggesting of seeking refuge here in this dangerous locality. Starring and the men first cut their way before them, and finally all managed to fight their way through the burning rubbish and get way down intobthe into the deep glen where it was much cooler. It was nasty and stinking down here because of the smudges, and here they were forced to stay, without any other safty without, and how long they would be trapped here no one can say. They remembered especially starring did of a friend of his who trapped in a fire was forced to remain in a deep ravine, for six days six days without one bite of bread, a drop of water to drink, and how he survived was a wonder though for a time he had gone stark mad. They were therefore here in evil conditions also, facing the same torture as he had, and were far from help and succor.
But fortunate for them a shallow stream ran through the glen, and from its waters they kept their clothing wet. finally the flaming embers and blazing logs from above began to fall into the glen, and they had to fight desperately to save themselves from this new peril, but some were not even able to help themselves or to stop the blazing embers from coming down, while the sky above was all of flame and smoke. They were forced to fight on and condole their misery, and to mourn and pray under their distress. Starring also fell upon every blazing log that came hurltling down, beating at the fire with wet cloths, and meanwhile rating of the glandelinians as if they were dogs.
Some of the other getting more des e desperate did advise some to make away of themselves. for as said;
"We are never likely to come out of this inferno inferno alive, that their only way out of the horror would be to make an end of themselves, either with knife or gun for why should we choose cot continued life seeing it is attended with so much peril."
Others almost going crazy from the torment and thirst, and the smoke begged of Starring to letbthe let them go, but he said;
"If you go outsidd outside of this ravine now you'll perih perish."
Some others too began to consult among themselves whether best to kill themselves or no, and thus they began to discourse;
"James" said ne"What in the world shall we do."The horror of the fight down here makes us miserable beyond endurance, for my part I know not whether best to live or die here, or die out of my own hand. My desire almost is to die now than have to perish so miserably in the flames."
"Yes" said another" the grave is better than co down here below the inferno."
"nut another said;
"Indeed our present condition is truely dreadful, and death would be far more welcome to me than thus to die down here in torture, but yet let us consider, that our Blessed Lord hath said"Thou shalt do no murder"No not to another mans person. Much Much more then are we forbidden to kill ourselves. The only excuse is rank insanity. Besides any one that kills another person can but committ murder upon his body, but for one who kills himself is to kill body and soul at once. And moreover dear comrade, you talk of the ease of the grave, but surely you have not forgotten the dreadful hell, where murderers certainly go, for no murderer has eternal life.

"Ah this is a reasonable night, it came opportunely to us to see if we could secure a boat to cross the river in. If we secure one and cross over as we desired and which we are inclining to do, we can probably get off from the path of the great fires after all, and press pressure our adventure without so much discomfort and and peril. Otherwise we have for sight, know be same like into ashes, if we be surprised by the main sea of the fire."
"I'm sorry" said radcliffe that you had been compelled by some misadventure to place yourself into the wa, of the flames, and I am made to wonder that all of us even now had not been feeding ourselves to the Red demon, for you know we all are in what we can name " The Fire Country". Let peace and the help of God be manifesta manefested, and let us never cease to pray with all our heart. Let's hope we can secure boats."
"Let us take notice of what we see here for our help, for time to come. I escaped the fire a number of times, twice with Gertrude Angeline after two Professional Spies had shot me, for the forests fell not by the destruction of windstorm or ax but by fire--as we see since our adventure started."
"True, and this may bote as both caution, and example, caution that we should shun the most dangerous portions of the country, or a sign of what dangers will overtake such as shall not be as cautious as we should be. I've heard just from shere seer recollection a certain ranger with two hundred and fiffty fifty followers that perished when trapped by a forest fire did so, because a sign or example to others to beware, but above all, I mose at one thing, to wit, how many refugees can flee so confidently through large portions of the woods with the fire not foot behind, and yet escape without a single injury to any one, while these two hundred and fifty one rangers perished in the flames for allowing overcaution not to be their lot, especially since the fire overtook them and make an example for others within sight of where their bodies charred beyond recognition were found, for many could could not but help see them. It is a sad thing indeed."
"It is a thing to be wondered at" said Starring, and now it is said that the hearts of all the people of the nation have been growing so desperate over all these disasters, that something unusual will soon occur. It may be said that Calverinia is turning t into a vast Sodom for the plague of not fires is as hot as the fire of the Lord out of Heaven and Hell combined could make it. The glandelinian nation is an exceeding sinner before god and His whole Heavenly host--that is in His eyesight, and notwithstanding the kindnesses that he hath shown it, for we known the land of glandelinia is like the garden of Eden heretofore. The sin of glandelinia makes the sin of Sodom seem like no sin at all, and it is rationally to be concluded, that such nations, even as such glandelinia is, that shall sin so like so in the sight, yea and that too in despite of such examples that by history were continually set before her of other nations and their dreadful downfalls, to caution her to the contrary, must sooner or later be a partaker of severest judgements. Glandelinia I know it, positively in the long run will, not, nay cannot win. It looks like she is surely winning now, but in the end it will be utterly impossible. I cannot be done. Our cause cannot o loss. That too is impossible just as impossible because our cause is also that of the blessed and Holy Catholic, Church, the Cause of God and His blessed Mother, which Glandelinia also trys to overthrow. Therefore we cannot lose. Glandelinia is not able to win. That is also true he knows it, and therefore resul resorts to the plan of di aster making. Am I not right?"
"Doubtless thou hasth said the truth, but what a mercy of God it is, that our own nation am not made this example, therefore it is for the whole of Abbiannia to thank god, to fear f before Him , and always to remember what in the future may befall Glandelinia."
They continued on their way along the banks of the river,.. Here they rode on but with a little feeling of misgiving, and when some of them stopped to drink of the river they found the water unusually warm, when it should have been pleasant and enliveing to their weary spirits, besides on the banks of this big river, the forests of pine and other trees were much thicker than usual, being all manner of pine, and to be able to walk along the edge of the stream they had to follow its w sandy shore as to go through the forest here was nigh next to impossible, and the leaves of the trees were so thick together all pine needles that the forest f was half as dark as night, but below on the ground at some openings large brush briar brush thick withe u clusters of black berries grew, and they had a good feast of these berries. Once they thought they were approaching a meadow, but it only turned out that the river spread out wider almost in their way of travel and the water was overspread and curiously beautified with big grass and lilies. Starring suggested that they should all lie down here and sleep, for here they might lie down - saftly, whilev some of them would take turns to be on guard duty. When they awoke in the morning, they gathered again of the berries, and drank again of the water,, of the river and then lay down for a while to rest themselves. Finally when they were disposed to go on, they again ate and drank and then resumed the way. However they had not journeyed far but the river and the way for a time parted. At which they were somewhat sorry, for they felt sure they dared notgo out of the way as they might lose their bearings and go the wrong direction. And this way from the riverwas somewhat rought, and their horses hoofs were becoming somewhat tender by reason of their travels, and therefore they all became somewhat discouraged, because of the change of the routees route, but still as they went on, they wished for the sake of their horses a better way.
Yet not far bef e them there was on the right hand of the way a sudden road coming into view, following along side a rocky forested glen, and sometim something like a stile to go over into it. Then said starring to his companions;
"If this glen lies along by our way side, let's go over into it and look it over.

nor should the Western arm of the fire take us by surprise this glen might afford us some protection."

Then dismounting he went forward to the stile to investigation it, and behold the glen turned into a huge ravine further on, and a path wide and rocky a lay a along by the way on the other side of the fence.

"Tis according to my wish." said Starring."It is not easy going, neither do I wish to continue the journey in this way, but if a fire comes up it would be best for us to be prepared. Come, radcliffe radcliffe and Angeline, we are all good tree climbers, let us climb up to a high tree top and see if a fire is coming over."

"But how if this path should lead us out of the way?"

"That is not likely said the other"But we are not going to follow it. We intend to use the refuge or the glen and ravine as a refuge if need be. Why I speak so ix is because I have misgivings. Don't you notice it getting hotter and the air hazy with smoke. We are again in its path I'm sure, confound the luck."

So Radcliffe and Angeline being persuaded by Starring went after him over the stile, to where a hundred foot pine tree stood. When they were gone over and were got into the path, they found it not so easy for their feet, and as they looked before them Starring saw a lone ranger riding on a horse, and they called after him and asked him whether the glen was a safe refuge in case of trouble."

"He said "yes providing there's plenty of water below."

"Look " said Starring"did I not tell you. See all the smoke coming. By this you may see we are right."

So they followed, and finally reached the tree and started climbing. It had grown very dark, so that those who followed had gone into the ravine so as not to be as lost.

The fire had spread this time by some change of wind to the northwest more direct and while advancing this new way it was becoming one of the most and terriblest visitations to which the two states of Sulverinia and Angelinia were exposed, and unknown to Starring or his followers had extended from the Aronburg un to Mic-Hollester woods, and from there far beyond Evangeline St Clare city, and north of Wedderline run.

Instances could never be recorded in any history of the clouds of the devastating finale flames crossing the Mic-Hollester Run, tward the north of West Calverinia and the southern part of Angeline vine, to menance all the forests of the great Mic-Whirther Run Forested regions. The conflagrations were as numerous in their species of devastating horror as it is wide in its unusual rage of territory.

Town followed town in ruin, with a sort of disaster of unusual likeness, yet with distinct attributes.

.The forest fires first came into existance as early as the month of June 1912 but instances are not wanting, as in the present conflagration, of its main appearance as late as when it first struck the biggest town called Irientown. Even one part of the conflagration comprises myriads and myriads of forestes forests destroyed passing imagination to which only the terrors of the Infernal Regions are the only fit comparison, and hence it is only almo I almost a proverbial mode of expression by way of describing a vast invading army, t to liken it to the almost military manner of the advancing flames. So dense were the flames that it is no exaggeration to say that they lighten the countryside like the sun at night. And so extense are the fires that they seem absolutely to cloth the whole country side which is being devastated like a molten sea. The noise of the flames could be heard two miles..

This last charaer characteristic could be stated of other sections of the forest fires, where their terrible devastation can and is also mentioned. Terrific windstorm windstorms and floods and the bruising and prostrating hail and sleep se sleetstorms had preceded them in their series of vis visestions the years before, but the forest fires do the work of ruin more thoroughly. For not only the crops, and fruits in fields some distance from the conflagration are ruined by the terrific far reaching heat, but the foliage of the forests miles from the conflagration itself, nay the big branches, and the barks of the trees start smoking.

Such are these conflagrations---whose existance combining that with the floods, explosion and other horrors, which many Angelii Angelinian and other l leaders brought forward as a good proof that Abbiennia and her states were fighting a real evil country, and of who whom general Dargar, shows his national horror, when he says that the fire consumes everything excepting rocks.

These swarms of fires grew and grew since they started untill they became a compact body of flames of a greath length and size, and yet it was but the van guard,, of a series of similar fires, fromed formed one after another from the embers and burning folage carried over the forests by the gales, flames rising into the air like hot clouds, enlarging over the sky a terrifically red canopy of tongues, and then sweeping along over the biggest of the forests. Then at length the huge mass of flames moved faster over the plains and up the hillsides, and began todouble its career, darkening the face of day for hundreds of miles of countryside with the heavy clouds of smoke covering the sky thicker than a thundercloud.. As became an instrument of Devine Power the conflagration seemed to have no a volition of its own it was swept forward like a storm tossed ocean, it sped forward at terrific rate before the wind, and thus made northward straight where Starring and his column were passing through. Aguin they were in its path.. ~~Then the [illegible]~~

~~Reportedly [illegible]~~;

"~~There were [illegible] zones of destruction~~;

1. T there was or is a complete center of complete destruction and annihilation in which thirty cities, cities,, all life, vegetable and animal, inc insect and so forth was utterly destroyed by only the explosions alone, the whole of Abbiennn and Adelaheid, and other cities are in this terrible zone.

2. A zone of singing blistering forest fire flame, hurled upon the region by the backward draw of the air caused by the explosion, also fatal to all life, killing all men and animals, destroying the leaves on the trees, setting new for st fires, causing tornadoes of whirling fire and gases, and scorching and utterly destroying the trees themselves.

3. A large outer non destructive zone of dust and debris, wherein many miles of vegetation was injured.

As I have read, and have been told the explosions themselves had great superficial force, acting in radical directions, as is evidenced by the destruction of hillsdies hillsides, and also by the condition of the ruins of what is left of Abbiennn. where the accompanying flame could have come from is easily known. The explosions also brought incandescent cinders debris of burning forests upon the city which was sufficient to cause destruction. This also has been investigated, and I am now following the nature of this."

Five times while in Abbiennn already Starring again started to visit the vinicity of one of the explosion craters, and returned to the city afterwards nearly exhausted. But his attempt to examine the most enormous crater of all was futile. He succeeded however in getting close to it. While close by it, he witnessed a frightful explosion in the flaming forests from a point near the crater, and noted the accompanying phenomena. While those force forest fires continue so close to the craters, no sane man would attempt to ascend or go too close to the region of "HELL" following the salvoes of detonations from such frequent and mysterious explosions, gigantic rolls of cloud ascended high into the smoke covered sky, and then spread in a vast black sheet directly overhead and tward both north and south, east and west.

Under this sheet which extended all the way overhead vivid and awful flashes of light appeared with alarming frequency. They followed distinct paths of ignition. This was an indus indisputable evidence of the explosive force of something catching fire and blowing up in the forest.

This was a most important observation and explained in part the raging on of the awful catastrophe. This phenomena is entirely new in forest fire dangers. Starring took many photographs, but I do not hesitate to acknowledge that he was terrified. But he was not the only one frightened. Two of his newspaper correspondents, who had accompanied him became scared, ran three miles tward the west, and listened into Abbiennn. The refugees still remaining are still terrified. Nearly all of the phenomena of the forest fires themselves are new to science, and many of them have not yet been explained. The forest fires are raging increasly, and even I the writer will not yet make predictions as to what the conflagrations will next do, to do.

Chapter ~~20~~ nineteen

OTHER ACCOUNTS OF THE TERRIBLE DISASTER. SCENES OF HORROR DESCRIBED BY A WITNESSES. ABBIEANN AND THE BENGALL HORRORSE.....

In this history of the great Abbieann horror, probably nothing can be more remarkable than the extreme fewness of the events recorded by the news at the few weeks after the abatement of the enormous flood, in comparison with the other events of the great catastrophe that have been registered since that dreadful time. This may be partly accounted for by the situation that after the disaster was well under way, there was but a small portion of the habitable surface of the Calverinian and other states known to those who were capable of handing down a record of events because of the tremendous destructions of all communications, by wire, land, rail and cable combined as well as water navigation.

When the news finally was able to get some accounts of the unusual catastrophe the vast increase in the numbers of cities found to be destroyed destroyed, the unestimated numberof dead, was therefore undoubtedly due to the slight ol enairgement of the nations knowledge of the disaster, by some slight restoration of some of the communications under greatest greatest difficulties.

As starring knows from evidence, besides Angeline Bicher, and her other girl friends who experienced the scenes, Violet, and her sisters were the only ones who knew any thing about the destruction of Abbieann.

There was much to hear of the disaster throughout the disaster zone which even k now now is not known, bu because so much communication is not r paired, and all writers for magazines and for newspapers nd and the like n know nothing of the occurance and it is too dangerous to explore. even at the present time many disasters were occuring elsewhere of which for many weeks no one ever heard of because of such destruction of communications.. In other sections of the country too, which are thickly inhabited and where there were large cities and towns to be overthrown, ven great catastrophes had happened which were am almost unheeded, because of the same awful situation, and the surviving inhabitants almost beyond aid because of this, and forced to exodus from the region untill they reach places of safty, and then from only these refugees do the news of the awful catastrophes come in.

All this starring knew has Abbieannia awe struck, even though thevupper states sustain no personal harm, but nevertheless the violence of the horror and the intensity of their terror cannot and does not fade from their memories. Starring discovered near Abbieann an example of this complete oblivion. The town of Mengeania which he knew well as a baby between Abbieann and Adelheid, and not far from the volcano of Mt Joan stands on an eminence composed of volcanic rocks.

This town was swept away by the flood. Therefore this disaster at Abbieann, which destroyed her and many other cities is not only the most terrible i on record, but one of the most remarkable. It is classed a scene far worse than the horrors of Kratoka, Mt Pelee or Sodom and Gomorrah combined. What ever the explosions were, and what ever blew up, they nevertheless" erupted " with such crushing shattering force that they upheavened upheaved a district a v several l hundred square leagues cracked hundreds of miles of country, threw down the sides of mountains causing them to bury other cities and towns, as if mountains walked, caused the subsidance of a tract of land not less extensive, caused a large section of Abbieann to go beneath the waves of Lake Angeline, and altered the whole water system of the two big rivers Mic-Hollester and Arionburge Rum, broke the levees of Lake Angeline which really caused the big flood, and changed the levels of the soil.

The south coast of Abbieann was simultaneously threatened by fire. Here was the Mic-Hollester Rum valley stream with thick beautiful forests, and flourishing towns and cities. This was called the valley of the Mic-Hollester Rum, in which reigned the big cities of Wickoy Lansin, Violet Paul, Abbieann, Randim, Adelheid, Morgan Oarian and Olamite. Of these only Wickoy Lansin and Adelheid partly survived as they were not touched by the fires that came and aiding the concussion of the explosions destroyed five of the cities completely, burned one or two badly, and spreading desolation of in the flourishing valley, threatened Abbieann, and burned east of her, raging northward as witnessed by starring.

If the ground fo would have opened for that space of distance and emitted from the yawning chasm red hot clouds, stones, molten lava and burning cinders, and hurled it like a hurricane over the so surrounding country, the conflagration would have blotted it out in fierceness and horror...

Once when starring had ascended the highest ruin of the city which gave him a full view of the surrounding country, the smoke of the whole state seemed to go up as the smoke of a furnace. Starring almost fancied he was back in olden Bible days and was a personator of Lot and was viewing Sodom and Gommorrah and all the land of the plain after god had overthrown those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground. He fancied that what is left of Abbieann was Gommorah and that of what he had seen of Adelheid was Sodom, and that God had rained fire and brimestone down upon the whole country and that he and his followers were a witness of it all. The immensity of the catastrophe sometimes really made starring slightly doubt if the enemy had been the cause of it..He wondered if it had not been a sudden volcanic eruption from the very plains like that which in one night destroyed the cities of Pompeii and Herculaneumm. But then he knew full well the craters he had seen, though large, had no shape of those formed by volcanic eruptions, and at the time of this tremendous convulsion in engall state, and the vast tract of country compirising so many cities and so much land north and south of them had been violently shaken and overturned there was no evidence in mate materials and anything else of there having been any such t thing as the volcanic action. He recalled the written statements by some witness s witnesses that strange men had been actinig si suspiciously around the region some time before the disaster.

Of a large section of the valleys watered by the Mic-Hollester Rum, that south of Abbieann was the largest and most properous, most forested, and the most populous. All the northern and southern part of this valley with its woods and its broad river though not upheavend by the crashing concussions was totally wiped out by the "RED PLAGUE" not even the skeleton of a burned tree left standing. Iron and steel

column were passing through. Again they were in its path.. [illegible]

and steel

and steel bridges were melted like wax by the heat which was felt for many miles. All the region of the explosion area itself, with its woods, cultiva ed fields, and its broad ri ers was upheavened upheaved. While upon the other side the plain subsided lowering eastern Abbieann, the size of probably the whole of New York with that number of people, under the waters of Lake Angeline drowning every one in their very beds like rats in a trap. Upon this day now the waters of three other streams suddenly arrested by the upheaval of the soil lower down the streams, had flowed rapidly back ward their source, again to flow not less impetuously along their unaccustomed incline and to findnow the outlets into the great lake.

When after the disaster, the inhabitants of neighboring towns that survived came to visit the scene of it, they found the whole aspect of the district altered, and far off conflagrations of terrible fury raging in the Mic-Hollester Forests. The valley of the Mic-Hollester Rum, seemed to have ceased to exist, and an immense sea of smoke and fire covered the space which i it occupied. Forested mountains on each side of the valley appeared like many enormous volcanoes in violent eruptions almost at the same time, and the sky ab was dark as the probable roof of hell.

Beyond the vast reservior of Lake Angeline, to the south, six streams which formerly fertilized the country as far south as Calverinia state had also disappeared, and that region was a smoking valley of the shadow of death! The whole country was covered with smouldering ruins and ashes, all the cultivated fields, the hamlets and villages had been involved in this most tremendous of cataclysms.

For the benefit of the Abbieannian Cause, the record of this great catastrophe was being preserved and made out not only by visitors who came to the scene as close as it was safe, but by starring, and his followers, relating how Belgan Bengall state was destroyed, and how Lake Abbieann was formed during the catastrophe by the flood over the lower western section of the city, and how opulent cities were probably swallowed up in the torrents or destroyed by the explosions, and the forest fires, and terrific landslides from mountain sides. The very aspect of this section of the nation shows that it had suffered from some terrible and mysterous convulsion.

As it was upon the morrow of the catastrophe itself, so it has remained, with the destroyed cities, the river ground, the c cta craters, the seas of floods, its masses of black mud, its rought ravines, its strangely formed arches, its riven mountain sides, and the vast flood that still partly covers covers the lower site of Abbieann.

This sea of wreckage covered waters, the depth of which is still thirty feet in some places evokes by its horrid origin, and its mysterious aspect and the wreckage and other debris floating on its surface the dolorous image of death. The waters extend over an area of two hundred leagues, to drain out down the former course of the rivers loaded down by waters of the big flood previous, and only in months probably years before it will drain out altogether so as to reveal whether any of the smaller buildings still remained under its surface.

As starring viewed this stretch of water, it gave him the same feeling of viewing the famous dead sea in palestine, for one can detect no trace of vegetation or animal life, not a sound is heard upon its shores, impregnated with all kinds of wreckage that floated there, even birds avoid flying over its dreary surface. Here and there he could see floating what remained or had been remaining of a house, or homehelf household furniture and other wreckage, and over now human bodies . It was the dead sea of Calverinia.

No one yet gave news of the disasters in Sulloncatt State, which also is an event so great that the Calverinian and Abbieannian" chroniclers of the time will when is knowledge of it use it in eating occurances, and nearly all the writings of the horror will tend to cultivate the rising of the nation to the proper situation if it can and is proved that the foe was reallly responsible.. Even parger, Schloeder, Gingerlore, and other classic investigators, though quite ignorant of the true causes, state their due suspicions of the enemy. For their investigations prove that the horror was not of natural causes. H parger stated to starring that it is estimated that in the Libraries of the whole civilized world there are more than two to three thousand works treating of different arguments of the earthquakes and other natural disasters. But this phenomena is greatly strange to all of them, even the shocks, though by m Has means of delicate instruments of various kinds, called seismometers the direction of earth movements can be traced, and their force gauged, while by means of a simple page mag et with a metal piece attached to it an earthquake can be fold foretold. These instruments registered a world wide feeling of the concussions of the Abbieannian horror. These inse instruments indeed tells us that scarcely a day passes without an earthquake in some portion of the globe. If this horror actually happened and Abbieann would have been twice as far away as Japan is from Chicago, eastward, Chig Chicao would have felt the shock enough to disturb these instruments. Indeed Abbieann , the most famous city of Calverinia seen as it was from every part of the high elevations of land, and its neighborhood formed the most prominent feature of that portion of the frightful and devastated part of Bengallstate. In all parts of Abbieannia for many centuresis centuries this city had been an object of the greatest interest and certainly not the least of the many great attractions of one of the most of all notables of Calverinia. And Abbieann with its Lake shore constituted as grand a panaroma as any to be seen in the world. The mountainous country forested thickly beyond was a link in the historical chain of all beautiful spots of the Calverinian states. Before the days of the disasr disaster it seems to have been unknown as a endangered province.

Walter Starring resided there when a small boy, and so did the father and uncle of the Vivian Girls too . Violet and her sisters had been in the city several times and admired it, and its strangely pious people very much .

About Abbieann in the east especially rises many forested hills, and there are forest hemmed in plains and meadows well cultivated and inhabitated all around. Indeed Abbieann was surrounded by a Calverinian garden of eden. Also Abbieann was a huge Chi Chicago of Calverinia, it had its enormous established railway center, but yet had all the qualities of New York and Chicago combined, had its elevated train roads, subways, big factories, and every classic building imaginable. The northern part is situated on an elevated ground between the two huge rivers, and its position was considered unusually important, its lake port being ne of the best, and its river navigation was splendid. Many villas of great splendor were owned in the neighborhood by Abbieannian patricians, the mother of the Vivian Girls the empress

in her calire earliest days resided here on an estate which Emperor Vivian had given her. Often violet and her sisters had been in this estate. Abbieann also was a city of great circumstances, its origin being ascribed by Abbieannian tradition to emigrants from northern Abbieannia, but it is not certain that it was actually founded by an Abbieannian Emigrant colony. From what this city is, its destruction has the same effect upon good parts of Calverinia and other states, as would happen if New York Chicago, New Orleans and Sanfranscio and other places would cause with all railroad and other communications cut off. The oldest building of Abbieann was an ernormous two hundred foot temple very much in the shape of the temples formed in the time of Christ.

This temple by common consent is stated to have been with pomp and ceremony, accompanied by processions and carnatvals, dedicated to both the Blessed Virgin and Our Blessed Lord, in honor of the Passon. The situation of all parts of Abbieann before the great disaster possessed many local and general advantages. It had more waterways than any city in the world, recieved its drinking water from Lake Angeline. And upon the verge of this inland sea, at the mouth of a large stream by the citys name, with a fertile country all around, like even many an American or Italian town it united the convienciness of commerce with the whole nation and world, with the security of an ernormous military station and mobi mobolization camps. All this too was destroyed. The delightful position of the city, the warm all year summer climate of the locality and its many attractions caused it to become a favorite retreat of the wealthier Abbieannians who purchased estates in the neighborhoods, Emperor Vivian himself having a villa there. That villa, as Starring found was the only estate not injured by the disaster. And Abbieann had as many banks, big ones too, as All the big American cities put together, and fortunately for the Abbieannian nation though the banks were destroyed, Starring and others with him claimed all the values of the banks they discovered were completely secure, and will be so long as the forces of the enemy do not take possession of the territory.

To give a full description of Abbieann would take too much to tell here, many volumes to fill.

If Starring had not or did not believe some of the eyewitnesses who testified for him he would have probably himself believed that it was an earthquake and volcanic eruption that overthrew the cities of Abbieann Mildred Greenburg and others, accompanied by a still more terrible catastrophe which completed the ruins of the city and the country side. Of the event which he was a r striving at, Starring fortunately obtained a singularly graphic description by one who was not only an eye witness but well qualified to observe and record the phenomena, a surviving refugee from a town far north of Abbieann. Starring learning the identy of the person went to see him in a refugee camp northwest of Abbieann. On being introduced he spoke for a few minutes with the man and then said;

" I hear you have been an eye witness of the disaster. How happens it was you were out so late that night?"

"Sir, I was a soldier on guard at Cicero Junction , and kn w knowing that you are one of the high officers of general Vivians army I will gi e you a story which is absol t which is absolutly true. I could not see much or hardly any of the destruction of the city of Abbieann as Cicero is too far off. I have since however read a good nea deal of the news relating to the nature of the disas ter but I could relate a good deal more in order to transmit a more exact relation to it and its nature, to merit my acknowledgement, so that should you sir intend to make any bigges bigger descriptions of the calamity with your pen , its memory among the world in general I feel very much assured will be rendered imperishable,. I belong to general Morinic Mansions command, and was at that time on guard in the camps at Cicero Run. I was assigned to be on guard at the outskirts of the camp on the midnight hour of that fatal morning and as I took my post the coporal of the guard desired me to observe a huge black cloud which seemed of us unusual shape, and which though it was night was easily seen because of the light reflected on it by m both the moon and the glare of the distant forest fixes fires.As I said the cloud was of unusual shape and de dimenisions. Instead of moving forward like a big thundercloud, it rolled and bulged and pushed ueward, and at the same time there was a noise like a tremendous cannonade, the concussion of which hulred me flat upon my face and made me accidentally discharge my musket in falling. The whole camp was swayed by the shock, the barracks being partly wrecked and the tents coming down upon the sleeping soldiers within.

Another noise sounded as if the houses in the town of Cicero was falling. I Immediately arose and the corporal of the guard, aroused the whole camp, and the general and his officers proceeded to a rising ground from which they might more distr distinctly mark this strange and very uncommon appearance.

I heard one officer remake;

"I believe it is Mt Joan . She must be in eruption. It is from there."

Yet at that distance it could not be clearly perieved perceived from what mountain the cloud issued, but it was afterward ascertained to proceed from the distant plains and rolling meadows and not from any mountain or volcano. I cannot better describe the figure of the cloud than by comparing it to a series of tremendous thunder heads rol ing up to an ernormous height, and even extending far overhead in great rolls lighted by the forest fires. I never saw clouds before shoot up to such a great height and extend itself at the top into a kind of rolled up bridge occasioned

column were passing through. Again they were in its path.

I imagine either by a sudden wind storm up above that impelled it upward, the force of which increased as it advanced upward, or by the expansion of the ernormous load itself, when pressed upward by the sudden disturbance from whichit arose. Sometimes the glare of the distant forest fires brightened it, and sometimes it became dark and strangely spotted , and something from the cloud seemed to be falling as if it was mixed with earth and debris. This indeed was to us all a most extraordinary phenomenon, and it excited our curiousity a great deal, and the g neral and all his officers desired to inquire into the mystery more closely. He ordered the whole army to prepare to advance, while his horse was prepared for him. As he was preparing the breaking of the camp, the cloud settled over us all like a pall, and when the te general asked me if I believed it was a volcanic eruption. I answered yes.

Tward morning while the army was still on the way, a note by a courier was brought to him from Rectinia, a town nearest Cicero , which was in or at utmost alarm at the imminent peril which threatened the country side, for the note, stated, that the whole city of Ab Abbieann had disappeared, the countryside for many hundreds of miles was being devastated by an ernormous flood, and that the forest fire was b aring down upon the Mic-Hollester Rum Valley where many big towns are situated, the fire cutting off all escape by the hills and river. The courier earnestly entreated the general, who really was laughing, not to think it a laughing matter, or that he was crazy and telling something too big to be true, that he couldcome and see for himse himself it he did not believe it, and to hasten to the assistance of the towns which were either burning or flooded.

The general however had the man arrested, believing him a madman, and then he accordingly changed his plans, and what he began out of curiosity, now cont nued continued out of mere heroism. Ordering the armies to cross the river at this point he found it unusually swollen, that the water was traveling against its usual course and that a levee nearer by but yet some distance off was threatening to give way.

He hastened our whole army to the place which levee rangers and workers were abandoning abandoning in terror, he steered our army directly tward the point of danger, and belie e believe me we worked like beavers and saved that la levee.

While we were working , the general had so much composure of mind that he was able to make and dictate his observations on the changes and aspects of that new and dr ad ful scene.

He released the courier, now believing that the man really told the truth, and the general felt some vague horror that some awful catastrophe was on hand especially when he listened again to the story of Abbieann disappearing to where heaven knowns where, when he knew the size of that city.

While going further the army got so close to one part of the forest fire, that the burning cinders, came upon us, and the smoke fog grew thicker and thicker, and the air hotter the nearer we approached, and the sudden changed course of the river and vast clouds of smoke darkening the morning sky as if a storm was approaching, ob structed our advance any further in that direction. Pausing to consider whether he should throw our whole army into a fight against the conflagration, he was advised by his staff to change his course and march to the southwest, and I heard him exclaime;

"Fortune boys always befriends the brave. Forward to the south.We must cut through the Red Plague.Have the army fight it as I planned.We must go through."

After marching through the mark for quite a number of miles, we came to la a large bend in the river which seperated the army from the other shore, but here the river was overflowing westward, and the region was impassable. The g neral had already sent his baggage wagon train some distance ahead for though not at that time in actual danger, yet being within prospects of it, he was dt determined if the forest fires drew nearer to put to the flood or the river as soon as the wind would change. The wind was favorable however for carrying the forest fire the opposite direction, and the army soon came upon a horde of refugees fleeing in the greatest consternation. The army halted the fugitives, encouraging and counselling the people to keep up their spirits, and still better to disap dissipate the general alarm, he ordered with an air of concern a part of the army to keep moving on, while the rest should be deployed in line on the opposite sight, side to combat the fire is if necessary. After having this prepared for, he managed the cavarly with great cheerfulness, or what was equally courageous with all the semblance of it.

Meanwhile when the army had gotten some distance off from the flooded zone, new forest fires broke forth in several places with great fury, and the darkness of the coming night contributed to render the glare of the awful big flames still more visible or dreadful.

But the general was determined to push on in spite of it, and to soothe the the anxieties of his staff declared the fires was moving northeastward, and that the army was not in its path. After this the whole army retired to rest, and it was certain the general himself was so little discomposed as to fall into a deep sleep. The ground which led to his headquarters being nearly covered with water from the ever rising flood, it would have been impossible for the general had he continued there longer, to have escaped from being drowned or making his way out of the building, it was thought proper therefore to awaken him. Many of the soldiers had broke camp because of the spr r p spreading waters, and gone to higher ground. The general in some disguist disgust arose, and joined his startled staff officers and the rest of his retainers who had not been unconcerned enough to think of retiring. They consulted together which course would be the more prudent, to trust to the fire endangered forests far beyond the reach of flood, which now were swaying andwriti writhing before a fierce gale blowing, or to escape by pontoons over a part of the flooded river, or chance a navagiation of the flood, where the waters were already rising in such quantities as notwithstanding its slowness at this section, was threatening destruction.

In this dilemma they decided on the forests, as offering their greatest chance of safty despite the fire, a resolution which while the rest of the staff generals hastily adopted it through their greater fears of the flood, the general embraced only after cool and deliberate consideration.....

It was decided to have the whole army fight its way through the forest fire. all the army ducked itself in the water to wet their clothing, and the wagon trains

were loaded with refilled ater water cants. and all implements were not ready for the dangerous march.

Then the army went forth, all having wet blankets or pillows, and sacks tied upon thei their heads with napkins ropes, and twin and tyi this was their ao sole defense against the fulming branches and leaves that might fall upon them. Such an adventure seemed quite serious to me, but I did not back out scared though we all were. Py morning it was day everywhere else, but there and here a deeper darkness prevailed than in the most obscure night, though it was in some degree dissipated by the glare of the conflagrations. The army was forbidden to use torches. At first our general thought it proper to go down further along the shore of the flood, to ascertain whether pontoons could be made but found the flood extremely high and boisterous.

I know that day was supposed to be rapidly breaking, but when it did come the light was exceedingly faint an languid, the trees all around us were smoking and flaring, and though the whole army was fighting its way through it seemed as if we were a large body of souls fighting our way for freedom out of hell' I came to an'area that was narrow and confined, even though here was some open ground, but we felt we could not remain without certain and formidable peril, and we therefore resolved to quite the open. The soldiers fought desperately in a panic of alarm and as to a mind distracted with terror every suggestion of how to fight it here, and how to fight it there, before and to the sid side of you, seemed more prudent than the other. The soldiers pressed on in great grouped lines, and we got through to a considerable way, but were working deeper and deeper tward the roaring heart of the conflagration. To go on that was was like throwing yourself into a volcano of lava.

While we were yet a convient distance from the flames, the whole army halted in the midst of a perilous and most dreadful scene. The artillery which our officers had ordered to follow the roads in the forests were used at times to shell the trees and bring them down ahead of the fire. sometimes a branch line of the fire seemed to roll back on itself and to be driven on in another direction by the winds which put the forest in convulsive throes, while we were fighting our way through a hot tempest of wind smoke and blazing shrubbery and trees..

To ur left a black and terrible cloud seemingly to burst withwith with an ingeous serpentine vapor darted out a long train of undulating fire resembling, but much longer and larger than the wave of the sea. soon after the black cloud seemed to descend and enshroud the whole region, as in truth it concealed every other sight from us so that we hardly knew our bearings, and we almost believed we had died and descended into the infernal regions if not for good, then for an adventure. falling embers now began to come down upon us, though in no considerable quanity. Turning my head I percieved to the left of us again a dense wall of smoke which came rolling toard us and in our track like a torrent. The general now was proposing to his staff, while there was yet some light to diverge from this region altogether, lest the conflagration should overwhem the whole army. Scarcely had we stepped aside when darkness overspread us, worse than that of a closed night, more like in a closed chamber or closet.

Then nothing could be heard but the exclamantions of the men. some swore at then the enemy over the loss of their little ones, oty others for the sulghter of their parents, and being only able to distinguish p comrades by their voices, many lifted their hands up tward Heaven, but most imagined the last eternal night had come, hich should destroy the world and the whole population toge ther.

Finally to om some relief a glimmer of light appeared, which they felt sure was an approaching burst of flames, as in truth it was, and not the return of day. The fire however raging at some distance from us, we were again ermsersbed in great and dense darkness, and a heavy shower of leaves and brunches fell upon us, which we were at times compelled to shake off othw otherwise we might have been set on fire. Then after a long while this dreadful darkness gradually disappeared like the rolling away of the cloud of smoke, the actual day partly returned, and with it the sun, though very faintly, for it shone like a red ball through the smoke haze in the sky.

Every object that presented itself to our eyes, which were extremely weakened by the smarting sensation from the smoke, seemed changed, as if a world had been burned up and was smoking. We got through the edge of the burning forest, and finally headed again to the southwest, passing another anxious h night between hope and fear, though indeed with a much larger share of the latter, for the floods far off still increased, while several excited soldiers ran up and down augmenting their own and their friends calamities by terrible predictions.

Finally when we got far offfrom the fires, we came entirely upon the main flood itself. We encamped upon a high rise of ground within perfect view of the great flood to the west, and the conflagration to the east. Our general began to believe that the graphic note brought by the messenger had been confirmed in every respect for the flood here, and the forest fire there were terrible in all their circumstances the rolling seas of water, loaded with wreckage, the cloud of darkness, the flames searing the distant sky, the roaring of the flood, the sight of many floating houses and bodies in in the water, but yet more terrible in its novelty of character and seem ingly wide range of its influence. These combined scenes would appear to have exer cised a fatal effect upon Abbieann, but we hoped ardently that the reports might have been exaggerated and that all might have escaped. To approach any further was out of the question, and the hills were crowded with refugees from the flood and fire who might have saved themselves by immediate flight. Many sought refuge on the highest part of the hills for fearing the fires would pernce and overtake them. It seemed the would die of hunger or even suffocation, as elsewhere all avenues of egress were absolutely blocked up. It is impossible to exaggerate the horrors of the flood we viewed from the hills.

The rumbling roar of the waters below, the dense obscurity and murky shadow of the heaven above, the long heavy roll of the distant fires, the strident noise of the blazing forests, the shifting glows which at intervals relieved the blackness only made it more ghastly than before, the hot hissing showers which rose and then descended

column were passing through. Again they were in the path.

like a rain of fire, the clash and clang of meeting rocks thrown up by fie fire made explosions, the hurrying fugitives, with wan faces and straining eye balls, calling on those they love to follow them, the smoke and wind borne ashes, driving through the darkned country, and pouring into the towns, above all that, that fog of choking smoke and forest fumes which entered everywhere, penetrating even the lowest cellar, cave or tunnel and against which all human skill could devise no protection whatever all these things air were combined into a whole of such unusual and such awful terror that no one can even realize it unless they went through the same experience.

The stoutest heart among os soldiers was appalled, the best balanced mind lost its very composure and even iron nerves quailed at such a scene of death and destruction all around him. Many air lost their reason, and wandered through the area gibbering and shrieking madmen. and none of us who survived the peril ever forgot the sights and scenes of flood and forest fires which we witnessed on many days and nights while forced to encamp there for personal safty.

Twenty seven days and nights air were thus endured with all the anguish of suspense and uncertainty.. On the 27th day the darkness by degrees began to clear away and we found the flood had gone done considerably, and the darkness and the waterse too begun to clear away. The day appeared, like twilight, but not the sun,,,, and all nature seemed changed. Before out view to the west was a sea of wreckage of all descriptions and there was neither life nor motion in any of the view before us and to the east and south there was a sea of rising white smoke as if a sea of volcanoes still breathed forth fire and smoke..

The scene before us was changed, it looked as if all was over, and smoke and wind was still on, and cities and towns in the path of the flood were gone. Though we did get as near as possible to Abbieann, after more than two months of marching over districts of ruin and horror, we began to believe that Abbieann was no more as we could not find any traces of the city. In the region of Abbieann was a desolated forest on one side, and a flood of water on the other side with no monuments visible no house to be seen, nothing but a great surface of smoke and water, which if any northern part of the city did survive the smoke hid from our view. It was not untill just no now that with some regiments was sent to aid the forest fire refugees near here, and where we discovered this part of Abbieann to have survived partly but in ruins. But I assure you there as no eruption, no eruption did thi. I believe surely it was mines exploded by the enemy."

The region of Bengull State now the scene of one of the most celevrated disasters in the world(in tyi this story) is situated not far from central Calverinia, and is one of the Provinces of the wide country of Calverinia. While starring was here, many of his followers often alluded to the numerous cracks that was reported to have been formed over hundreds of miles of the country, and by some it was believed to ha w have been caused by natural earthquakes. Starring had wished to explore this region, but for a time the smoke of the forest fires and the heats of the flames made the region almost unapproachable, and as he had seen it had seemed as if in the darkness a times a red rolling flame sweeped the whole country side with the uproar of the sea. One witness claimed to the scene as being caused by explosions of eruptive energy. Many other witnesses speak of the disaster as the " explosion of the earth". He said" the flames proceeded from the uttermost depths of hell, the thunderous noises were the exploding of the planet, and a terrific war in hell caused the concussions." While the many witnesses on one hand had invested the region with various supernatural attributes, and made it the region of country where hell opened up its fury from the uttermost depths of the earth, others endeavored to show that the " eruptions" and other phenomena of the unusual disaster could be explained more than by the efforts of the ordinary operat ions of nature.

Starring found mention of the many fissures in the country by General Gargur, earthquake scientists, and many other investigators..... One scientist wrote a brief history of the cracks, and described a crossing of one of the largest by bridge makin making. The position of one of the biggest fissures was described at length by the earthquake scientist Palfor, and a brief account of it was given to Starring by Starring by Gingigore, who investigated one of the strange fissures at the time. As this fissure was one of the most considerable of the cracks found, it attracted a great deal of attention, and was described by many eye witnesses. The length of this fissure was not determined. The earlier incestigators had very exaggerated exaggerated notions on the subject, and a la length of three or four miles has been ascertained. It must be borne in mind that such cracks is liable to variations in length. There are two ruined cities, Cantania, and Prutia and seventy three towns or villiages in the vinicity of these fissures, and no less than one million three hundred thousand and sixty five per people lived in this region.

How many had been injured and killed during the disaster is not know as yet. And the remarkable feature of the region is the large number of minor explosion craters which are scattered throughout the country side. They look small in comparison with the great mass of big explosion craters nearest Abbieann but in realir reality some some of them are of large size. The best period starring believed of making an inves tigation of these fissures was when the smoke or forest fires would be driven off by a strong westw westerly wind, and before there was danger of the forest fires crossing into this territory. Just now all paths are obliterated, and in this condition even Starrings followers would refuse to accompany him.

A list of the number of fissures from the earliest discoveries has been given to starring by some members of the gemini..

Starring also took down a list of the number of smaller explosions that occured in this vinicity that evening of the fatal night before the big ones came. The first explosion probably happened at nine oclock at night, the second occured at fifteen minutes after nine... The third explosion occured at about seventeen minutes after the same hour, and it mst have been the same explosion that rocked Abbieann and alarmed the population for a time. An explosion mentioned by an eu eyewitness happened three minutes later. An outburst of a score of simultaneous explosions of terrific force took place near Seldorm at nine thirty and hurled debris in clouds upon the country side and again convulsed the city. He had no records of any further explosions for

about twenty minutes till about ten minutes to ten. At that time an explosion occured and the same authorities mentioned to him of an explosion within two minutes after. Four minutes later Kalso town was nearly destroyed by another explosion. nother of which he possesses no details occured at one minute after ten. Another spoke of a concussion and blast which took place at eleven minutes after. Then after the passing of two minutes three blasts occured like terrific eruptions. The next blast of which he took record of was at quarter after ten after which things were quiet for nearly half an hour but then a violent eruption of explosions lasting nine minutes without ceasing is recorded. An explosion of more violence occured two minutes and fifteen seconds later. Then he had no other record for nearly ten minutes. Then there was an explosion that threatened the ruin of the country side. After another long interval, in this case of more than three quarters of an hour and a half, the explosions again roared but further north. At twenty minutes past eleven one of the first most disasterous explosions occured. It caused a concussion like a violent earthquake, which was felt as far as Wicky Lansin, and which destroyed Childs Run in the course of a few seconds, burying fifteen thousand people under the ruins. Everyone like at Abbieann were killed in their beds. There was farther away a great explosion on the eastern landscape at twelve minutes after eleven. A great cloud of debris descended in the same vinicity two minutes later. Another witness was in Morrir city and witnessed near by a very violent explosion of which he sent to starring a recorded report. At about twenty minutes after eleven, the country side was strongly convulsed, terrible noises were heard, and flashes of flames issued from the scene of the crash, mingled with a great cloud of dense black smoke.

A second later a cloudburst of soft earth ,rocks and debris of all kinds poured down upon the town. Immediately after a fresh explosion took place, and then another which occured five minutes later. An explosion which lasted for twelve minutes occured at the same time at another location. A violent shock of the concussion caused the side of a mountain to slide, and after this there was quiet untill about quarter to twelve. Then again there occured an explosion which took place tward the close of the last minutes to twelve. A large quanity of earth was hurled up by this blast and several holes dug deep in the ground near the town of Algelio.

A minute later another fresh crash occured. A number of new Craters were dug and a quanity of debris hurled tward Wickey Lansin destroying a part of violet Lansin, and the villiage of Mic Holler.

Three other minor explosions occured within two minutes. Between twelve and fifteen minutes after twelve six explosions again occured, and two minutes later a part of Poverty Ann was destroyed by a violent concussion, and in the following hour shocks became frequent frequent. He took a more detailed account of the explosions from One to twelve after one. These explosions were in every respect the most terrible on record of any explosions known. For hours the sky was obscured by the smoke and because of the explosions a strange hot whirlwind blew over the forest fires at the distance, and at the same time Abbieann and other cities were destroyed, and the concussions continued to increase in violence for over twelve minutes, at the end of which all parts of Abbieann was converted into a smoking heap of ruins.

Because of the concussions as it was reported many fissure opened over the whole country side for hundreds of miles. The fu fissures many of them were only six feet to seven wide but they seemed to be of unknown depth. Six explosions of terrific force occured in a line with the principal river course, and hurled up vast volumes of smoke accompanied by thundering that could never be described and which as estimated could be heard more than ten thousand miles off.

Also after being so long in Abbieann, he obtained from witnesses a record of the course of the forest fire that passed off tward the east after threatening the ruins of Abbieann. The first appearance of the fire presented a front of fourty seven miles. it encirled encircled St ANN city, and afterwards burned tward Jean a town of eighteen thousand inhabitants which was speedily destroyed. Seven seas of fire spread through other sections of the forests, and in three days united into one forming one large conflagration a hundred miles in length and thirty in widty width. The sea of fire continued to race on, and it destroyed the town of Forestglen on september 1th. On the same day the conflagration struck a Cant used by forest rangers to blaset trees in fighting such fires, and the force of the explosions cast up large quanities of earth, flaming trees, and dirt and scattered the fire over new territories. The explosion caused a concussion. The original current of the fire being opposed by some large clearings in the forest had divided into three seas, one of which destroyed San Pedro the second. Guileine, and the third the forested hills on the left or west side of the Mic-Hollester Run and afterwards the villiage of Mistleton. Fourteen other villiages were afterwards swept out of existance, and the fire made its way tward Adeleheid.

At St Rose ten miles from the city, an explosion caused by the fire through mysterious origin undermined a small hill covered with forests and hurled it forward a considerable distance, and the whole region formed into one furnace. When the seething hell came close to Adeleheid, it burnee burned on without stopping, untill it came close to the rivers edge and then gave starring his most stirring adventures o in the fire from there all the way to Abbieann and even there another prtion of the same fire melted down a garden wall made of rocks, and carried death and destruction in its course.

On september 3th, the fire spread along the river at race horse speed, which it endravored to cross to the forest on the opposite side, but a sudden westerly wind prevented the disaster.

On burning along the river front however the heat was so terrific that the water nearest the shore began to boil violently and clouds of steam arose. The volume of fire raging here burned over many millions of cubic feet within three hours.

[illegible] they were in its path. [illegible]

The length of this branch of the fire was a hundred and fifteen miles while its avergae average width was between seventeen and twenty miles, so that it was able to progress forward at an unestimated rate of speed. The fire burned up the precipices of the region of Adeleheid. Clouds of black smoke poured from the ravine, and large noises resembling the discharge of artillery were heard. The fires heat undermined the forested slopes of a high steep hill and it collapsed burying the town of Catanteri and its eighteen thousand inhabitants under that terrible fiery mass. It is said that in all up to Adeleheid fifty small cities and towns were destroyed by the forest fire since it begun its career in southeastern Calverinia, together with the driving to panic and flight over one million six hundred and seventy two thousand inhabitants and burning to death over one hundred thousand others.

Close to Adeleheid a great column of black smoke issued from a burning ravine from hich which great tongues of fire could be observed. Loud detonations of explosions were heard, and two streams of fire spread above the ravine moving in two opposite directions. A new fire produced by sparks and heat formed near the east of Adeleheid and a quanity of flames covered the sky over the city. An extraordinary flood of water descended from some hill carrying all before it, and strewing its path with all kinds of wreckage but flowing far from the fire. It was estimated that the volume of water was about 176,000,000 cubic feet, probably a greater ammount than could flow from ariver to the sea in a day. It formed a channel six miles broad, and in some places fo rt four y feet deep, and it flowed at the rate of three miles a minute during the first fourty miles of its course. The flood was probably produced by the heat of the forest fire on the slopes causing the collaspe of some dam near by, probable the walls of the dam may have been almost melted or turned red hot by the heat of such awful seas of flame.

The fire raced on, encounted a portion of St Peters villiage, and seperated again into two branches, each of which seemed to nevertheless regain its length. Vast volumes of smoke were carried over the country of Calverinia seeming to form a gigantic cloudy canopy between Calverinia, Angelinia and Abbieannia through which the sun would not shine. The fire pushed on tward North Bend sweeping the cities already mentioned at which Starring came. The fire then was forced to divide into twenty one seas, and then into thirty in a line running northward along the river front only soon again to unite into one monsterous fire. The conflagration advanced on untill it reached within thirty miles south of North Bend, and here it slightly changed its course. Again it divided into three sections the two main ones of which soon for an hour or so became at a standstill, while the central fire continued to move on at the rate of one hundred miles an hour. The heat at the distance of fourty miles 116 . F

Then a new fire formed just beyond, and raced on to threaten the city of North Bend but it form fortunately encountered a clearing near the bend and was diverted into another course. While the rangers were watching the progress of the flames after their unc unsuccessful effort to check it, the front of the conflagration was suddenly blown up as if by a volcanic eruption.

In an instant red hot masses of flaming earth, embers, branches of trees were hurled in every direction, ad a cloud of singing flame and smoke enveloped everything. Fourty six rangers were killed on the spot, and thirty survived but a few hours, and the rest were too injured to resume their work.

A every severe progress of the forest fire was witnessed by a party of tourists unknown to starring who were ascending a hilltop in order to witness the sun rising through a haze of smoke. As they ap approached the nearest prtion of the portion of the summit the forest fire was viewed in a panorama of greatsize. In a narrow defile they were met by a vi violent hurricane of fire, which overthrew the horses and the riders, and forced them tward a large forested ravine. They shelted themselves beneath some masses of great rocks, when suddenly the fire appeared racing up the slopes and the horses fled in terror. The tourists had to flee themselves on foot, fortunately reaching the summit ahead of the conflagration without having sustained any injury. The fire raced across and into this ravine, branching off so that one section roared on up to the summit, while the other embraced the whole hillside to the left. The conflagrat Conflagration continued with abated fury duringthe arival at the summit as the flames cannot proceed down hill as fast as they do uphill and the adventurers were saved.

The entire mass of fire roaring up these slopes is estimated to be equal to an area sixty miles long, by six miles broad, twenty to the center, with an average speed uphill at fifty six miles an hour.

The conflagration curled around the northeast side of the mountain,and burned onward at about the same rate, and divided into two sections. This part of the conflagration worked around the other side of the mountain burning downward and upward, and new fires increased to seven in number and they were all raging along a line stretching down from the summit. Something burinng on the summit caused three loud crashing detonations three or four times a minute.

It will be seen from the foregoing account that there is a great similary similarity in the general character of the forest fires here, to the other kind else where. Explosions of mysterious origin accompany the fires, loud indeed, and somrtimes fire swept slopes pretend to be volcanoes in eruption when molten sand, stone and rock run down the slopes melted by the heat, sometimes the fire localizes itself in one or two big ravines where all the trees are burned out, and accumulate accumulate a crater like appearance full of fiery smoking debris, ultimately great clouds of smoke rise from this. Out of the seventy eight stretches of the forests mentioned to have been wiped out, a comparatively small number of the bigger forests have been endangered, but they too are in the path of the conflagration.

The region of Abbieann before the disaster contained a most beautiful and fertile region then most parts of Silverinia Country, which the natives called Calverinias eden, where flourished more prosperous cities than I can name here. Situated between the Mic-Hollester and the Arronburgs Run River Bengal state has never before been exposed to any kind of disaster untill this horror just past, when by the force of the

explosions the earth was agitated in all directions, swelling like the waves of the ocean. Nothing no matter how strong could withstand such shocks, and not a building upon the surface remained erect. Thus the enormous and beautiful city of Abbieann the main and only best commercial metropolis metropolis of Abbieannia was first reduced to a heap of ruins and then swept to total destruction by a great flood. The number of persons who perished in abbieann is estimated at eight million, and three hundred and fifty large cities, and one thousand six hundred big towns, and thousands of towns and villiages throughout Calverinia and Angelinia and other states states were destroyed totally and beyondrecovery.

The greater number of those who lost their lives were either buried amid the ruins of the houses, or in the cities covered up by mountain slides, and by the flood, but many also perished in the fires that were kindled in most of the towns not touched by the flood, particularly in northern Abbieann. Not a few among the country folk escaped and many who were only half buried in the ruins, and who could have been saved if help had been at hand, were left to die a slow death by roasting. The Mayor of the town of Pulsio and his family had taken refuge in a cellar, and were entombed in it alive by the masses of rubbish, and lingered for days, during which their cries sounded till death came to end their sufferings. One great instance os the disaster Starring kept record of is that of the destruction of Violet Lansin. and still worse in that location was the curse of the savage Glandelinian soldiery

They hastened into the smoking towns .like the vultures they are, and instead of helping the sufferers, thet gloated over their misery, ranc ransacked the smoking ruins for plunder, robbed the many persons of the dead, increased the fires, and brutally murdered those entangled alive among the rubbish. They robbed and murdered the very injured who would have paid them very handsomely for rescueing them.. At the town of Wickey Lansinia a nun who had been buried headdownyard beneath the ruins of an orphan asylum, was robbed of half of the clothing by a glandelinian vandal who showed no mercy whatever.. The unfortunate sister however managed to rescue herself from her perilous position and secured clothing among the ruins.

Of still more shocking interest was the case of the Mayors wife of that city, she had fainted at the moment of the first great shock caused by the explosions, and was lifted by her bus and husband, who bearing her in his arms was hurrying tward the open square, when a hidden Glandelinian sniper shot him dead. On recovering her senses she observed thather two little girls and a boy had been left behind. Taking advantage of a moment when the Glandelinian vandals did not see her, she darted of and running back of her house, which was still standing, she urged her children to follow her. rushing with them following her, she headed tward the stair case, but found the stairs were afire, barring all further progress in that direction.

She then followed by her children fled from room to room, chased by the falling materials, and at last reached a b balcony as her last refuge.

Holding up her youngest child, she implored the few passer bys for help,but they were Glandelinian vandals in disguise, and they shot her children dead before her very eyes, and then blew up the building, so that she was hurled into the devouring flames. There were many cases to be recorded of devotion and sacrifice similair to that of this brave woman, but usually attended by more happy results. In the great majority of instances however the instic instinct of fierce savagery among the vandals overcame every other feeling, rendering the wretched Glandelinian foes callous to the danger and suffering of others.There were two cases of persons being rec rescued alive from the ruins, after a lapse of four or five days, and two on the eighthday ad after interment. Those who were thus rescued, all suffered most from thirst and heat.

HOW MANY WERE SLAIN BY THE DISASTERS..
DEVASTATION OF A BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY SIDE.....

Starring realized that before the very world would have time to realize the extent of this American disaster, it would soon recieve word, and a terrible shock from all of southeastern Calverinia. He felt al s almost as the world would feel, over the fact that even before and after the Abbieann horror all of eastern and southern and southeastern Calverinia from July 1912 till now, late September 1913 had been swept and devastated by other terrible disasters, horrible, beyondcomprehension, and especially passing through a tremendous baptizm of fire, a disaster more terrible in the completeness of the wholesale destruction but only less terrible in the number of dead, than that which followed the explosion, concussion and flood disasters . starring sometimes on account of these disasters, and their terrible results, almost lost faith in thehope hope of seeing Abbiennias cause won, for the enemy was in posession of all of Calverinia except the extreme north, and the disasters were even frustrating the efforts of christian christian armies of reaching the ice.

Worse to starrings surprise and horror a new forest fire, in the northwestern region burst out in sympathetic fury, although forest fire outbreaks had showed signs of coming even earlier than the time of Starrings arival to Abbieann. Unknown to him forest fires had been raging for ninty consecutive days and nights, previous to the date of his arival of the city, but because of the continued steady southwest and east winds had not come down this way. Yet this time Starring and his followers were no now cut off entirely from every chance of reaching the ship, and it seemed as if the city was one springing up out of the Hades Regions. every day and night for all the time the vast columns of smoke rose over the whole scene, becoming denser and denser and explosions were numerous, and a rain of fire would continuallyfall upon some parts of the city, keeping Starring and his followers under cover. The earth shook violently for every explosion in the forest, and when ever the wind changed to the east a midnight darkness gloom over the whole country.

The fire storm roared about the eastern s ction for one whole week without ceasing but finally one morning it became intermittened and further away. so far Starring estimated that the loss of life in these disasters would never be told in full. He claimed the loss among his own followers because of the enemy and the fires, and accidents as about twenty five hundred in killed or injured. They included most of the more daring Calverinian soldiers, which means that he and the rest of his followers would have to be extremely more careful.

From the north of Abbieann the forest fire was visible, though fourty miles away. When finally the adventurers got on their ship, the captian tried to force the way to the northwest, to reach the upper supers of Abbieann called "The Heldorn Horseshoe Bend but ran into such a cloud of dan dense smoke that you could not see an inch ahead. For four hours the ship was helpless in this cloud of smoke and gases from the fires, which was de se than any clouds encountered ever before, but the ship finally succeeded. When Horseshoe Bend was finally reached at the afternoon, it was found full of panic stricken refugees who had sought refuge there. The streets of the ruined city was found strewn with the refugees, which was fifteen miles away from the closest of the explosion craters. Here the distress among the refugees was great. The fire as seen has not yet come up to the north bend, though up the sides of some slopes leading to it, there had threatened to advance streams of forest fires, which uniting and seperating, formed a network from which there was no possible escape for any living thing caught within its grasp should it come up. By the terrific heat of the flames a river that had flowed in to the Mic-hollester was dried up, and bridges over it melted into peculiar shapes.

Down the channel of this river there flowed to starring s surprise what appeared to be molten lava, which glowed like molten stone, and which flowed slowly into the main river raising great clouds of steam, and the hissing ci could be heard for miles. Investigating this with his glasses, starring observed that the tremendous heat of the forest fire was melting so much rock on the slope of hills near the river, that they turned like lava and flowed down thecriver channel in a molten state.

In other local locations the fury of the forest fire seemed to be lessening, but the most severe was raging elsewhere, and to go further out or up the river from North Bend would be suicide.

Many searching parties were sent out as far as possible to investigate the ruin. Seventy estates were found to be ruined beyond hope of repair. Two catholic Churches had been buried under a stream of mud and water. Many houses were covered a half under debris, and there was hardly a spot in horseshoe bend that was not under from six to eight feet of debris. to come up here the steamer the Mary June had run through ten miles of smoke that was so dense that all who would have dared go on board would have been suffocated. or all that distance the ship had to be left to its own guidance.Some explosions during the forest fires gave displays of fireworks more j majestic than had ever been seen by humanity.

The day after the ship had reached Horseshoe Bend starring noticing a high hill close by descended to the top to get a view of the forest fires further off so he could tell what the situation was. He saw a small stream with its waters bubbling like a caldron and steam arose from it in immense clouds. It was night when Starring still remained on the hill, and something like sulphuric flames seemed to play about the sides of another distant hill giving it a weird and terrible appearance. Steam from boiling streams and small forest lakes continued to rise in thick clouds, and

strange explosions made thunders that were joined with those that came from the interior of a valley,, or hours the strange and splendid phenomena continued giving those h no doubt who lived in the vinicity ample time to escape. Starring and his followers seemed hypnotized by this scene, and suddenly the main conflagration raged within good view, and to Starrings surprise seven seperate streams of molten rock poured boiling boiling down the sides of the hill. Through his field glasses he saw very ledges of rocks near the edge of the conflagration turning red hot, and destruction was everywhere in its most terrible forms. Great shafts of flame seemed to leap fairly across the sky and fires were seen pouring through a valley. For this great tragedy to the forests the settings were indeed wonderful.

The forest literally swayed in its agony before heat and fierce winds, and from the slopes of hills, smith, and from rolling forests on plains majestic columns of smoke, inky black or varied colors reached skyward in immense rolls and sheets, and pushed through the canopy overhead. The scene was li a as if a hundred big craters were vomiting very high incandescent matter, and something came down the slope of one river course that gave forth prismatic lights as it rolled away tward the river. Great waves of fire seemed to heave about one big mountain top ten miles away. Such thunder from explosions as never had been heard by man cracked and rolled through the heavens, and starring wondered what the fires exploded so continuously. From the valleys would come tremendous detonations. These joined with the thunder, all merging in an inceassatn incessant roar that added to the panic of the fleeing inhabitants within his full view in that great height. This lasted through the night and the day following and the next night, and starring remained there all this time, watching clouds so black that they had at times the appearance of ebonay arise to his estimated height of twenty eight miles from the forest fires.

Ashes born by the wind rose in clouds from the smoulders of places where the fire had spent its rage, and in this big cloud of smoke fire brands, and sparks and flaming enb embers of all kinds were continually carried skyward to deluge other forests for miles around. Each column of smoke would gradually mushroom at the top spreading at in out in dense clouds that descended to bring night at day, and the atmosphere was so laden wi with gas from the burning trees that life was made almost impossible within five miles of the blaze. Starring expected that before rain ever came the entire forests forests of Calverinia would be destroyed, and nearly every hour was given up to prayers prayers. All that time when the wind was off the east the darkness overhead was beyond description save when everything was made light as broad day by the glare of the flames.

The earth quaked incessantly before the concussions of the numerous explosions, and hill on which stood Starring shook-the-gook, and stones, fire brands and hot ashes never ceased to fly before the wind.. And so terrible were the thunders of the explosions that it seemed to starring himself, and his almost terrified followers that the universe was being rent in pieces, and he wondered indeed and exceedingly where the explosions came from and decided to have these investigated also.

"Starring said to the Captian" The way the country is being devastated here for hundreds of miles is appalling. Why not say that all the volcanoes in all the world were at this one spot and all in full and most violent eruption. I am really a brave man, and have become mixed p most of my career with dreadful battles, spying expeditions expeditions, and unknown parts of the drama of war, but never have I witnessed a sceie scene like this of Abbieann or of these fires. It is dreadful."

"Yes and look at that wall of smoke rising and completely covering the whole forest as far as the eye can reach. " remarked the Captian. We have rode for hours along this track in this sweltering heat and we cannot comprehend but that the world is coming to an end. Praying for rain does not seem to do any good."

"From up here we can easily see the ravages wrought" said starring. For miles around where the fire has passed the earth is seared and smouldering like incandescent matter and blackened fissures and cras cracks caused by the explosions appear everywhere."

From here also they could see that to the southwest smoke like from a hundred thousand volcanic eruptions poured up as if from a huge yawning pit of hell, while to the east the hill on which they see stood ended abruptly into a deep va valley with a long forest covered slope. nd from their point of vantage they could see no fewer than seven seven new forest fires raging ahead of the parent one, five great melted stone flows and a huge fie fire glow of a valley, a perfect scene of hell. uring all the time of their stay up here the heat day and night had been intense. Lying full lying full length and peering over the edge of a fallen log into the depths of the huge forested valley below they now watched a new sight which was unforgettable. It was like peering into a huge volcanic crater.

From where they lay the hill slopes greatly all the way down, and thickly forestd. By daylight only the giantic gigantic volumes of smoke were visible but at night it was an inferno. The whole of this dreadful place, the sheer foreste forest walls beyond, even the great distant hills, were illuminated by this new fire, They could see the very bottom of the valley where waves of flame streamed upward upward many hundreds of feet tward the sky, lighting the columns of smoke to an immense height in the air;

Shuddering, realizing the overwhelming force and fury of this storm of nature Starring and his comrades lay there for hours fascinated. They wanted to leave, but an irresistible force impelled, compelled them to lay, to remain, the air at times growing hotter untill at last it almost singed. Finally it was about three oclock in the morning, when in a numb condition from laying so long, and with clothing wet and drenched from sweating, they tore themselves away to return to Abbieann.

They started to clamber down hurriedly, holding to jagged boulders, slithering over heat baked earth,, the last half of the descent accomplished by sliding on their backs down a steep bank of fine cinder sand, on the side of the hill not too heavily forested mountains rocks and along the roads

country side many days before the explosions occured, and sent a cipher dispatch of warning to the governer of Calverinia State. It was not disregarded, but who would know of the treanchérous explosion horror coming, and that all parties concerned should perish, and the message itself remains in the government archieves of Pandora and is to be forwarded to Emperor Vivian as soon as some communications with at least Angelinia Agathia can be restored..

The Vivians girls Aunt was at Abbieann and had left the city for Angelinia Agathia on the ship called the Pandora, three weeks before the disaster. he had planned to spend sometime in Abbieann to study the good people there, their ways and customs and discover why so big a population cannot have a mortal sinner among them, not a criminal of any kind, but was alarmed by the horrors of the disasters recorded elsewhere and fearing a like fate for Abbieann, finally returned southward. It seems certain her fears saved her life. She reached A Angelinia Agathia just the very morning of the terrific disaster.

Newspapers printed in the neighboring northern counties for some days before the great disaster, included correspondence from Abbieann and Adeleheid, showing that the raging fury of the forest fires were clearly in evidence,, and that as the right center of the Red Plague was sweeping across the Mic-Alliater Run and raging over southern Bengall state, and heading straight for Adeleheid and Abbieann, that the warnings were ample to permit escape from the forests blazes in ample time. They had plenty of time, but again , say who could suspect the other catastrophe more terrible, Letters recieved in Abbieannia, and other statesin many cities, after the catastrophe, before that fatal day verify these views, and increased the wonderment that there could not be some realization, official and otherwise, of a necessity of a prompt exodus before the explosions occured.

STARRING SURVEYS THE REGIONS SWEPT BY THE DAYS AND NIGHTS OF MOST AWFUL AND HOPELESS DISASTER, AND DESTRUCTION.

HE INSPECTS WHAT IS LEFT OF THE DOOMED SHIPS IN THE RIVER HARBOR.

While looking the ruins of eastern Abbieann over, starribe believed indeed that few were the survivors, either on land or river, who either passed through the fiery ordeal, or maintained life amid the wreckage of the fallen buildings, or within the rush of the most mightiest of floods. during the destruction of Abbieann. He had witshed to find and and interven some of them, to get the stories of their sufferings and the shocking sights they had witnessed, even if they would not be able to tell of their experiences with acrua accuracy, far from realizing the whole destruction they had witnessed. He also hoped to obtain from trained observors who hastened to the scene of the disaster as fast as swift river vessels could carry them, graphic details of the horrors that met their gaze immediately after thearived to the scene. and therefore he decided to find them if possible. He had seen a lot himself, and indeed to him the desolation of the ruins of the eastern part of the city blasted by the explosion, can only be inadequately pictured. Not a half of the horrors that he was seeing here could or ever would be told. Even now the whole region with its lofty forested hills, was still hidden behind the thick angry clouds of smoke.

Looking up and down the river here he observed ernormous quanties quanities of the wreckage of large and small ships, and houses strewing the surface of the waters. huge trees also, and all kinds of furniture was floating here and there... From behind the smoke veil came blasts of hot wind.. He got upon the high wall of some remaining half ruined building to see further, and observed at La Porie fifteen miles north of Abbieann or near there a sea of cloudsof smoke, and it was at this point days before as he had heard that women and children frantic to get away n had begged for a passage on ships going by. Some of the ships had room for no one, but others managed to pick up what numbers they could get on board, half dead women and children, who were so badly burned that they had to be lifted over the steamers side. Many of these had died on the boats before they reached their destination.

He had heard that the condition of these unfortunates was not even as bad as thousand of forest fire refugees in the hills far beyond the fire zone. He knew hundreds of them would die before relief could reach them.

Everyone who were refugees thouought the whole disaster region badly needed medical care, food clothing, and above all water. As Starring took in the view as far as eye eye could reach from his perch he could see that the whole south end of the country east of the city was covered with smoke from smo smouldering debris of the burned forests and when ever the smoke cleared a little he could see here and there the skeleton of what was once a good big tree and it as still flaming and smoking.

Furious blasts of hot wind,, sometimes ashes born by the wind, and smoke swept over where Starring was perched, but he remained there.

And for sixteen miles along the river front, and for many miles back tward the northwest from the city,, and back from the northern limits of the river shore, to the foothills back or at the base of the higher ridges, stretched the heaps and seas of smoking forest ruins or what was left of buildings. Even the scene was as bad or worse than what he had seen at a Adeleheid though on the same scale, and streets there were none to be seen. He could not even make out where the site of the large buildings like ten and twenty - story sky scrapers stood, and they no doubt had been hurled down level withthe ground by the terrirf terrific concussions. The still smoking hills beyond and a big mountain ridge looked like javanese volcanoes in violent eruption, and the ruins of many trees though still standing were burning in many places, and frightful odors of the burned flesh of animals which had not escaped filled the air.

As far as he could see through the smoke haze, or no wh matter where he went Starring could not see a single house that was left intact. Great heaps of wreckage, almost thirty feet high were seen on every side. He believed that sure enough under all this immense sea of wreckage still smoking in places lay heaps of corpses showing they had no time to even rush into the streets before the first shock of the catastrophe

loaded with food and provisions of all sorts, and was oetn sent back tward Abbieann. But all attempts to get to even the unflooded parts of Abbieann was barred by fire and forest conflagration.... The closest observation possible showed houses still blazing, and streets strewn with charred bodies. It was certain to the captian of this steamer that the whole vast city was destro ed, and it was feared here, that few if any of the inhabitants had escaped.

This is all so far that Starring had kept any record of.

A landing was made at eastern Abbieann on the afternoon of Starrings fourth day there ,for the first time since the city was destroyed.. The captian of the Mary Jane, with a party of his officers, and men, and a commission of ariving citizens from Pandora invited to come by Starrings demand, and also this time accompanied by the two girl, and the two boy scouts landed south of Eastern Abbieann. The report about it being spared was a hoax. The party made its way through a labyrinth of ruins, and found every building in charred blackened ruins. They were shocked to see thousands of dead bodies, naked, mutilated, and frightfully burned, piled in heaps for every six blocks blocks they traveled in the town, while many other thousands no doubt were buried under the debris. The searching party found indeed that all of the eastern section of the city was in ruins. The forest fires to the extreme east continued to move ahead tward the westand east, the great mass of fire and smoke also steadily moving to the northward. Every villiage and plantation in its path was already destroyed. Streams were dried up. All food was destroyed, and the people who escaped death in the fiery hurricane or suffocation in the dense clouds of smoke, were perishing of hunger and thirst. Starring learned that four other large towns were destroyed besides Abbieann. They were Banderville, four miles south of Abbieann, and La Horn five and one half miles miles northeast, and Meld orn and Turner east. and west. Each had a single population of at least fourty thousand people apiece. These towns were probably the subburbs of Abbieann, but many of these inhabitants it is believed saved themselves by taking to the higher ground as these sections were threatened by the fire before the great explosions came. In this manner. Bet In this manner between one hundred and sixty to one hundred and ninty thousand were saved. For weeks and weeks they were still in the hills, their escape practically cut off by the seas of forest fires.

How Poverty Row, being nearer the explosion area than Abbieann itself, could escape even from the effects of the concussion, was explained by the fact that it was on the opoiste a opposite and western section of the country , and west of Abbieann on a high plateau, and that it was seperated from even the devastating flood, and from forest fires by a deep valley and high cliffs, the valley recieving most of the waters.. It is supposed that, not the crater crater ofMt Joan but some weaker point on the side of the mountain was hurled down in avalanches by the force of the concussions produced by the explosions, and that some of the explosions might have occured in the midst of some sections of the forests fires, and that the size of the eruptions and their unusual force and vehemence shot and scattered appalling charges of fire and blazing forest andfiery debris, as a cloud of white hot lava, and shattered and pulverized and erupted most of the landscapes not skyward altogether, but like an enormous cannon, aimed at an elevation to bombard Abbieann and other cities and towns, and all the territory in the explosion zone. It was like an eruption of Mt Peles a thousand fold stronger than Krakatoa but like she erupted when she destroyed St Pierre. Later when the floods broke out the deep gorges and valleys and high cliffs between Abbieann, and Poverty Row would be sufficient to protect the latter from the flood peril. One of the explosions Some of the explosions tore loose scores of miles of ground, and caused the five hundred miles of earthquake like cracks to be observed in the countryside, cracks wide and deep, and dangerous to explore at night for fear of any one falling in vener to geet out.

It was from the few survivors, that the alarm felt throughout the country for a number of days prior to the disaster was learned. Further more when it was learned or believed sure the disaster was caused by explosions and not volcanic eruptions, a large portion of the blame seemed to be indirectly upon Blandelinia because of the forest fires, for it was thought and said that probably great stores of munitions had been secreted away somewhere near Abbieann for war use, and the enemy made forest fires struck these munition depots and exploded them. But nevertheless for a time the majority believed they were volcanic eruptions for they could not concieve how the enemy could produce the munitions enough to cause such tremendous blasts. Nevertheless the greatest id indignation against Blandelinia grew as the panic subsided. It was also remembered that while the forest fires was threatening the neighborhood, and giving warning of some great disaster impending, suspicious characters were seen near the explosion area. strong in numbers who refused to permit any one from Abbieann going near their places. Only Only the day before the terrific cast catastrophe, a commission of scientists presided over by the mayor of the city, and appointed by him(the mayor being in Pandora on some war cor conference at the time) assembled at Pandora for the purpose to go out and study the phenomena of the forest fire horrors that w ere then ravaging portions of the Marie Osborne, and Zoe Rae forests, and heading for the Mic-Hollester Run hell bent for destroying the whole forested country side..

It was agreed that the relative position of the two cities of Adeleheid, and Abbieann, and the valleys and the country side, debouching on the river fronts, permitted them to affirm no security of either city, if the wind continued to main the direction that was placing the whole region in dire peril. But no one suspected of destruction coming by explosions. However with that statement the governer tried to reassure the people, already b ecoming frightened, and it is declared called out the military ,and drew a corden of troops around the city, forbidding any strangers from entering, and giving aid to all who in fear wished to leave. For any mistaken judgement i he would have had, he could have paid the penalty with his life, over with the people over whom he held official aurthority, but he was at Pandora at the time. The majority of dead in Abbieann proved to be women and children. The number of men were few. The men population werebelieved to be either in the army, or were fighting the forest fires. There also can be no doubt that science, fear, and anxiety, and the great conflagration itself united to give warning to those who would head, and therefore many men no doubt went out to aid rangers to fight the red plague. Professor Mc-Hollester of Scientific Univeristy of Pandora, exman examined the comndition of the forested country

scene of the burned area agood number of feet thick, and the smoke of the smoulder and the conflagration made the whole country side invisible.. On the month of May 1913 the forest fire neared the locality of Adeleheid and was raging south of Abbieann, and destroying the forested regions southeast of Abbieann and traveling along the southern forested shore of Lake Angoline, and along the Mic-Hollester Run. In its rush the fiery flood of flames swept from its path many plantations, towns and villiages, cattle and human beings over a breadth of hundreds of thousands of acres in a few weeks. At North bend of the Mic-Hollester Run stood the town of North Bend one of the finest in that region. Starring knew the place well. It was completely destroyed in the conflagration. The tall smoke stack of the burned factory alone remained visible amid the terrible sea of blackened ruins.

One hundred and fifty persons were estimated to have perished there, including the Mayor himself. As the conflagration rushed headlong along its course, the western arm of the fire moved over thirty miles all along the eastern line of the rivers course a wind blowing with great strength at the time, and a big wave of fire swept over the whi whole eastern front of the lake shore. Terrible detonations on May 29th, heard hundred hun reds of miles eastward, followed at short irregular intervals, and continued at night. In the intense darkness, the l eletric light failed and the whole city of Abbieann was only lit up by the lurid flashes of flame from the far distant conflagration. This Starring heard of and kept a written record. The terror stricken inhabitants went to the highest roof tops to see what was wrong, many in their night clothes, the children screaming and wailing mad with terror.

The inhibatants of the southern section of the city however had no fear of the forest fire, not expecting anything far worse.

The first that was known at even Pandora of the disaster at Abbieann, was at about six oclock in the morning of the first day of June. At that hour there suddenly spread over the city a thick cloud of smoke, dust and something like powder fumes, which came from the diredt direction of Abbieann. The cloud swept over the city with unusual swiftness coming from the southeast, turning bright day light into the darkness of an approaching thunderstorm, with hardly a minutes warning. During the night before Pandora also had been rocked considerably by tremendous concussions, and vessels fastened to the river wharves were set crushing against each other with the great force. A great strange wave swept down the river, and for days after the water never resumed its normal level. Everybody in that city at first knew or believed they knew what had happened. The volcano Mt Joan, had broken out in appalling eru tion. Throughout the streets of Pandora, and along the water front, people ran thither and hither in the wildest panic, and on all sides there was but one cry."The volcano. The volcano. It is Mt Joan."

As quickly as possible in the confusion, the government aurthorities of the city, and the Mayor also, realizing what need there was, began to organize a tremendous system for carrying help to those known to be in dire distress, and many of the inhabitant inhabitants took boats also to get as near to the scene of the " eruption" as possible to get a view of it. Many shipscbeva became alive with activity. They were made ready for a trip down the rivers as quickly as possible, and they started away at full speed down every river possible in the direction of Abbieann, and a great column of smoke and fire.

Troops and p prp provisions also were hurried aboard of them, and many other ships that had arived at Pandora that same morning, made instant preparations to go south. Everybody was excited. The ships had not gone over two days or more, when three of them returned bring back the " cheerful tidings" that Abbieann was utterly destroyed, and that the entire country side from Abbieannia, Abbieann down to the very Calverinia State, and to Angelinia was either on fire, or under a flood, that Adeleheid was wiped out, and that it was impossible to land at any point near Adeleheid on account of the great heat.The river water was at boiling heat. They said everywhere they went the spectacle was most appalling, and looked as if the whole of Calverinia was one mass of flame, or of water, and was sinking into the bowels of the earth.

They also brought the report that no volcano anywhere was in eruption but that it looked as if a whole side of Mt joan had cascaded down before the concussion of some sort of ground eruptions near Abbieann and elsewhere. At first these reports were hardly believed, but the ships that went first to the scene of the disaster came back to Pandora four days after the other ships, which had followed in the effort to reach the scene of the disaster.

On board these returning ships were a few survivors taken from the ravaged shipping in the river ports of Abbieann, and all of them were so frightfully burned and wounded that they died on board the ships before they reached the city of Pandora. Mostly all of these ships played a brave part from the moment of reaching the scene of the unusual disaster. Fortunately having all steam up there was no time lost starting for the direction where it was evident a great disaster had occured. Throughout many weeks the hea heat in the vinicity of Adeleheid was so intense, and the flaming fires of the forests, and the nature of the ornormous flood raging elsewhere, and the condition of the country so awful that it was impossible to approach the ti town. As the second week passed some ships after a heroic battle with the heat, suffocation, and terrific fire fumes and smoke succeeded in making a dash tward the shore, nearing the land close enough to see what had actually happened. The Abbieannian Royal Mail Steamer, The Ricksen called from the north in the vinicity of Abbieann, at ten oclock the night following the disaster standing off shore about a mile, sounding her whistle and sending up rockets. She recieved no answer. The whole river front up north was blazing for many miles like a hellish furnace. The Ricksen sent a boat ashore but it could not land on account of the terrific heat, which was accompanied by loud explosions. Not a living soul appeared ashore after the boat had waited untilll morning.....

Ashes occassionally was blown over the steamer.This ship then steamed for Pandora seeking assistance, as all the country was either flooded or burned up, all the stockkk was dying all the plantations were charred, the countrypeople were flocking into the to n towns further northhh north, and famine and a general horror was feared. The steamer was l

Part 1 of chapter 22

A WHOLE NATION THAT IS LIVING UNDER THE SHADOW OF DEATH, IN FANCIED SECURIETY. VESSELS UNABLE TO REACH ABBIEANN.

Starri ng had been told again and again that is was very strange indeed that it must always seem to the rest of the world, that those who lived in the very shadow of the terrible war cloud, should not heed its muttered warnings, its premonitory symptons that the storm would reach further than its own zone. but since the last terrible war disaster a number of months had probably passed, since the war has threatened any serious circumsances circumstances, and accordingly out of the supposed war zone the green slopes of all riages and mountains, were as familiar to the population as the forested plains or the meadows and the fields from their very doorsteps,the very beauty of rivers and lakes furnishing them pleasure grounds for their recreation. But as familarity breeds contempt of the greatest dangers till they are thought no dangers at all, the enemy then being so far south was not feared except as the remotest dangers hardly enough to cast a single cloud over the northern and central sections of calverinia. (The war earlier however had showed its frightful anger even in pengal State. who forgets the first most frightful battle of the war, the battle of Abbieann, and it a foe victory.)

Yet even at this fateful time some of the warnings were ample. Two days after the destructive battle of Abbieann, the Governor of Angelinia state recieved a letter from his sister, and the letter indicated that they appreciated their danger, when the enemy won a sort of advantage over the national armies on ar geronican Creek at Abbieann with a immeasureable loss of both sides in killed and wounded, and that afterwards the enemy displayed signs of activity about a few weeks later, which date the letter bears, and had made plans to leave if the occasion arose and which she did in due time. Starring had been shown the very letter to by the Governor himself. The letter had been as follows;

"My dear hubby;

This morning the whole population of Abbieann is on the alert and apprehensive, and every eye is directed tward Geronion Creek, where a terrific battle is raging. Every Everybody is afraid that the enemy has taken to his heart to win the battle, and then burst forth into the city and destroy everything. We recieved reports which terrified the people that the Glandelinians under general Germania Prancting Vivian, the trator traitor son of emperor Vivian has burst forth with terrific force and fury in one of their headlong charges and in carrying all before them, has won the conflict along their left in spite of the christian fire that has dea destroyed everything for a radius of seventeen miles. The glandelinian losses are awful but they are winning. For several days before the enemy had been raging squabbles, and immense columnw of solumns of troops are moving down the left to try and stop the enemy.

Despite the danger all of the braver inhabitants are going out from the city to see the battle. From the noise I am afraid to even leave the house. There is not a horse to be had in the city, the cavarly having taken them all. and those belonging to the rural districts are kept in readiness to leave at a moments notice.

At half past ten this morning, I was in my room with little Jenn, and we heard fourtee fourteen distinct shocks that we thought came from a volcanic range that is near the city. They were so great that we supposed at first, the volcanoes broke out, the first of the reports being very loud, but the great were so great that all our dishes were broken, and the house was completely rocked.

It came from a tremendous volley of glandelinian artillery covering one of their main chargers charges. We can see some of the volcanoes from the rear windows in our house, and they were not activie. The battle was fully ten miles from the city but we could hear the roar, and fancy of seeing the smooke smoke. The smell of powder is so strong that horses on the streets stop and snort, and many of the people are obliged to wear wet handkerchiefs over their faces to protect them from the strong smell of powder. The best friends of mine assures me there is no immediate danger, and when there is the least particle of danger the whole population will set fire to the city and flee.Or if the situation of the battle becomes very bad, I shall embark at once and go up north to Pandora. however my dear Hubby the battle raged three days and the foe held his own. The city however is still safe, and we hope the enemy does not come."

Mrs Jane Turner.
Your beloved and
Loving wife."

Before the letter reached its destination, his wife and the entire family, and the vessel upon which they were depending had arived saftly at Pandora. Had they remained untill June the next year they probably would have been destroyed by the terribe disaster, which warnings if there had been any, had been unheeded in time...

Ever since the 19th of October 1912,.. the enemy who even then is believed to have wro ght wrought all that havoc, had been causing nature to continually menfast disquieting symptons.A great list of m smaller disasters came mounting since that time, and there were from time to timr great or smaller losses of lives according to the sizes of the catastrophes . By the month of November the enemy began to show a greater fury, and the first sign of this new and second most tremene tremendous disaster was that near Sperry ville great columns of dense smoke were seen and on November 9th at night flames, accompanied by rumbling noises lighted the sky over an immense area causing wide spread terror. The horror came speedily and Sperryville was no more. Both the cities of Sperryville and Schloedertown were wiped out by fire and explosion and some character of an ernormous flood also followed...

November 9th the explosions occured, and on November the 13th all was over, and Lake Selicia had been spreading all over the land.

All seemed quited down after that horror , and no great disaster occured except what naturally will occur in tremendous battles. July 12th however during the following year was not quite remarkable excepting in only the showing of the tremendous increase of the southeastern Calverinian forest fires. Hot smouldering ashes covered the whole

district

~~hight~~ which rose from a new forest fire area, Egyptian darkness enveloped Abbieann, and an alarming luminous cloud suddenly ascended under this darkness many miles high, and drifted slugh sluggishly to the northeast. Ins Incessant flashes of fire rose on a mountain top, and one severe conflagration seemed to strike about three miles east of Abbieann.ch. th nderous rumblings of so many explosions sometimes lasted for two hours without a moments abatement, and then would deminish untill they became mere mutterings. Starring usually believed that the explosions were caused by the turpentine trees exploding of which the forests were of nothing else but.

Also Starring could not account for the storm of ashes that at the wind usually blew into the city.. All the time his followers were with him in the city, theyhad all they could do to pacify the refugees who were continually freinzied with fear,even dreading a repeatof the catastrophe, which caused such terrible loss of life on the country side, and also through out the big city.. Despite the calls of the Rangers they would run from the city streets into the open country, crying and praying for preservation fro from another ~~tttttty~~ disaster.. no one in the city slept that night.

Detonations and smoke and flashes of flame from the forest fire continued all night and a heavy hot windstorm occured at North Bend, bringing more smoke than ever into the district. Starring and every one longed for rain. Indeed the heat and dryness were unprecedented, and because of the fires there was no hope for the resuscitation of the forest country for years to come.

Even the canal that supplied the water to that country for domestic and manufacturing purposes dried up because of the heat of the forest fire, and the district was desolated beyond comparison. The continuous agitation of the winds in the path of the forest fires, and the absence of the badly needed rain caused the vinicity of the afflicted villiages and towns in the path of the horror to look like portions of the well known sections of Dantes Inferno.Every day and night it without abatement, a thick smoky cloud overspread the whole region, interfering much with Starringe plans to his disgust, and for his followers the feeling of suspense was awful. even the frightened refugees passed their time gazing at the eastern sky, where the fire storm clouds had n so long gathered, and where the mournful roaring of the flames were heard. Finally on the 25th Wednesday more than twp weeks after the adventurers had come into the ruined city, the dense clouds forming a canopy over the greater part of the ruined city lowered, and a severe windstorm, accompanied by fierce clouds of smoke broke over the city. It continued for two days, Wednesday and Thursday, causing the fires far to the southeast to reach the very forests east of Abbieann, and the fury of the wind was so strong and the storm of smoke and sparks so thick and heavy that the refugees were almost suffocated. Roaring sounds from the wind also caused apprehension of another fire storm striking the forests on the other side, and cutting off their escape also.The strength of the wind also was so great that it distrub disturbed the weaker portion of the ruins, and many corpses not seen before were exposed to view.

The conditions however were quite different when at last calm was restored or such an approach to it as could be expected after the terrible calamity. Yet here huddled amid the ruins of the northern end of the city were thousands of old men women and children left homeless and without the means of keeping alive except as they recieved aid from those in a position to help them.

During a complete respitevin this awful element Starring alone this time rode up from the city to the closest edge of the fires track, and the sight even on the way of the last few miles of the journey was one of the most terrible and heart-rending that has ever been seen by man. There seemed to be a sea of graves on every hand, not man made graves but natural ones, for where the people had fallen during the crashing explosions there ha they had been buried by the falling debris.And the winds had a partly uncovered them. In front of every little house not touched by the conflagration there were a number of bodies lying that graphically told the story of the death of whole families. When starring went to this district he had to make his way through a deep coating of still smouldering ashes and debris which increased in depth gradually untill at the edge of the main fire belt the heat was unapproachable. It would have been almost impossible to urge the horses through the mere small depth of it had it not been that the animal was not afraid of a little heat underneath. Starring then turned back to avoid the smoke and heat, and came upon a villiage just barely touched by the conflagration. The blackened walls in all instances were the only evidences that once upon this section handsome buildings had stood. And all around strangely enough were those graves telling their tale of the end of those ho who had once dwelt within these ruins. All of the trees ,amn many of them oak and elm and big pines had been burned untill nothing but the black ned smoking stumps remained. In one of the burned villiages passed through, only one whole house and it in ruins was still standing, and in one was found the bodies of several persons charred and calcined. In front of two remaining walls there were sixteen bodies burned to a crisp which to starring was no unusual sight. Smoke still enveloped this part of the country in a haze but there were no signs that the fires vengeance had not been sas satisfied in this locality..In all the villiages through which Starring passed most of the house houses were burned to the ground and ashes blown from the forest fires were more than a foot deep.He returned deeply depressed to the ruins of Abbieann to tell his find.

of Chapter ~~22~~ Twenty
me,

BENGALL CITY OVERWHELMED.....

EARTHSHOCKS IN CENTRAL BENGALL STATE ACCOMPANIED THE EXPLOSIONS NEAR ABBIEANN ---- MANY BEST PARTS OF ABBIEANN LEFT IN RUINS.

Starring now began to know for sure that the earthquake like concussions in Bengall State which accompanied the unusually violent explosions, were no doubt related to the latter disturbances. He knew many cities were devastated by the effects of the shocks and the accompanying floods, but of all Abbieann suffered the heaviest loss of property and numbers of dead. Mildred Greenburg seconded the amount of heavy damages and loss of life. As he had heard and read that for many minutes the shocks from each succeeding explosion continued tumbling down cities towns and villiages, throughout all of central Calverinia and Bengall State. The following shocks were the most severe, and in cities and towns not totally destroyed the inhabitants by morning were wandering about, not knowing where to go next.

While Starring remained in the city of Abbieann, he decired to trace from his maps to find out how far the effects of the explosion disaster extended. He looked on the map for where the city of Quezmosodo is situated. This the third largest city in Calverinia he knew suffered by far the worst for its size. But then he considered that no where in the big Bengall City Abbieann was damage even slighter. Thousands of the best and biggest residences and public buildings in Northern Abbieann were either totally destroyed or seriously damaged. He at first could not understand how a loss of life so terrible could have happened. In many cities of other countries he knew and had seen with his own eyes, that these cities had narrow streets, often not often three or four yards across, and that the town had been built in even a irregular manner, and if earthquakes and other disasters occured, these streets even served to make death trap traps of the houses, and before half of the debris could be removed if a disaster didhappen many dead bodies would be exposed to view.

But in Abbieann city the widest streets is a quarter of a mile, the narrowest more than three to four hundred feet, and only the tallest buildings fell across or partly across these 5 streets.

He firmly believed the reports had been exactly true and he said to the captian who remained with him;

"It is ac actually true that the inhabitants were killed withinthe houses while asleep. Amatitlan, San Juan,, San Marcos, Escuintla, Santa Lucia, Quatlan, and several other wide streets the wreckage did not even reach to the mille, I middle so that through the middle of these streets there could be traversed a long lane between the two lanes of wreckage. I estimated approximately about fifty thousand people that were probably still left under all that debris. I believe I also could estimate that within the ruins at Quezaltenango street, about two blocks from San Jose, and De Guatemala Streets about five hundred thousand were killed in bed buried under the wreckage wreckage while all were in bed out of a poulation in that wide district of possibly eight hundred thousand."

"You are right" said the captian."I have observed that death and damage was also total in the streets of San Marcos, San Pedro,, San Juan Ostencalco, Tucana, San , Hazatanango, Maya, and Cuyotenango. These streets were wide, and there was plenty of space to walkthrough as most of the buildings were low only three to four story affairs. I observed two orphan asylums which had about three to five thousand children each. One wall of thisbuilding was torn out clear as if the building had been side swiped by a tornado, exposing all the domorties domor r domortories. I managed to get into one of the rooms to see how many children were in the beds dead, and found every bed empty. I could not account for that mys ery. I went through a portion of the safer ~~tom~~ ruins of the other structure, but all bedrooms were filled with debris but I was sure a terrible mortality rate among children was here, for wherever beds were not covered up they had a little skeleton.

Much damage was done on the big Coffee stores, and at the River ports of Ocos and Champerico streets.

The great Big CEntral Avenue Libary was wrecked and all the great and most expensive and rare books were buried under tons of debris; and the wreckage of other taller houses near by were mixed in with this. I dug up some of the books and examined their contents."

"I looked for one spot outside the city zone to find if some of the reports caused by the shocks were true" continued Starring.

"What were those reports?"

"Why I read that the earth rolled up in four distinct waves, and then rolled high and which still rear their crests where they stood when the great convulsions ceased. ceased. And between each cruck is a wide deep crack, and the earth in every direction is seared by openings of apparently no soundless depths. The river banks up in that locality have been squeezed to get together I heard, and that the streams are a number of feet narrower than before."

"Did you reach the locality to see if it was true?" asked the captian.

"No. the forest fires have burred all approach to that locality. Of course captian I do believe, those reports------ yes, I do, after I have seen it with my eyes. I was also told that the bed of the river near North end have up a large number of victims who had once caught or had got caught in a quagmire of mud and sand and who perished about ten years ago in it. The spot had long been pointed at as the grave of hundreds of quick sand victims, but there was no sign visible to indicate that

quagmire ever was there.. when the explosions came and produce the shocks as it is written in the news, and the force of the concussion squeezed the river banks together it forced every one of the skeletons from the bog, and hurled them high and dry upon the shore. This I found to be true as far as evidence shows, and I'll show you as soon as this afternoon approaches. The city city railroad bridge, across the river from ojo one street to the other was strangely telescoped by the strange contraction of the banks, and the river wharf, which was the citys pride, now stands a monument to the ruthless strength of the explosion made shocks, a misshappen mass of badly tangly tangled angles."

"I inspected the streets of San Jose and also Escuintla where all the buildings were were almost completely destroyed. The shocks I believe did in in fourty seconds in this district, and houses not destroyed are partly razed or badly cracked, and hundreds of thousands of sleepers here have been buried in the ruins, and struck by falling timbers and stones. The loss of life I believe was between four hundred thousand in the whole length of the street of Escuintla and the districts adjoining with all other cross streets. Escuintla street had a population of about five hundred thousand in cluding its districts surrounding on each side before the shock, which cut ravines in some of the districts, and shook many of the houses and buildings level with the ground. Not one of these I believe survived the shocks. The scenes in that street sir and also some of the other streets of that district which suffered more the most were and is terrible. None of the bodies of the victims have yet been dug from the ruins of houses . In San Jose Street, I saw a whole line of big buildings of both sides, which were destroyed destroyed by the concussion, and only three bodies or half skeletons did see protruding from the wreckage. Street car subways were not damaged which were mysterious to me, though partly full of water, and those lower down railway yards, were lakes of water with all kinds of railroad cars partly covered, or floating about. The number of houses destroyed surrounding the railroad depots and yards, as a result of the concussions I could not tell, but I saw many with all the rooms exposed and none of the furniture was injured, except where fires had raged. I went to the street or para where I had learned that in ninty seconds, I,000 people had been buried while asleep under the ruins of their fallen houses, over four thousand burned or smothered to death, and the street of Quezaltenango of 140,000 people destroyed by the concussion."

"I was there too" said Starring. For all we have seen of what even survived of Abbieann only fragmentary accounts of the disaster has been recieved through the news owing not only through interrupted communication, but that no one was at Abbieann to see the true facts. I went to para street on and stood on the corner section of Guatemala poul. taking pictures of the ruins. There stood what was left of a church, only its clock and bell tower, and to my surprise the darn clock was still running for it struck three oclock. Crevices in the very streets was observed at frequent intervals, and once I nearly stepped into one. Looking down I saw it led down into one of the transportation subways of Abbieann. It was full of water, and I saw bodies floating in the water, which evidently told me that ruins full of people were caught and drowned like rats in the rush of water into these tunnels. The greatest damage I observed so far captian is at Quezaltenango street, for all buildings for the full length as far as eye could reach on every side, and down all other intersecting streets are practically destroyed. In one building I saw lying in bed a little skeleton holding a expensive doll, and near by lay the skeleton of a dog. That sight brought the tears to my eyes. I could not resist it, and I took a picture of that. Believe me all these pictures I am taking will show to the whole world what what kind of a foe we have to deal with if glandelinia really did this. All the buildings that were left standing are cracy and shaky. They will have to be pulled down. I the room of one sad wreck, a building that looked as if some blast had ripped it upside down, hung the motto " God Bless Our Home." That sign to me was a mockery. I could not look at it a second time as it chocked me. The loss is irreparable. Many beautiful stores of all kinds were on this street and they all suffered in a similar manner, and in addition suffered a greater loss, that of all members of tye their families. There were as I heard at the ending of the disaster, three most terrific shocks of all following the others, each three more severe than the one preceding followed by a tremendous one that nothing can compare, but the damage was all done within a minute and a half. Among the wealthier class the loss of life was similarly the same. If the concussions had occured in daytime when every one would have been up and around I do believe many would have had time and a chance to flee from their houses and safe into the wide middle sections of the streets or in the patios or street courts, and would have been saved but all were caught in their beds sound asleep, and those who may have been aroused may have been killed before that they reached the streets. The streets are not one quarter as narrow as streets in even American cities, so that escape from a falling building was absu absolutely possible, unless they were sky scrapers. The loss of life mostly was found within the ruins as I observed showing that no one I found among those thousands upon thousands of skeletons had even an an ample chance to get up out of bed before they were killed by either the ruins or some gas from the explosions. And most people in Abbieann(except in hot weather) are accustomed to retire early, and nearly all were in their houses as usual when the great shocks came. The houses are built of the same materials as in American cities, and when they collasped all their occupants were buried in the ruins."

"As long as the corpses or the skeletons skel tons are not dug up from the ruins it will be practically impossible to give anything like an accurate estimate of the dead" said Mr Starring ."It is estimated by the news that the total populat-

population had perished. That can only be proven when all the dead are recovered."

"But how can it be?" asked the captian."It is stated that more than three quarters of the city was swept away by the flood, and the lake front of it sunk beneath the lake itself. None of these bodies can ever be recovered. To add to the horror of the situation any of the ruins have been afire, and all the bodies may be burned to ashes. Most of our own followers in exploring this horror have suffered greatly from heat and thirst owing to the fact that the water mains are all broken. We have been only able to drink of the water that remained in the fountains still working, and what we have taken up and boiled from the river."

"That may be true but we could estimate the numbers found." argued Starring. Even Quezaltenango street could give us some numbers to start with. I have come across skelentons of all sizes lying everywhere about the streets, here would be a head, there a trunk,, and limbs severed by falling iron cornices or timbers, and everywhere from the piles of debris I have seen protruding arms and legs of skeletons. The sight was horrible horrible, and one that cannot be forgotten."

"All the additional sights I have seen" said the captian." especially in Guatemala street only added to its horrors. There must be districts of dead under the ruins. I examined a part of Tapacuchella street, and the damage to the buildings was worse on the sides facing the explosion area. The rear portions still stood whole and entire. In San Marcos street, near Quezaltenango, all the buildings facing the explosion area were totally destroyed on the frontal sections, while in the rear they were entire also. In one building which was a home for crippled and sick children I counted six hundred small skeletons in every pose in their half wrecked and half debris covered beds. Others of the inmates no doubt were crushed and buried under the fallen walls. In La Lachiau street, not a house was left standing. Many universities and colleges were located within this di district, but no bodies were discovered in these ruins.."

This city of Abbieann which was situated near the borders of big Lake Angeline was very rich in millions of queer and rare relics and paintings and articles taken by explorers from the ruins of ancient and civilized races. The destruction of Abbieann was the biggest loss to Abbieannia on record, and the whole country was trying its utmost to discover whether the disaster was on one of nature, or caused by the enemy. Coffee the prinicipal export of the city itself was lost for the many years to follow, and as Auvie Abbieann was one of the greatest coffe and tea trading cities and ports in the world in this story the loss was immeasureably great. The sugar and rum productions were also loss, besides all vegetable and fruit.

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Chapter Twenty ~~one~~ - Two

HOW CAN THE GREAT ABBIEANN AND OTHER CALVERINIAN DISASTERS BE EXPLAINED. SOME TRY TO EXPLAIN. THE THEORIES OF SCIENCE ON THE EXPLOSION CONVULSIONS. VIEWS OF THE MOST EMINENT CALVERINIAN AND ABBIEANNIAN SCIENTISTS CONCERNING THE CAUSES OF THE GREAT ABBIEANN HORROR .....

Calverinia, and her sister states might as well be like a human body subjects to all kinds of disease and derangements. Calverinia can even be likened to some person who just because she is good and Christ like, is crucified by her wicked sister s who are her enemies, and her sisters are the Glamelinian States and Provinces, while her loyal Sisters, and mother Abbieannia, cut off by the enemy and disasters, is forced to look on, and almost do nothing, and allow her to linger there, in horrible agony sorrow and misery. The dreadful heat of the forests fire have caused all over the country as far as Abbieannia, high above normal temperatures for even the late summer and early fall season, and evidence seems that because of it there will be no winter this year. And the awful heat of the many forest fires, and the frequent changes which constantly take place because of the disasters of the war manifest themselves terribly in the form of horror and death in every locality. In other words Calverinia is likened to a person who is being burned and scorged scorged while hanging on that cross.

The fires and other disasters had manifested themselves into a score of complications in the shape of floods, explosions, massacres, terrific defeats in battle, and the ruin of whole cities and towns, and war made eruptions upon the whole landscape. In other words the war is taking its vengeance upon nature as well as humanity. All kinds of Abbieannian scientists have advanced many theories concerning the primary causes of all these awful disasters, and many explanations relating to the results and the extent of these calamities. Yet like the doctors who disagree in the diagonsis of a human malady, the scientists of every kind are equally unable to agree in all details concerning this form of all calamities since the war began, and some even dispute over the statement that all the calamities were natural and not caused by the enemy at all...

After all theoires relating to the cause of the many disasters,(not counting massacres of children) have been considered, the one that is most tenable and is sustained by the largest number of scientific men in Abbieannia is that which traces all kinds of disasters back to the old accepted cause of natural means, and to the eternal fires in the center of the earth, and not blaming the war at all, but in the majority they blame it on the enemy. And only in the latter way can the disasters be accounted for...

The youngest student scients in the country of Calverinia, or any of her other states, and also in Abbieannia, and foreign scientists, or any man familiar with science who examined the or at least investigated the scenes of the great disaster discovered that the explosion disasters at Abbieann were not caused, by any upward or outward force caused by volcanic activity as many others had recorded in newspapers, and found like Starring that all the substances were of no volcanic material to any degree. And these scientists hundreds of them were with Starring aiding him in his work. They worked with him even while the scenes around were almost like the internal regions of the earth, sacrificing their safty, health and so forth to help him in his efforts.

But something more more than the mere presence of the craters and the debris th en thrown by them is necessary to account for the causes of the " so called volcanic action", although it may in a larger degree account for the strange and most record breaking vehement seismic covelsion convulsions in the form of earthquakes which affected the whole nation that fatal night of June the first Monday morning. The elements discovered by starrig which enter into the source of these explosive forces proved to be no volcanic eruption. The characteristic phenomenon of a volcanic eruption is the steam clouds that issue from the cru crater before the appearance of the molten lava, dust ashes and scoria. Such materials was not found anywhere near these craters.. This accepted theory is plainly illustrated in the disasterous explosions of the other months past, which dug craters of the same kind though not so large.

One form of these awful explosions, and its simplest form is likewise illustrated in a boiler explosion. Observations of these most violent explosions of the war show them by the nature of the craters and the havoc wrought by them to be only most tremendous mine explosions, placed at a great depth beneath the surface of the ground, where a great quarity of all kinds of powerful explosives have been placed and suddenly converted into eruptions by electric charges from a far distant battery. In minor explosions of the war the presence of black smoke is not noticeable in such quantities, which is simply because the amount of explosives was small and the amount of TNT placed was only sufficient to expel the earths surface to a shorter distance.

The flow of water from the explosion craters which follows most violent explosions is expelled by the outward and the upward force of the great blasts, and drawn probably from water currents underneath the earth earths surface. That may explain why the explosion craters afterwards have a lake in them. The two lines of

xpl sion craters near Abbieann, one running north and south, the other east and west which intersect the neighborhood of Abbieann, and Ad l Adel eheid cities and Bengall State, follows the course where the rivers Aronburgs and Mic-mollester Run is ident fied where great bodies of forests stretch over the c ntry side.

The terrific force of the ex explosions was sufficient to cause crevices for hun dreds of miles over the country side, and the character of the explosions is determined largely by the size of the crevices so created by the concussion and the amount of water that finds its way in to them.

And the temperature of the forest fires raging near the vinicity can only be guessed at, but some idea may be formed of their intense heat from the streams of melted rock sometimes running down mountain slopes swept by these raging fires. These sometimes had run ten or twelve miles in the open air before cooling sufficiently to become solid rocks again. From this it will be seen by the reader, whether he believes it can ever really happen or not in these cases, that the flames of the forest fires are or were much hotter than are required to reduce the rocks on the mountain side to a liquid form. From this scene too may be seen the instantaneous action of the or by which the water seeping or flowing through a forest fire area is converted into steam, and the streams dry up.

The ca amity which befell Abbieann and her neighboring cities and towns had with out question lead to a fresh discussion of the causes of the explosions as also it was blamed on these forest fires. Yet all the phenomena involved therein are not fully understood, and concerning all of them there were perceptible difference of opinion among the best of the experts. On at least one point(if it is sharp enough) however there is always a general disagreement. Forest fires were raging east but close to the explosion area, before the crash, and at a distance of fourteen miles it was claimed that the heat of the Honduras Creek forest fire was probably great enough to set things flame, and within a mile off to melt every known substance. This report was laughed at but investigators after the passage of the fire typo typhoon discovered the statement to be somewhat under the actual thing. Objects were melted three miles away and no one could have lived fifty. miles off .

Confinement of the fire was impossible. There was also a growing tendency moreover to recognize the importance importance of the nature of the blasts. The distance from the xplosions to the fires was at that s time one hundred miles. The weight of several miles of rock is almost inconceivable, and most of this loosened by the concussion slide down mountain sides.. The scientists regarded this as the chief agent in the explosion concussion, at least when sides of hills are easily shaken loose. These scenes were worse and more extended than the earthquake horror in China entitled, " When the mountains walked."As to the extent to which forest fires are claimed respon sible there is some lack of harmony among even fire scientists.

Dargar, gringigore, Schloeder, Heidiab, and others of the Gemini, great scientists themselves held that eletric batteries largely, if not entirely responsible, as was the theory o for the blasts, and not the fires as the fires were too far away. They point to the case, that investigations proved that there were too many craters situated in the Abbieann region, to be of volcanic origin. Dargar also regarded forest fires not as the initial factor, but as an occasional, though in important reinforcement. He suspects that the mines were probable t stores for safe keep; ke ping under ground for munition uses, and that the fires may have heatened the ground to a great extent, and that in the munition galleries underground enough heat was generated to blast the munitions. Whether they were placed there by the enemy is a difficult question, but as many other such disasters were her doing, this one is blamed on Glandelinia also, and if she is not guilty she will soon prove it. The explosive effects of the disaster which ensued were of three kinds.

By the expansion of the force all the harder rock substances under the munition galleries galleries was reduced to a state of powder, and this originated the enormous clouds of fine dust which were ejected. Some of the greatest explosions had the Mt Pelee effect when St Pierre was destroyed, but on a hundred per cent greater scale. Other explosions were of the Krataka forve and style but far greater also. Shocks of greater or less violence were also produced. The less severe explosions sounded like the discgarfe discharge of the heaviest artillery, and gave rise to r tremors in the immediate vinicity but did no damage. In extreme cases of some of the vehement explosions enough force was developed to rend the walls of the city of Abbieann itself on the north even though far from the explosion, a scene of which Starring discovered in the ruins.

Starring discovered that even a part of northern Abbieann itself was blown up and a crater is where that portion of the city stood. It was like a hundred Krakatoas blowing p at once in this spot alone. The culminatingtstptstode culminating drama of the northern Abbieann explosion, like the fierceness of the Pelee eruption on a thousand per cent force, though not resulting so disasterously to the landscapes near by as Krakatoa would have done would seem to be due to the same cause. To this particular explosion ,too, it seems safe to assign the upheaval which excited a tidal wave along the two coasts of Calverinia, east and west, as the whole state was shaken bad enough to effect the sea.

That was why in every city not injured by the shocks came reports of freakish action of furniture and household household property that at first was laughed at and not believed. The precise manner in which the explosions literally acted in destroying Abbieann in the Mt Pelee, St Pierre, and also earthquake , and flood fashion almost simultaneously is not and probably will never be entirely clear. Nevertheless it is possible to get some light on the matter . It is now well known that in many places where such xplosions have occured there are deep long mine galleries, aug by the men placing explosives. Some of them have been made wide and deep enough to hold hundreds of thousands of pounds of the most powerful explosives.. The mine galleries leading under and to the dikes of Lake Selicia are believed to have been formed by the enemy. It has been observed that many craters caused by explosions are distributed along similar mine galleries.

The existance of a chain of explosion craters in the Abbieann region suggests the probabilities that there were long galleries made underground. Just how these galleries have been formed, and whether they were stored off by the nationals for the purpose of hiding munitions from the enemy, or whether the enemy placed the explosives to cause the catastrophe is one of the most difficult questions still left for investigation and which Starring is trying most deseperately hard to find out.. Giving a ting of strangely formed galleries under round is afford-d. Whilliam schloeder, another gu reme Member of the Gemini suggested that the mines were placed by the foe, and that probably

the forest fires or the enemy may have been the immediately exciting cause of the immeasurable catastrophe. Other Scientists have found a similar explanation acceptable in the cases of other explosion disasters elsewhere. And the Theory has much to commend it to favor. The Abbieann and Bengall Bengall horror has drawn from geologists scientists, and even volcanists, many Expressions of excited debatements and opinion and explanations of volcanic and other phenomena which set forth in detail the causes of the horror, and the effects throughout the nation of explosion disasters disasters in particular, and seismic convulsions caused by them in general.

Gingeriore, a professor age of the Gemini, has made a special study of the results of these disasterous explosions, floods, and fires, and other catastrophes. He has made an investigation of the Lake Selicia disaster, and has investigated many other disasters for purpose of study. He is also an authority upon volcanography.

He said to Starring:

"I have found as it is strangely enough a or two circles of explosion craters. One circles the surface of the country side north and south,, extending through Mic-Mic-mollester Run to the north of Abbieann, the otye other east and west, through a part of Bengall State including those near Adeleheid. These two circles intersect at two points. One of these is on the Aronburgs Run, which includes North pend, near Abbieann the scene of this red record breaking disaster, the other is in the region of the periomonium Creeekk creek. Near here are the terrile explosion craters. It is just at these points of intersection of the two crater rings, that I found the unusual size for the explosion craters, and it is there and in the immediate vinicity that I observed the worst of the havoc."

There has been more or less theorizing as to wave disturbances moving or extending in strange cycles, but this was ot yet proved.. One statement is established, and that is that some of the least disasters of the explosions had the force of a volcanic explosion, and this was proved by witnesses by the great clouds of smoke that accompany the explosion. Even the theory that the very s center of Calverinia is worst than devastated Darrar declared no longer held. He asserts the latest idea is that the Central parts of Calverinia is more free from the effects of the disaster, than the east, south, and west. About the center thd there is more or less a storm of catastrophes occuring, and southeastern Calverinia is a seething hell. Yet another said, there is no part of Calverinia which is expemt exempted from by the war disasters, and there is no regularity in their appearence. And great explosions were almost always preceded or proceeded by peculiar earthquakes, but always of devastating force. The Lake Selicia explosion concussion killed many in Helendale and Schloedertown when the buildings crashed before the the shock. As it is impossible to predict when the next horror will take place, it is also impossible to tell where it will be.

Put it will certainly be somewhere in the two sections of the war zones. All this is of interest, as showing that the war is growing in force every day. The best of sies have seen the same thing in south central Calverinia. There most decided changes of the war have taken places even in the last eight months.

And the enemy is still in full possession. Even new causes to the disasters might be discovered, and then seismic theories might e ther be confirmed ir disapproved.. The danger or remaining in the war zone is usually well known but people dare anything usually than forsake their homes. Owing to the presence of the fumes of the powder and munitions exploded it is probable that many of the vitims victims in Abbieann not buried under the debris were asphyxiated, and so died easily in their sleep. Others doubtless were buried in the ruins of their homes, or were caught in some en closed place which was being surrounded by flames in the burning wreckage resulted in slow roasting.

It is indeed a horrible disaster, and one which we may all pray not to see duplicated in reality.. No one however has no means of knowing that it may not occur again. What is ever left of many areas of burned over forests are still smouldering furnaces like fires banked up for scores and scores of miles over ready to again break forth at some unexpected and inopportune moment. Yet these disasters is still one of the most inexplicable and profound problems which defy the power of geologists to explain, and one of the most singular peculiarities of the catastrophes is the astounding incident that such explosions sometimes breaks forth simultaneously in widely different portions of the state. A sympathetic relation of this kind had occured of the Lake Selicia and some other flood disasters. At the time of the Abbieann horror other explosions proceeded or followed it in all parts of Calverinia.

The outburst at Abbieann in Bengall State, was apparently the culmination of a number of recent explosion disturbances which have been unusually severe. A great explosion occured at Adeleheid, but a few days after the Abbieann horror, while many cities was nearly destroyed by the concussions that immediately followed.

Only a few days before the Abbieann disaster, the cities of Angelinia Agathia and many other places were convulsed by a great explosion on the banks of the Aron burgs run. Outbreaks of these kinds of disasters are merely the explosions of all kind of munitions---munitions placed in mine galleries under ground under ground, and the force of the blasts shatters its stone prisons into dust. The common belief that the munition mines at Abbieann is that it was placed by the enemy. If so If so, then how long were the Glandelinians at work on this, and how did they keep it so secret all this time? Here they may have secretly worked, digging deeper and deeper under masses of earth and rock, forming long mine galleries, and thousands must have done the job. They may have placed an unknown amount of explosives.

And the force of the explosions might have caused a shrinking of the earth in the neig near neighborhood, and a contruction of the outer surface as it settled on the plastic surface underneath. Fissures were caused by these foldings, when the munit ions exploded with such tremendous force.

The rocks all around were blown into dust, which was carried so high as to escape the power of the earths attraxtion and float by itself through space. It may be that the most violent earthquake tremors came during the crashing explosions, but it does not necessarily follow that this could also be the case either. Most eathquakes are caused by mysterious disturbances in the interior of the earth, but the explosion shocks though devastating were more jumpy than earthquakes. The most commonly accepted belief is that massive rock beds away down in the d earth at a depth of twelve miles or more, was disturbed also by the concussions of the explosions with the result that the concussion was felt all over the country to a degree less or more.. ie of these explosions had been heard further away than Angelinia gath Agathia, and the earths tremors were felt for many thousands of miles. The air was filled with articles of earth and dust for months afterwards..... The air air

The air waves following following these explosions are believed by the scientists to have passed four or five times around the globe the lobe. the face of the land in the vinity vinicity f the explosions was completely changed. A majoi

A greater number of the explosions are similar in cause and effect to a great meteor ion explosion. It is now Starrings accepted belief that the sudden introduciton of forest fire heat may have caused the disaster also. The concussions caused a tension of the crust of the earth which caused many great fissures to app appear. If it can and does be proved ttthat the enemy was responsible for the disaster it is not hard to imagine what the result would be. It would be the same as tightening down a safty valve and then let into a boiler of red hot pipes a quanity of i ce cold water. There were in the war two classes of explosions, those which resulted in tremendous floods, and those which only shook cities and rocked the nation. It is the flood following the explosions which brings wide p spread destruction, and it is surely astonishing to learn of the tremendous power one of these floods have when unleashed.

The floods are the most dangerous next to earthquake shocks to human life and property and can change the physical face of a country as well as a volcanic eruption or a terrific earthquake can do.

There was sure evi enidence that a good part of Abbieann, the size of the whole of new york that sunk into the waters of Lake Angoline from the concussion and effects of the explosions. More than that the vic-collector run route is also in danger because it is in the explosion zone. It seemed strange that the explosion horror resulted in the collapse of the shore containing such a large part of Abbieann and drawing it under the lake so that every one there drowned like rats in a trap. The concussion and the digging of the explosions, and the effects to the rocks far down below caused a subsidence to follow. The explosion craters were now believed to have caused a region of extreme weakness of the upper earths crust especially the explosions did, which has its parallel for all the length of the explosion disaster zone, and which extends for a great distance, where are located some of the biggest water filled craters of all. This same region of weakness includes nearly the whole of the bengall State.

With Starring were three national Abbieannian geographers who helped him make a study of the disasters. And these too were members of the gemini. Darger himself after a careful examination of the devastated regions related important scientific phases of the great explosions. Collections of data concerning the explosions nearest Abbieann was immediately begun. He was told by one eye witness that on the morning of the great disaster, a vac vast co column like volcanic dust, cinders, blocks of stone rolls of thunderheaded smoke rose many thousands of feet into the air like a shot, spreading full of flashes in all directions. A large portion of this lighted by the distant forest fires and easily seen, had seemed to reach the upper air current for it was carried eastward. This spreading and also falling was again divided, and the clouds were swept by the lower winds back tward the explosion and over the city.

The wrecked houses shows this, the windows on the side not facing the explosion crater being pharmed, while those on the eastern side were wrecked by the back draught tward the explosion.

There was no wind on the morning of the great disaster, a fact which facilitated the devastation of the country side. The hot asphyxiating gases from the distant forest fires, by the concussion of the explosions rolled westward, and many were scorched and suffocated.

Debris from the explosions fell in Mildred Greenburg over a hundred miles away and the heavy detonations where heard there as if the noise was exactly in the streets. The houses of that city shook fiercey fiercely and many crashed to ruin, strange gases filled the air, and thec warning phenomena in the sky produced by the disaster increased untill they becamecalarming. The city then was partly overwhelmed by the floods that resulted which swept upon the city with fearful rapidity. The Lake Selicia which flooded so much country before became a sea and a new flood from it spread fresh death and destruction on all sides. Three days later the worst flood on all record was on and devastated an untold number of cities and towns, and made a good part of Abbieann and Mildred Greenburg a thing of the past, wiping out the majority of the inhabitants Of the latter city, and changing a country side into an inland ocean. During the outbreak of the least of the explosions a c vast column of smoke rose to a height of four miles above the ground, as measured by some far distant eyewitnesses. The last of the explosions were more vo violent than one any one preceeding, and on this occassion the volume of smoke and deris debris rose to an unestimated height, and an exa examina ion of the stones that even fell in Calverine showed them to be a vairty of granite and limestone. They were bits of underlying rock forming a part of the crust of the earth.

There were no lavas of any kind found, for all fragments composed of pure rock.

Yet it is evident that the strange tornadoes of suffocating heat and gases which wrecked the buildings, asphyxiated the people not killed in the ruins, then started fire completing the ruin. These gases were believed to be caused th by the backward concussion of the air drawing the forest fire heatened air upon the city. This accords with the statement which has also been made to Starring that the complete asphyxiation of the inhabitants not under the ruin preceded the burning of most of the northern part of the city.

The gases being from the fires no doubt drove the ships of the river r adsteads to the bottom, or burned and shattered them before they could escape. Mud and clay was dug from the earth by the explosions, and came down in cloudbursts. The great emission of suffocating gas from the forest fires, brought upon the city by the shocks of the explosions are among the unusual features which the disaster has to add to the scientific knowledge of such explosions.

As this story tells it, Walter Starring was the first man who got foot in the area of explosion craters, and because of his high position ad scientist besides being general his stories were valuable for the cause, and the world in general. He said

that any one would be so excited over the disaster as to put in r ports that Mt Joan had been blown up, and that the mountain had thrown over the sea or Lake Angeline so much pumice that it was possible to walk a distance of nearly a hundred miles over the lake, when confirmed investigations proved the report untrue. It was also stated sir that upwards of two hundred thousand people perished near this spot, that many islands were formed in the lake, than an earthquake destroyed all the to ns on the shores of the lake."

"Such exaggerations can easily be made" said Jane herself. "But of my experience the last shock was the worst, and that mainly caused all of the houses to be overtru overturned in the city, and the destructive fire that raged at the time, to be added by the flood which further increased the loss of life and property."

"It is the gravest disaster of all nevertheless" said Starring. "But the statement that Mt Joan was blown into the air almost in the twinkling of an eye, and wiped out of the map of Calverinia must have been made by some person rather with an unfirnushed unfornished top story.. The explosions what ever caused them however had buried or devasted the surrounding county for many miles, and even many of our cities round Abbieann, and dozens of upland hamlets and countryside towns had been overwhelmed in the earthen deluge, or wrecked by other phenomena attending the outburst like Abbieann was. Severan thousands of people had met with sudden and most terrible death, scores of thousands of others have been injured, and the long roll of disaster included the destruction of horses and cattle, damming up of rivers, and laying waste to large tracts of country and farming districts, forests and all kinds of expensive groves. But here we are near the crater now. We traveled for ten days over this desolate scene and now have reached out destintion destination."

Finally as they reached the region of this ernormous crater, Starring remembered that thirty mines in a straigt straight line from Abbieann to Calverine a further distance of one hundred and ten miles the noise was experienced and the shock also from this single explosion, and that for nearly a full day on June fitst smoke anf and gloom prevailed, the result of the rising smoke of the explosions, which added to the darkening smokes of the forest fires, and which greatly puzzled the surviving inhabitants. A trip of about 10,000 feet was made to the buck of the crater so as to obtain a clear view of it and over of the country around it which had been so disasteriously overwhelmed.

Only on nearing the end of the trip was the party again brought face to face with signs of the great explosions. Here besides the rain of debris, mud and clay which had fallen on and still covered the ground and all vegetation, they came upon a number of ernormous cracks deep as pits, evidently in some way the work and effects of the terrific explosion. Crossing the smallest one by jumping with care, signs of the unusually great disaster grew in number and intensity. Fetid smokes swept over them at times from the distant forest fires, and coming from evil looking smudges dangerous ly close by. Great forests of trees torn up by their roots by the concussion of the explosion, lay or stood topsy turpy nor inclined in all directions in every scene and the whole face of the country side wore the look of having been withered by some fierce and baleful blast. In deed it had the appearance, but for a hundred miles of having been struck by the desolating blast of the Mt pelee eruption, and the destruction of vegetation appeared the same. They had travled for a few minutes, and gained the crest of a narrow low ridge denuded of all trees, part of which hill was torn asunder, and now for the first time they looked forth upon the sight which they had come to see. Nevertheless in their lives had they expected this. There was no regular crater.

"I hardly know which to pronounce the more astonishing sight as we see here." said Starring. "It looks as if mountains were blown up."

"It is strange" said the captian" for the prospect that now opens before our eyes or the suddenness with which it bursts upon us makes me think as if we were lost on some desolated surface of the moon.. "

"Yes , for to the former there is no more fitting phrase perhaps that can be applied to this scene, that that of absolute, unrsedemen redeemed desolation,--so intense, so sad, and bewildering, and terrifying, that , despair of being able to describe itadequately in detail in my dairy. It certainly looks like the ruins on the suf surface of some section of the moon, as if our own world was wiped out by some disaster."

On their left, from what was supposed to have have been a high plain rose the in curved real wa rear wall of what over two months before had been a stretch of meadows forested plains and forested hills, falling with scarce a break, to a depth of fully five to six hundred feet. In front of the strangely vformed cliff everything had been blown away and scattered fearfully over the face of the country before it, in a roughly fan shaped deposit of for the most part unknown depth--deep enough however to rease every landmakre landmark, and conceal every feature of the deluged area, and mingled with all this was trees, some fragments of houses, a few human bodies, mud rocks of all sizes, cl a clay and granite, and even wreckage of some big graveyards.

At the foot of the cliff, were two smaller holes filled with water. To their view the base, denuded by the awful explosion seemed to cover a space between five and six miocsmiles. This however can only be a rought conjecture. And equally vague must be all present attempts to determine the volume of the blown up earth. Yet it can be assumed as a very moderate calculation that the mean depth of the debris covering an buried area of perhaps fifty miles was not less than fifteen feet, and yet find that the work acieved by this great exploded mine was the upheavel upheaval and wide distribution of ne no fewer than twice of three times, seven hundred million tons of earth, or more than twenty two million tons of debris, earth, rocks, and ont other ponderous material. The real figure could probably be even very much greater. And this from one crush of the disaster.

"This looks like some titan tried to blown up the whole country" said Starring. "But the sight here positively proves its no volcanic disaster. Let's look more into it. It is done by a mighty mine already. The explosion here instead of forming a crater blasted away the whole territory."

"It sure looks that" said Penrod awed by the scene. "No wonder Abbieann fell down."

Part 2 of Chapter 18

Part 2 of chapter 21

STARRING INVESTIGATES OTHER GIGAT CRATERS CAUSED
OR FORMED BY THE GREAT EXPLOSIONS, AND PONDERS ON THE SCENES
BEFORE HIM. DISCOVERY FOR CLUES IS IN VAIN.

WHILEA Starring was now on his way again for the crater region, to make another effort at discovery des ite despite the perils of forest fires, he said to Jane and the other brave child companions;

"After this Calverinia will always be nicknamed " The home of the wars worst disasters on record, for in spite of the fact that I yet make no discoveries I fell feel sure beyond doubt that Glandelinia is responsible for all of this, as I read that many claimed they saw suspicious characters within the distfi district a few days before this awful catastrophe began. Few months have passed since even June a year ago from this past June without one or more concussion shocks from unusually ernormous explosions of considerable and devastating force besides numerous lighter ones of too slight a nature to be worthy of remark and yet all these have been absolutely provened to have been caused by the enemy mining engineers at the commands of the foe leaders. Calverinia had been able through the aid of helpers to furnish many records of these strange enemy proca produced phenomena. What first got me guessing is that when the earliest part of the disaster was first known, and it was firmly believed to have been an eruption, that Calverinia's most famous volcano Mt Joan had exploded and blown hereself to pieces thus destroying Abbieann from the eruption only. This is the highest and most famous mountain in all Calverinia. It rises more than twenty thousand five hundred feet above sea level, and is shaped with three bigger cones on top like three mountains mingled into one, and each crater is as thousand feet deep. It is regarded by the Calverinians as a sight for tourists, and large numbers of people for sightseeing make an ascent to the summit at the commencement of the summer, but at great risks. Though now apparently extinct, it was about a hundred years ago an active volcano, and the history of Calverin Calverinia mentions several very disasterous eruptions, in which the steam ash and clouds were hurled upwards of thirty three miles and was heard fifteen hundred miles.

Yet when such reports came that such an ernormous volcano blew itself to pieces many volcanic investigators were sent to find the facts, and came back somewhat later to surprose the whole country with all proffs proofs and photographs chiefly made to show that the volcano was as quiet as it ever had been, and had not been in no eruption, and neither had its, neighbors, Mt Calverine, Vivian, and others. The disaster therefore took on a real suspicous aspect and the Vivian Girls asked me to inve ti investigate to find out some real facts,. And as the forest fires had refused to allow me to explore the v explosion districts so far, and as forest fires are still ,e menancing my efforts there is considerable difficulty in defining the kind of crater to make a better examination, and therdf therefore several times while here I have notified general Vivian that it has been impossible for me to give an absolute statement as to the real character of the disaster, but that I will remain here and continue my effort if it takes all my life to do so. If under the term, volcanic disaster be verified as reports have made be included not all these craters but all mountains round about, there will have to be proven evidence that other volcanic mountains in this neighborhood have been in a state of violent eruption, before I will sent in any reports that suspicious characters of the mountains may have caused the unusual catastrophes, because the explosion craters ga give no evidence whatever. Yet around the district, only Mt Joan, Calverine, the Big Catherine Hill, and Vivian, and also Horma, and Klantoria are true volcanoes, but none of these have been or even are activie. active. And altogether through magaines newspapers, books and other literature, I have read that about 1,234 distinct secondary shocks of great force have been recorded within that fifteen minutes of horror, that awful midnight of June the first, of which two hundred and five were the most violent, and of these the greater number took place in the northern districts far off from Abbieann . So far my little friends the most famous of these explosion craters which I have discovered at a great distance from an en elevation, and toward which I am now h ading for, is four y two miles northwest of Abbieann, across the river, fortunately somewhat out of the fire zone. Nigh witnesses mistook the explosion here for a very severe eruption of two seconds duration. I hear the crater is very deep, but not on any mountain but on the level plain surrounded by a wall of shattered forest trees. If any sort of fumes are coming forth from any p apertures near or in the crater then I will believe in the reports, and the enemy is cleared of all guilt. But we'll see. put yet I cannot account it the enemy is responsible why he wanted to cause the overthrow of such a big city of Abbieann. And anyhow it would make things far worse than it is now for Glandelinia if she is proven guilty.

Even I fecieved word from general Vivian that by some big g flood which probably was a renewal of the ernorus ernormous flood from this disaster that Emperor Vivians palace at Angelinia Agathia is thrown down, and many important buildings throughout the city are all destroyed or swept away, and special prayers and Ne Novenas and Mass s Masses and other services are offered to God for a stopping of these catastrophes, or a showing of what ah and who is responsible. I have even discovered that the tremendous shock and explosion force caused many fissures to open in the provinces of Mullen and Mulldorn Counties, and the largest of these chasms caused by the explosion is over fourty miles in length and about twenty feet in width. All these cracks make many believe the disaster was of nature and not from explosions. Other parts of the State of pengall is affected in a smiliar manner, and such cities as La Polama and others were overthro n by concussion and flood, deep rifts w re were formed in the ground in every direction, and rivers have changed their course because of the flood. "

" To speak of more stranger instances the lofty walls of the outside and inside mouts of the mobolization Camps at Dorothy Gale were said to have been destroyed , and the road leading through the famous Big Girl Knool or crossing it, was barricaded by a landslide from a hill" said Penrod. "It does seem strange however as strange as it may seem

The problem is said to be " e very easy to the consistent materialist. To starring all is envel ev envolved in the chain of unusual causes, which have a vile purpose behind it, a blame before all the world. That is why he wishes to investigate. We can all grieve and lament, or we can rejoice, but when disaster occurs sorrow comes. There is a perfect chain to the cause of the disaster, and effect follows cause mechan ically. But Starring has seen before him the same facts, the same relentlessness of the disaster. Not that he wishes to complain, but he wondered that if God is good why did he He allow this evil to befall such good cities as Abbieann? Or was he allowing it for a future example of Glandelinia .? And would He allow him and his followers to find out the facts as he desires. Believing in God, he believed that He created Nature and gave it its laws, and not for Glandelinia to interfere with. Therefore Starring believed that if Glandelinia did all this she blasphemed God in natural actions.

He thought also that the whole nation must learn the rule and avoid the evios. evils .

He said that to allow Glandelinia to go on this way, Abbieannia might as well step off the precipice, or build a city in the crater of a volcano vigoriously active. The nation need not wait for some new catastrophe to mearn this lesson all over again. The whold nation must keep its eyes open and not submit to Glandelinias making of avoidable injuries.. When a friend dies no one thinks of it as a jug judgement of heaven on us for our sins as if God were sending a special chastisement every one usually thinks of it as that of nature, and of gods wise way of removing and renewing the generations, and if ou our ignorance of the naturare nature of causes e hastens the end of ones life we should take the blame to ourselves and learn the more how to control these laws.

Chapter 23

"""""STARRING HEARS OF A SHIP TOSSED BY GIANT WAVES OF A FLOOD""
""""""""""""""" STORY OF THE CAPTIAN OF THIS VESSEL""""""""""""""""" STARRING HEARS HOW THE CREW SPENT LONG HOURS OF TERROR""""""""""""""" WRECK OF ANOTHER SHIP BY THE EXPLOSION""""""

A THE ABBIEANN steamship known as the Hansome, nd laden with peat and asphault coming from the city of Sacremento ,Abbieannia state, to Abbi a Abbieann and southward bound, and they reached Pandora as the Captian told starring on June the 17th after an experience which the oldest of the sae sailors on board, said they had never observed before, and hoped and prayed they would never seeagain. At first the Handsome ran into a mysterious sort of storm caused by the heat of forest fires, when some miles from the blaze. Then for twenty two hours and five minutes the vessel was buffeted and tossed about in a terrifying fashion, when caught in the torrent of the flood that swept Abbieann. The crew dazed, frightened and puzzled by the strangest of all these phenomenons had expected that every moment would be their last.

As told in simple s style by Captien Hortons, the story of the ships plight is graphic enough to be a sort of creation of fiction.

" On May the 28th," said the captian to Starring"We touched at Aberdeena for water and fuel and provisions.Mine was a refugee sh ship heading for one of the zones where a recent flood disaster had occured, and we were bringing provisions.We had an easy voyage down the Mic-Hollester Run River from Giacomo, and we wanted to finish an easy run here.We left Sacremento on the same day. Of course nothing worth while talking about occureduntill about four or five days afterwards or about june the 2th...

We were pledding along slowly that day, and the sun though appearing in the heavens shone through a strange haze that covered all the sky andmake it appear a sort of strange yellowish white.....

About noon I took the bridge to make an on observation for I knew the haze in the sky was caused by the forest fires.. And also there seemed to be an unusually strong east by south wind blowing, and the weather seemed to be hotter than ordinary for even the season. The normal season for June at that time is supposed to be for the hottest at about ninty eight or less in the shade.It was over 100. I shed my coat and vest and also my outside shoit, and got into what little shade there was, but soon discovered the sun had nothing to do with the heat as therewas no relief any anywhere... As I worked it grew, hotter, and hotter..... I did not know what to make of it but suspected it came from the forest firen.

About three oclock in the afternoon it was so hot that all hands and all the passengers began to talk excitedly about it. It was 120 in the shade, shade and believe it it was still rising..... We reckoned that something queer was coming off but just then none of us could explain what it was. You could see the pitch softening in the seams..

Then as quick as you could wink an eye we were struck by a large surge of water coming down in a perfect torrent from the northwest, and for a moment big waves of water that looked as if they were coming from all directions, and with lots of floating wreckage of houses and household goods and furnitures and bodies of drowned ag at once began to smash against our side.

This indeed was very queer to me, because the river a moment before was as smooth as I ever saw it. The river did not do it, water even poured into the river, and I saw saw levees d fall in before the pressure of the torrent. I had all hands piped on deck and we battened down everything losse to make ready for what I believed was a typhoon striking the land and driving the sea into the rivers.But it was no storm. Yet there was something wrong with the sun that afternoon. It grew red, and then dark red like a smiths coal fire and then about four oclock it went outaltogether.The day got so dark that you could not hardly even see the forward sh end of the ship.

We got out electric lights going, and put on our i cilskins ready for what we expected to be a torrent of rain.

All of a sudden from the southeast there came a ri red bright glare that showed up the whole tumbling sheets of water for miles and miles.. There was not even a breath of wind. Well sir, at that awful minute there began the most exciting time I have ever been through my whole life, and I have even bee been on every sea and river all my life for many travels. Everysecond there would be awrul rushes of water like ernormous waves belting us head on, pushing us forward at a terrific rate of speed, striking us on the side, and broadside, sometimes hurling wreckage of boards all about us and flying even household furniture on deck.

We could see the wreckage coming for without any stopp the glare in the distant continued and increased brighter and bibrighter..... Something else we could see. too. Animals of all kinds struggling in the water. There were hundreds of them on all sides. And birds. A flock of them squaking and crying, and croaking, made for our rigging and perched there.. seeming as if they were scared to death death..

And the queerest part of it all was the water..itself. It was hot, not so hot that out feet or bodies could not stand it when it washed over the decks, but hot enough to make us think that it had been heated by a furnace under the flood. Well

[illegible] by a landslide from a hill [illegible] "it does seem strange however as strange as it may seem.

that sort of thing went on for twenty four hours or more. The waves and horrid rush of water, the red glare in the sky, the hot water, the struggling animals in the torrent the masses of floating swirling wreckage, the passing of houses on the torrent and all the rest of the sod things odd things happening, frightened the crew out of their wits. All of them continually prayed out loud, and some kept yelling and running around, and one of the passengers shouted" the end of the world is coming . Wewere all worried, and even I and all the officers began to think for sure that"the passenger was right, and that the end of the world was coming. Mighty strange things happen on sea and land but this broke all records.

I though frightened out of my wits kept to the bridge for all those twenty four hours. When the first hour of the next noon came we were still being carried ob. On and we were all pretty well tired out by that time but there could be no such thing as trying to sleep.

The waves were t still pushing and pulling us along and we did not know whether we were one mile or a thousand miles from Abbieann.At one oclock that next afternoon we found ourselves agroundit groing lighter my now, and when it was day light we discovered we had been borne on by some tremenedous flood. We lay too untill the next day, then we took out reckoningo, and getting the ship off the bar started off again but following la along the edge of the flood.We discovered we were seven hundred miles south of Abbieann.We could never find that place again either.It seems as if that ci y city disappeared from the earth. No sir you couldn't get me through a thing like that again for a million dollars. Of course none of us suffered any injuries, and the vessel herself pulled through all right, but I'd sooner stay ashore than get caught in the path of a flood going down river, and have such darkness tpo too at the same time..."

Starring knew this man, and according to his records it was known that during a forest fire in southern Angelinia state, he ran his steamer up close to the docks of a blazing town in the face of searing hd heat and helped rescue the people. Such of this captians crew as could speak, and all o her officers and many of the passengers have p b published the same story about the mysterious freak of the flood.It was not untill the ship reached the city of pandora late inthe afternoon of a week after that the captian and all on board learned of the disasterous explosions near AAbbieann and elsewhere. Then they suspected what had caused their troubles.

Starrings ship soon was to pass through a section of the forest fire, and to be able to reach another place and be able to tell about it(providing a ship can talk) Starring himself being able to tell a thrilling story not only of his own experience but of what he seen in a hospital at the town of Herdue, ofw of whom they visited to see other disaster victims.

After leaving Violet Paul for good the Mary Jane reached Hollester Town on the evening of September 2th expecting to coal, recieve pri provisions and leave the same night.She had experienced all kinds of queer weather during the day, the atmospheric disturbances indicating that something was happening either on land or in the air.All Hollester town was in mourning, and the people were so distracted by the news from the neighboring districts that it was not untill september 4th that the captian could obtain coal and other provisions and proceed on the journey.

The town of Mic Terner another fire and explosion victim was passed at a distance of six miles, and all on board studied the land with glasses.

The weather was intensely hot, and be cause of the haze of smoke and strange darkness he could not have a very fine view, but nevertheless the outlines of the city of Mic-Terner could not be recognisable at that distance anyhow. Everything was a mass of blue haze and the formation of the landscapes in this location also seemed to have changed.

When we were about ten miles of the northern end of the town, he saw clouds of smoke and flame shooting high in the air, and spread all over the sky, darkening the sky a little more.. Starring just for experiment had been on watch at the time with second officer George Burger, and when partial darkness came upon the scene it is needless to say that Starring and everybody else who were on board the ship at the time were badly frightened. The ship was running head on into the forest forest fire.After the stories that they had heard and the sights they had seen at other places, they did not know but that they themselves would be burned, if engulfed by the tidal wave of flame, though they were only half a mile from shore.

"XCrowd on steam" the captian yelled to the chief enginner engineer, and he needed no urging. Shortly they drew on rh through a suffocating atmosphere foot by foot, and l at last passed the gauntlet of flame without much damage.They had been passed the utside of the storm of fire and smoke, and when Starring looked at his watch he found that he had been an hour and a half in reaching clearer air. But they were not passed the dans deger zone yet, and the crew was not yet over their fright.

No curiousity would even take them too near such a region again if they could but escape it. Starring saw several steamers moving about the town, but could not distinguish their names.He talked with the captian of a small steamer which left Petro for any location necessary to offcer relief but it had to turn back. When

within seven miles of Mic-Turner the needle in the compass began to spin roundan round and round and point anywhere except tward the northwest .

No matter where the trip was made Starring always came across some vessel that had a fatal explosion experience.

While the ship was lying at St Ann for coal, Starring visited the wreck of an eron ernormous steamer, which escaped from north Abbieann on the same date. Starring when boarding it, found the ship in charge of soldiers, and two watchmen, and several policemen belonging to the town. She had been abandoned by all the survivors of the crew. nd when he went aboard one of the watchmen was engaged in cleaning what he could of the deck, and he discontinued the work to show Starring and some of his followers around. The ship resented an awful appearance. She looked as if she had been thrust into soft clinging mud, and then pulled out again. The mud still stuck and clung to her like cement and was more than a foot deep on her decks and mixed with clay and small and large stones, sand and grass. Awnings, stanchions, tarpaulin, and boat coverings had been burned away. Even the rails, stays, hatch covers, and even her smoke stacks were gone. When the watchman dug into the mud and gravel he found here and there fragments of limestone and granite. All that was left of the giant steamer was her hull, and that being of steel had escaped destruction. Even her cabins were burned totally .

Hearing that the captian was in the hospital of the town, Starring decided to to call upon him. Starring for some clues wanted to get from his own lips the story of the distaster and of his escape. Inddddtindddd Indeed Starring was unprepared for the sight, a terrible one indeed which greeted his eyes, when he entered the room.

The girl scou s shre shrank from such a scene. The captians face was burned to the color of teak o wood, and large patches of flesh was burned from his arms here and there.

Both of his hands were sw athed in bandages, his hair and burned away, and his eyes was tied over and he seemed to be in great pain. He would not speak at first untill Starring told him who he was, and then he spoke a great deal to relieve himself of his great suffering.

He said his ship called the Altoonia had been in the river harbor of Abbieann for these days before the destruction occured.

He was talking to a city boat agent in a boat alongside, when there was an eruption in the northeast of the most terrible kind, and shot forward the lower part of the cloud approached the ship like awall traveling fast, and was accompanied by a most deafening roar.

The moon and stars disappeared immediately. The captian said he shouted to every one to stand clear, and an insant instant later the air was filled with flamesand what appeared to be falling batches of fire. The ship was immediately set ablaze from end to end and the crew and labors aboard rushed about becoming frantic with pa9n pain and terror. There were nearly one thousand passengers on board and only six survived the crew being annihilated, except the engin er and his assistant. The ship keeled over from the concussion of the explosion and near captized. Then she righted and the falling shower of debris continued for several minutes. The captian told Starring he had ran to the chart room, but was driven out again by flames that came in at the port hole. Then he rushed to the engine room telephone and signalled the engineer to pi put on full steam. Some one then seemed glad to respond, and the ship began to move but the steering jam gear was a jammed by the concussion of another eruption and would not work and the concussion leveled the smoke stacks. He kept the engines going ahead, hoping to free the paddles, and in so doing collided with another ship from which clouds of smoke and flame were rising.

Men and women on this ship were ri wringing their hands and rushing about frantically, and children were falling to the deck and screaming. Some of them even jumped into the river where they must have died instantly, as the captian said, for through some mysterious reason the water was boiling like a cauldron. I t was also a mass of boiling mud. Many of his own crew had di disappeared, probably swept overboard by the force of the expl explosion. Every one of them he believed must have died a terrible death.

After a time as the captian said, he himself tried the hardest and got the steering gear working, the ship finally answered her helm, and he headed her down the the river, but it was so dark it was not possible for him to see ahead of him at the shortest distance. Men lay dying all along his track, and he said it seemed as if the city had fallen to pieces. He himself though he stayed at the wheel was unable to lift his burned hands. And blood from his forehead kept running down into his eyes obscuring what vise vision he had hped to hoped to obtain.

He told Starring that his escape was more like the lost soul succeeding in getting out of hell n into heaven. At last he reached the larger part of the river, and with the help of the surviving passengers, succeeded in taking his ship down as far as Big Girlknool only to be almost engulfed in the flood that reached down there.

During the run out of the river harbor of Abbieann the chief engineer died a most horrible death. He escaped the shock of the first explosion, started the engines, and not finding his men below,, went on deck to look for them. As he thrust his head out of the hatch a mass of stones fell on him tearing his scalp os open and ripping the right side of his face completely off. This mans performance has perhaps never had a parallel in stories of many sea adventures. When the ship arived at Big Girl Knool a little ahead of the flood the brave man refused all medical treatment untill the surviving passengers were cared for. Starring was told the captian will live, and des pite htho seriousness of his injuries will not be disfigured..

All the time during the cruise t ard tward Abbieanni city Starring felt sure some-

thing. As the ship continued on they could see nothing at all as it passed the land. A Thick haze like black and dull red colored fog hung over the land and shut out of sight everything that could be seen on land. The ship was a sight also from passing so continually through smoke fog all the time changing the ship from yellow to cream and brown. The air was stifling and you could not see acroess the deck,,, and the temperature was one hundred and thirty in the shade, making intense suffering for those who remained on deck.

It was to be an experience of a lifetime for Starring and his followers. Starring tried to observe things on shore with the aid of his glasses hoping to pierce the haze, and finally it partly cleared.

Starring then to get some relief from the heat went below untill the ship had passed a distance beyond the town, and he had put up his glasses and stretched out on his bunkfor a nap, when the captian sent for him. As Starring came on the bridge, he said;

"Look at the forest on the landside will you. It's coming this way."

Starring looked, and thought that along that stretch along as far up he could see a hundred big volcanoes were belching out a black cloud of dense smoke and sheets of flame.

"We had all got below" he said to Starring, " and then he ordered the Engineer to drive her as hard as the ship would stand untill they got clear of the storm now coming, a storm of fire.. Starring immediately went below, and the engineer gave her all the coal the big furnaces could take. The ship had plenty fortunately, and the fireman and engineer did not hesitate to use it. He punded her through at an increase of two or three knots an hour far over what he had always through thought was her most highest speed. According to what the engineer told Starring afterwards, the very safty valves were either roaring off every now and then, or dancing a jig every minute, but notwithstanding the high rate of speed, the ship was running at, there was scarcely a minure during the hour that they were flying from the rushing conflagration when the head of steam in the boilers did not force the safty valves open.

When Starring came on deck three hours later, he saw the conflagration was having a thrilling race.

The decks were a sight. Everything everywhere was covered with fragments of somk smoking sticks and twigs which the force of the gale had driven and scattered over the she ship. These fragments of embers as they fell on the ship smouldered out before doing any damage however. Later Starring seeing the air more clear was lying out in a bunk under an awning on the forward deck, from which he had been watching the movement of the persuing fire through a glass. A little before two oclock in the afternoon he noticed the sun that had tried to come out take on a peculiar condition on doing so. It was tying to even shine brightly, yet it was surrounded by the thick haze, and finally tool took on a fiery red appearance, and while still visible in its entire form through the haze of smoke, its circumference kept apparently contracting.. It finally grew smaller and smaller untill finally it looked no larger around to the naked eye than an ordinary tumbler.

About this time there came a sudden roll of darker smoke, the edges which were tinged I with a red color, as though reflecting the rays of the blood red sun. This cloud borne by the wind moved tward the ship like a black squall. It was evidently the forest fire was raging along the shore and striving to cross.

The Abbieann disaster took place just where Starring dreaded to see.. He knew the great gemini member and leader Darger had made a special study of the disaster. He had made a trip of the same kind and he had written that there were two great circles of explosion devastation in the vinicity of Abbieann and engal State, one girld girdling the landscapes north and south, extending through the region of Abbieann calledwlow " The land of fire" because of the forest fires, Adolehold, and down to Wickey Lansin. The other down on northern Angelinia and extreme southern calverinia. These two circles of devastation both by flood and explosion and fire intersect at two points. The main of thse these is of Pengall State and Co8nty, which includes Calverinia in the same, the scene of the terrible Abbieann disaster. Starring knew it is impossible to predict a disaster, even though there had been more or less theorizing but it cannot be proved. One fact of these supposed eruption disasters is established, and that is it is not of volcanic origin at all, but that they were explosions of some sort of mines underground of enormous proportions, this being proved by the substance thrown up and about by the so called " eruptions" and no evidence evidence of any kind of lavas. There has been so part of southern Calverinia which was exempt from these war disasters, n and there was no regularty in their appearance, neither of the floods. The explosions proceddiing these disasters were always followed by earthquakes of explosion origin. And as it is impossible to predict where the next disaster will take place, it would be also impossible to tell where it will be, but Starring felt sure if he succeeded in his enterprise these disasters would not happen again especially on the christian side.

All this is of interest as showing that the enemy is now reaching a dangerous stage especially from desperatotion no doubt. Starring n knows also a volcano always throws off a great quanity of materials during an eruption, hydrochlicic, and also sulphuric acids, iron, sand, sulphur, calcium, and magnesium. The lava is of two kinds also. That whis which is easily fusible flowsmore rapidly than a horse can trot. A mof more viscous kind cools into shapes lke ropes and cinders. But no such material was found. And he believed also owing to the f presence of the fumes of some strange chlorine the mines probably contained, it is probable that many were suffocated and so died easily. Others doubtless were buried in the ruins of the houses, or were caught in some enclosed place which being surrounded byflames resulted in slow roasting. It is indeed a most horrible disaster on all records, and one which Starring prayed ardently to God that may never be duplicated. But unless he succeeded on his mission he felt sure a probable worse one might occur in the near future.

Indeed Calverinia was violenty shaken by violent concussions which at first Starring even believed were earthquakes. but which later turned out to be the concussions caused by the explosions. so fierce was the recent disaster in the vinicity of Lake Selicia that all that region has been completely depopulated. Nor were any of these disasters the only source of peril.

osionous exhalations from the fumes of exploded materials were for a time exhaled from extensive t a tracts making such districts for a time entire uninhabitable.

Starring had asked for an account of the death of many other persons, who had perished in their eagerness to obtain a nearer view of the de drea dful phenomenon of the forest fires.

This he hoped to afford him an opportunity of detailing all the citcumstances

from the beginning. Starring said to himself over and over again that the year of 1913 1913 was the most fatal and fateful of all on record for the whole country.
As the boat continued on and it was reaching the afternoon of September Third, Angelina desired him to observe a bigger and more bigger cloud of a very extraordinary stretching proportions and shape.. He at first thinking she was seeing things healted, but he did notice it very strongly and excitedly. He arose at once, and went up to the lookout post on one of the masts whic thence he would more distinctly view this strange and unusual phenomenon.
From the distance the ship was from it the cloud was not so easily observed, and he could not tell from what direction the cloud came from or what it issued forth from, but he found afterwards it came from the forest fires, but that it was a fire at some other point and not from the forests. No one could find a more exact description of the cloud than by comparing it to the large globular formations of some nimbus or false cirus clouds, and its tops shot up to an enormous height in the form of a huge rolled up ball which finally extended itself at the top into a sort of curved wreathe, occasionedcus it is supposed by a gust of air which impelled it, whose force increased orve or decreased as it went upward, or else the cloud itself being pressed back by descending currents of wind from the upper regions expanded in this manner.
The lower The lower part of the cloud appeared sometimes bright, at others of various colors as it was more or less impregnated with the glows below.
This aroused Starrings great curiosity. He ordered the captian to sail the ship in that direction that he might have a closer observation for it was evident to him that the strange phenomenon was an unusual and most threatening one. The Captian gave orders that the ship would head that way, and as they approached a gale started to blow and flying glaring forest embers fell on and around the ships. They were in danger too of running aground, owing to the sudden retreat of the river water at this point because of a reverse current in this section causing by the slow draining of the distant floods, and vast clouds of smoke all curled over tward them and obstructed all the shore from sight.
The First Mate being scared advised a retreat, but Starring would not hear of it. "fortune befriends and helps the cause of the brave." he cried, and the captian ordered the ship to press onward tward Stallon junction. Here he did his best to encourage some of his followers whom he found in great consternation, assuring them that the flames of the forests would not cross the stream as it was too wide. As the ship went on come closer to the explosion cre crater they espied a large country house almost filled up with stones and other debris thrown by the " eruption". Even here there was danger from the forest fire, although the forests that were ablaze was no less than fourteen miles away, the still safer portions being dark and strong along the shore. Far off explosion succeeded explosion from miners no doubt mining trees, and roar followed roar from the blasting, but the whole scene had now again disappeared by behind a black and ominous cloud, bursting with ominous rolls, whence came intermittent but red glows of fire.
The twilight of the smoky afternoon faded away as the murky pall spread further from its center, and enveloped the river and ship in a common gloom. When the darkness increased the distant forest fringed was lit up not only with the intermittent distant tongues of flame but also with a continuous ruddy glow, as if from some vast hidden hellish furnace. So passed the night, then came the hour of dawn, but this time not the light of day. Not yet even now were the terrors of the forest fires at an end. The shore ground where the Mary Jane was temporarily anchored, whereon some nr now numbers of refugees had gathered rocked seemingly to and fro before mysterious and crashing explosions. The cloud became more and more murky, and was riven at times by darting sheets of flame. It became blacker than any night, and on every side nothing was heard but the shrieks of women and children, and the crying and shouting of men on the ships decks. At length again a light appeared but however which was not day but the forrunner of another burst of flames nearer and more terrifying.
These presently disappeared, and again a thick darkness enveloped everything. and many hours passed before the dreadful darkness began slowly to dissipate. When at length a twilight a; appeared every object seemed changed, the pall of dark smoke was again more distant, and a thick fog of white smoke hung over everything.
Starring new that the wind had changed direction.
Starring could think nothing of far the destruction of the forests in this location was extending itself. He knew that usually at this time of the year rain falls so so heavily, that several hours would be required to put out fires of any size, and this year for some unusual reason the weather broke all records for being dry. The best parts of Calverinia in east and south was being completely overwhelmed by the dreadful forest fires, and that at some places when heavy winds blew some towns not too far from the danfer danger zone ashes and hot embers flew so heavily and thickly that it looked like a gray blizzard. Starring had heard from wireless while on the boat that many towns were in the path of the Red Plague, but it is probable that the inhabitants were driven by the first signs of the conflagration to fly pell mell from the doomed towns.
For notwithstanding the wording and speaches of others, and who stated that the towns were safe from the conflagration, Starring felt sure there was evidence furnished that none of the people had perished, and indeed there very few or none who did not escape from the towns, while also it is probable the men folk went forth to battle the conflagration. He was assured also by reports recieved by the captian when the ship halted for a time that during the progress of the terrific conflagration a multitude of men and rangers would appear from seemingly everywhere and no where sometimes on the slopes of rides said to be in the path of the fires, in the environs, and go ahead at terrific blasting and of cutting and sawing down trees, digging trenches, beating out ground fires, and trying if possible counter firing.
The sections of forest fires assumed such characters, that that portion was regarded as the mouth of hell.
Starring was also surprised that all efforts of hundreds of thousands of men to stay the progress of the big fires was not successful.
General Viviano, Hangong and other christian armies too had been compelled out of sheer necessity, in the face of unspeakable peril and thrills to fight the fires almost immediately after, or during battles, the country authorities of the States drafed men and older boys to help fight the fires, and the raging conflagration had not only continued ever since its start in southeastern Calverinia, in Costello county county but has increased to an immeasureable degree, and assuming a vast magnitude. And it was noted that extreme northern and western calverinia were not so much disturbed yet by any such disaster, except at the Vivian Wickey section.
Also a startling evidence was given that human energy in the effocts of the fires to overturn him and frustrate his grip towards mastery.

When he feared the fires would hinder his purpose he was worried. All through the last part of the winter and through all of summer by the country of Calverinia and Angelinia had been disturbed by these disasters, which became almost continuous in July and August, and nothing could stop the cause unless he or some one else learned of it.
The failure of many to really determined the cause soon gave repeated evidence that that the great horrors would continue. He never forgot the first serious intimation which was the Lake Solicia horror of that frgh frightful Novemember month of 1912. The lake is enormous, but at one point was dammed up to hold more water than its normal amount, and the explosions, which are blamed on the enemy, blew away this dinke ina trice. As he had recorded seven immense streams of water poured from the openings, and swept rapidly over the landscapes, bringing death and destruction along the path of the first biggest flood of the war. Nothing has been done to repair the dam, and what made the horror all the greater was the frightful error error of th judgement, which had just been repeated at Abbleann. At Abbleann no one believed that any such city like her could suffer such, and when warned in time that a forest fire was moving over engall State, the people did not believe of any other disaster coming, as the city was Blear of forests, and therefore no one made their escape when the great disaster came.
At Wickey Lesin no one who survived the other horror thought of forest fires heading for that city, and not untill the sea of fires had actually reached the southern outskirts of the place was the order for departure given. Before the order could be acted upon the fire was raging through good portions of the city, and overwhelmed a vast majority of the houses, giving few people even time enough to save what they could. Each day had been signalled by the repeated progress of the fire, and its progress had been carefully observed by starring, and he had also observed that every town he headed for the fire had beat him to it. The most remarkable rage of the Red Plague as stated before was when he hoped to get to Violet Paul city ahead of the danger, when unknown to him a fire stream from ton to seventy miles long, swept over a portion of violent Lesin, and penetrated across the river to the forests beyond to a distant of three miles and a change of wind swept it onward, and then made one wing regro recross which swept upon violet Paul, but burning that city and two others and causing many to become entirely homeless. And it seemed or does seem strange that Starring on his adventure should insist of continuing to go through such a most danger us neighborhood. But he does as it seems the only way.
It is probably the most dangerous trip in the world of any expedition that he and his followers were making. Who follow him do so at the risk of their lives every hour. It was said that 11,000 men and others had been killed since they have attempted the same mission he is trying to accomplish.....
Alarm continues to fill the whole country nevertheless, although no serious branch of the fire does menance the main sections. Yet progressing onward the fires brought on fresh destruction every day, and there were many who feared and believed than an explosion more serious than that already recorded will mark the culmination of the whole period of ze disaster.
Smoke still rose upward in ground clouds from the far distant forest fires, and Starring with some uneasiness watch the black columns re rising above the horizon accompanied by rumblings which told him rangers were still blasting. This new column was first caught by a current of air that carried it northeastward. Then an upper air current finally swept it back in the opposite direction. Thus the smoke clouds made ab immense and well formed canopy like some big bird with large wings the body of which rested in a sea of flame in the distant forests from which it spring upward.
When again the wnd veered, and a mantle of darkness was again being swept westwardacross the land, ev enveloping the anchored ship, and so heavy was the fog of smoke that filled the air that respiration became a labor, and a fear of suffocation came upon those on deck anec and they went below. Great alarm for even Starring continued for more than four hours and a half, and it was not untill the cloud of smoke smoke blew ouver that confidence was restored. All the night before the whole horizon line as far as it can be seen to stretch hadthe appearance of a most gigantic blast furnace at which great volcanic forces were working. Starring watched the distant flames shoot skyward in sheets that at times lighred up the entire landscape and the river in a perfect blaze of glory. For a few minutes the fires would disappear behind dense clouds ofsmoke only to reappear with redoubled brightness.
Those flames continued to stream along the horizon, and with so great an extent that they were visible for many miles, and the atmosphere is so full of heat and smoke that the o sensation is terrific. Life in this section is all but unbearable and the suffering of the refugees who continued to crowd the shores of the river is extreme. And the long draught, and the fact that all the leaves of the trees all dead plants high and tall extending from the ground and other growth is so dry as tinder that it has been particularly difficult for all the fighters against the conflagration to make any progress against it, and though the river and ship on which Starring rode was now some fourty miles from the " Red Plague" the Temperature registered 115 degrees Fahrenheit, a mark much unusual for that time of the year when the mean temperature for this section is at least eighty degrees for the highest.... And Starring on investigating knew that despite the precautions taken by the proper authorities, some foolish fugitives thinking the danger is over decided to go back to their homes, and soldiers and rangers had been sent out with the very instructions to take severe measures if necessary to put a stop to the recklessness of the refugees.
While the ship lay at anchor nearr the town of Herdrue starring superrentended the giving out of supplies to refugees, and then was willing to convey them if they wished to go to a better location. Yet even the calmness of the refugees astonished Starring. Their only suffering was from the heat and occassional fog smoke, which penetrated everywhere, even through the closed windows and doors of the cabins of the ship. Yet every one seemed calm. No one seemed a bit anxious, children alone even were fantastic and curious and crowed high spots to watch the fire. They liked to see the whole country side lit up by the glare of the flames, and they seemed greatly elated, probably not knowing the real nature of it as they were too young. The o whole region also presented an aspect unknown to any one living there before. It is a country making you ti think of being on the edge of the dreadful infernal regions and the inhabitants of all the neighborhood he knew were still abandoning their homes villas and cottages, and are flocking to the river shore shores or going to the other side, or waiting for ships to take them further away. To Starring it is a curious pell-mell of woe women and children, loaded with household goods. The air was always oppressive, even said even starring said it felt as if his nose burns. He

He wondered if all the population was going to die yet asphyxiated by the smoke. What had the next day in store for the whole country? Another big explosion, or a dreadful cataclysm from the fire god? No can tell. Yet evidence of a new impending disaster had been numerous for five days since Starring reached this section. Starring began now to wonder if there was any further danger in permitting the examinations of the ruins of other towns to continue before reaching Abbieann, inso much as the forest fires had grown unusually intense. He had heard that at the next town, the authorities themselves had been about to depabrk, when a large stretch of flames swept up tward the town at express train speed, accompanied by a large and most enormous black cloud of smoke. The party could not face the heat, and did not dare to land, and the ship was forced to steam for the south. In the direction of La Verac theappearance of the dreadful forest fire was not so terrifying, and Starring decided to head for that town.

After the Mary Ann passed Santa Maria, the smoke for on shore were seen to be less thick, and gradually decreased as the vessel approached Hennon Point. Here the Mary Ann anchored, and a small boat came out from the shore, bearing persons who asked for food and to be taken on board.

That the captain captina could not do, but thirteen barrels of buscuit flour, and some other provisions besides eighteen hogheads of fish were distributed. There were found to be one thousand inhabitants at this town woul which was not strangely enough devastated by the explosions, the remainder of the three thousand inhabitants having fled the small city for fear of the Red plague leaving all their property behind. The river at Hennon Point was dried up, and the bridge there has been completely destroyed. The riverwater has ceased to flow having been dried by the heat and draught, but thepeople and cattle could get water from springs in the neighborhood. Several women and children only were allowed to embrk on the Mary Ann but they could take very little baggage with them. Starring feared the onward trip would be quite difficult as the shore was at times again hidden from view. He decided to remain here for a time untill the wind would blow from the west west. There was a strong ored odor of burned flesh some distance from the town, and all kinds of frightened and panic stricken animals were beginning to congregate there in great numbers.

Difficulty was also seen in controlling the animals and keeping them out of the town. A committee of doctors who examined the people of the town, den decjared that if the wind did not change direction in a day or so it would be impossible for the remaining population to remain. Access beyond the town was and is difficult. The east section of the town is hidden by thick clouds of smoke and at times it is impossible to see more than six feet, the breathing is almost impossible, and the heat is beyond endurance entirely.

As the full extent of the disaster worked in the whole region by the explosions was more observed by Starring, the horror of it was increased. He believed that by the addition of forest fires the conditions throughout the region was growing worse day by day, notwithstanding the fact that the disaster had passed. Also the whole region was becoming famine stricken, notwithstanding the fact that all efforts efforts were made to send supplies to portions are accessible. More and more dies diseases have appeared, and there are not enough physicians present present to give the required relief. And life in most of the districts also is made impossibleby the sickening stench that gives the entire disaster zone a resemblance to the neglected shambles. everywhere noxious fumes from the burning forests are wafted by the heated winds of torrid temperature that seemed not to be in the least tempered by the flood waters for beyond. These conditions are bad enough in all parts there Starring is going through, but they are multiplied a hundred thousand times in the Abbieann country about Adelaheid and elsewhere.

As he heard day after day during his trip that under the direction of the government interpint has been given to thousands and thousands of bodies, but more and more are found every day, all decomposing, and the official estimate of the victims of the great g fiend has now been increased of thougs found to nearly two million, but not a one can be identified as coming from Abbieann. And that is the last or the least of the trouble. Thus far no effort has or could be made to do more than care for the number of living that can be reached, and bury or cremate the dead. All about for weeks lay dead animals of all kinds until they entirely rotted to bones lifted to bones polluting the smoke laden atmosphere, which already is heavily laden with disease and awful hot heat. Everywhere efforts are being made to remove this awful menance, and quicklime is even used to destroy the bodies so continually found. Huge fires are continually burning over the districts for hundreds of miles that was laid in waste by the floods and in these now are thrust the carcasses of the dead cattle. Even as far as the heat allows bodies are also thrown into the very forest fires.

Starring was almost sorry he had made any arrangements for the exploratione of the so called explosion craters. He had a local scientist al with him who believed that the foe had really placed mines in the ground or among the hills so that the explosions were greater than any volcanic eruption ever known. Yet he believed that there was no danger for the town of Hennon point so far, and that sooner or later the refugees would be encouraged to return to their homes. In the hospital of this town were about two hundred and fifty patients, all injured fire fighters and rangers suffering from burns or from the effects of inhaling the suffocating smoke. According to what Starring learned a nun was taken from the ruins of Adelaheid, who though almost fatally injured was conscious for days, and had been able to give a slight account of what was then believed to be an unusally great convusion of nation.

That the explosions at night came without the slightest warning could be understood from her story, that at the time she was on night duty in St John Joseph's Infirmary, and was attending to her usual duties when a terrific explosion shook the building as if it literally danced the high land fling, and something falling from the ceiling knocked her senseless. While in this condition the building caught fire and before regaining consciousness she was badly burned. Recovering consciousness, she managed to escape from the ruins, and got others to save the rest who were buried under the already flaming wreckage. They all died of their injuries, and it was hoped that this good and brave nun would pull through. Brief as is and was her recital it showed that the nearest and all the worst explosions was absolutely instantaneous and that had the inhabitants not been in their beds, at the time they would have been destroyed nevertheless, having no time to escape from their falling buildings, and as the cities were also overwhelmed by either fire or flood no one would have had an opportunity to escape even if they had been out in the streets at the time. It also indicates that some of them at least were not instanly killed, s but caught alive in the wreckage of fallen buildings suffered an agonizing death from burns or were swept away and drowned when the floods came upon them. And although every one in the city of Abbieann, appears to have perished, a few in the extreme eastern suburbs of the city and in out lying towns on the western end is said to ha e have escaped, and

are now beingcared for in many other places out of the disaster zone. It is for these survivors and others in the whole disaster zone who have been deprived of means of full or least support that help is needed, but cannot reach them... The next serious explosion like this will be worse than that of Abbieann," thought Starring," If I do not succeed in discovering who was responsible. And poor Calverinia, and her sisters and other christian colonlies cannot long withstand the strain of these continued disasters if they keep on much longer, and some day if means is not taken to hinder the enemy in his purpose there is going to be an outburst of explosions, that will cause devastation unequaled except in the destruction of Abbieann. I must do something, and that pretty soon.."

One investigator also told Starring, that all the land within theexplosion zone and the strip of land between Abbieann and Adelaheid have been weakened and undermined by the tremendous digging of the explosions, and may sink down because of the great cavities and undermining being formed under ground by the tremendous so called eruptions.He said to Starring;

"Along a valley formed by the flow of the great Mic-Hollester River on which you are making this special trip, through earth that has been disasterously shaken by the explosions which many thought were internal disturbances, and in the midst of tremendous forest fires which still make an inferno of the land, lies the route still unharmed of the Sendon railroad. On the time of the disaster, the inhabitants of all this surrounding country fled in terror from which they thought was the begin beginning of the most disasterous volcanic eruption in history. The topography of the earth which was formed by this immense river underwent radical changes because of the explosions and there are grave fears that it would be only a question of time, when this whole explosion zone would be obliterated by a caving in of the undermined areas. We are sir traveling on the most dangerous of all territory. Our peril in inconcievably great.

This has indeed sir been the most terrible case catastrophe than anything yet yet history has known, and add to the many difficulties of handling large ships up and down this great river, the rapid current of the river, caused by the draining out of the still remaining flood down below, and the enormous discharge of the flood, which had reached a total of more than a 100,000,000 cubic feet a second, and taking into consideration also of the violence of the heated winds, and the possible results of these forest fires I have no hesitation in saying that sooner or later the source of this very river may be destroyed by natural agencies, and from now on will offer but small inducements to ships on account of the great dangers of its navagitation. Therefore there are gounds to bel believe that a disaster more terrific yet may occur in this location at almost any time. These explosions you know have been like eruptions which would make Krakatoa pale into insignificence. If things ain't done also explosions of equal intensity may occur again. If it is proven the enemy is responsible what will the success of your investigation do.?"

"Bring Abbieannias full quota into the war."answered Starring.

Chapter 24

CONTINUED PANIC IN THE PATH OF THE FIEST FIRES.. THRILLING ESCAPE OF STARRING AND SOME OF HIS FOLLOWERS.

HE OBSERVES STRANGELY ENOUGH HUNDREDS OF BODIES STILL AFLOAT IN THE WATERS.

FRANTIC EFFORTS TO ESCAPE TO THE SHIPS AT HANSONVILLE. MANY RESCUED FROM UNDER THE SHADOW OF A BURNING RIDGE. TERRIBLE PANIC FOLLOWS THE FURY OF THE RED PLAGUE.....,

Starring was becoming discouraged, and disheartened, because destruction was again threatened by the forest fires, and was raging onward with a fury even greater than that exhibited when he first encountered the Red Plague after leaving general Concentinian Arronburgs army. For twenty four hours while the city lay at the river wharf of Nannon point the forest fire billowingsmoke like a terrificvolcanic eruption of the krakatoa typeadvanced onward,, and explosions all all the lone long line had been as frequent as a terrific cannonade snowing the desperate efforts of the fighters to stay the flames by by dynamiting trees and making efforts to breach the flames.

All in the neighborhood were in panic, and even Starring and his followers went on shore to try and calm the refugees who thronged the shore in a commotion as if they were fleeing from the scenes enacted by the approach of the day of General Judgement. The whole afternoon was one of fear andv terror and alarm in the town itself. The earth and sky seemed to have lost its foundations, and on through the forests poured a seething storm of dearth death. The first culmination came at an early hour the following evening, when there occured an explosion probably caused by the fire, and an explosion so terrific that the concussion shook down some of the walls and houses of the city, and in panic the inhabitants fled into the open country..It was believed that the force of the explosion was much greater than all the noise accompanied by the blasting heard so frequently, and it was hoped the explosion would have breached the burning forest some where and change the direction of the fire storm, but nothing definite was yet known of conditions produced by the explosion, or of the situation further north, and tward where the Red Plague was heading. smoke again filled the air in rolling clouds and fog, darkening the sky, and embers and burning ashes was borne high in the sky by the draught of the flames. There was no breath of air and in the town the temperature was nearly, so so to say a hundred and eighteen in the shade, and still rising. rising.

When the heavens are filled with the glow of the conflagration, as frequently happens day and night,, it can be seen that the forest fire hardly ever changes its course even if the wind does, and then nevertheless there always has been a perfect calm in the air, but in the forward paty g forward path of the forest fire, the flames are lashed to a fury by a terrific fire hurrnace hurricane, indicating that the great heat of such a sea of flames are working tremendous changes in the superheated atmosphere above and therefore creates whirlwinds of its own.

Indeed words were totally inadequate to describe the actual conditions, and disaster was expected every moment, and in the harbor of this town every ship has steamed up to take the panic stricken refugees away. A severe i inundation at Bellion Point a little northeast which happened at two oclock early that morning morning, which swept away a number of houses, and fifty other fifty other buildings being damaged by the flowing over which swept southward was at first hoped nevertheless as a blessing as it was believed in might inundate a part of the forest in the path of the flames and therefore break the progress of the conflagration in that location, but the hope was shattered to bits. The flood swamped a part of the forest it is true, but it stopped not the conflagration and only added to the horror by creating heatened waters in creeks and raised immense clouds of steam.The water only soaked most ofthe ground foliage and a which smouldered slowly and raised a heavy sea of white smoke adding to the darkness darkness and discomfort.

Despite the peril and terrible dr danger that light attack them from every side starring and a party of his officers and men, and the two girl friends went ashore at Nannon point the next morning to try and bring away some evidence of explosion dust which the power of the city said fell there so thickly as to cover the streets like fallen snow. The forest fire at this time threatened to swarm the city withdestruction later that morning, and they were advised to forsake their purpose, and save themselves as the population of the whole town was fleeing panic stricken , yet those who were looking for tences traces of the dust refused to do so, Onthey stumbled through an atmosphere each second growing more darker, hotter and stifling. Their ears were deafening by the crashing of falling buildings as they collasped after burning through and in the river a large refugee ship was steaming down the river sounding her siren which most of the time was silenced by the greater noise of the rangers blasting trees at many points with dynamite, the ears of the adventurers being shaken with the uproar.

With steam up the Mary Jane stood readyto run as soon as the adventure party could get at from the burning town and to the ship. Indeed to the general din it added its note of alarm. Finally tye the brave men and two girls were forced to to rest themselves at the waters edge, and then were compelled to make all speed to the Mary Jane.They were barely in time. As the steamer got well under way another flood of fire poured across a portion of the river in huge flames, and a board stream of flames formed on the forest top on the opposite side of the stream, while the sky seemed to rain flaming embers and sparks and a terrific gale r arose. In spite of of the threatening aspect of the fire, many of the refugees had remained behind untill they were cut off from escape except by the river, and it was determined by starring to make an attempt to rreach them, and bring them on board before they Were overwhelmed by the fire.

By permission penrod and Radcallife accompanied the searching party, which was divided by two or into two squads but of their own accord the two girls remained behind this time. One led by Starring himself, went to the heat heart of the now burning town and soon had a large number of panic stricken women and children following him and his members. In the meantime another party, led by the captian of the ship himself

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had proceeded to the western part of the town, and this was within view of the fierce conflagration which had crossed the stream, and which gaining in intensity was heading for the town from both the south and the southeast. Captian Johnston as was his name saw a huge rolling wall of smoke towering thousands of feet belching from that direction as if a huge volcano was in eruption so close by, then he saw occasionally a wall of flame pierce these clouds and eve reach even reach clear across and overhead.Directig Directing his men to make all haste back to the Mary Jane, the captian turned aside to give warning to Starring and his party who were urging on the frightened inhabitants.

After a ten minutes search he came upon them.

"For God's sake boys." he gasped" get to the ship quickly if you would save your lives."The fire has crossed the stream south of the town and is heading northward. Destruction is upon the town and us.

At that moment there was a crash of thunder somewhere, seeming to come from the sky in the direction of the conflagration, and back of which it seemed as if a thousand of the loudest thunder bolts ever heard in any storm has been shot into one.The fire hit a rangers arsenal. As the crash died away, the loud siren of some other ship, which was in the river screamed a warning, as it put down the river at tip speed. Without a moments pause the louder whistle of the Mary Jame was blowing. There was another rumber and rumble and the sky was filled with flashes. Then as Starring looked backward the forest fire was mingled with a va t vast volume of more differently rolling smoke which shot a mile or more high and a fall of flaming objects commenced. The inhabitants became panic stricken. They even fell upon their knees and prayed to God to save them from the destruction which they feared was about to fall upon them. They even were in hysteria. The s children even screamed and cried. Under the circumstances the presence of mind and bravery of the party under Starring was worthy of the greatest praise. They refused to let any one get from them.

"If they die in the town we'll die with them" Starring said. And his followers had spirit enough to greet this sentiment with loud cheers..Indeed it was surely heart-rending, and it served to shame the refugees into a show of bravery. As rapidly as possible the two parties with the refugees in their midst made their way through the smoke laden streets to the river shore. Once one of the men stumbled, but his follows waited untill he could recover himself, then all went together, still bearing on before them the panic stricken refugees. Half a mile or more was covered in this mam manner, and each minute the sky darkened, and the atmosphere grew hotter and go hotter, and more smoke laden, and a tre tempest of hot wind was blowing down the streets....

In the air was thicker smoke that made breathing hard labor, and the heat was beyond comprehension.

Finally the distance was covered, and it was at the end discovered that to reach the Mary Ann where she was would have to me be temporarily abandoned. Then afterwards it was with great difficulty that the party were taken aboard the ship with the rescued refugees but it was accomplished safly and in time. Then all eyes watched the awful conflagration, the grandest and most awe inspiring sight ever witnessed by man. There was for a moment an inner column of fire that reached straight upon up into the air, and for a moment about it rose a funnel shaped mass of smoke and upward rising cloud of sparks that could be penetrated by the eye only when the flames burned the most brightest. As the falling burning trees fell into the st stream great clouds of steam were raised, and the sinister hissing could be heard amid the pounding of the ships engines as the engineer put on all steam to run the ship out of the danger zone.

Yet as the ship continued on, an ob servation was taken. Then the ship was turned up the river, and was run in close under the furthest column of smoky walls. As close as the ship could be sent without courting destruction, the Mary Jane went to a leaping wall of fire among the forest of tall trees on shore. At this point the very river water was boiling, and the steam that came up over the sides was so dense as to make it all but impossible to see through it.

The ship then went further on, to try and stop again near the town to bring off the rest of the refugees, and found them crowding the shore all in panic.Terrible as was the scene of the forest fire the evening before it was mild in comparison with that which was now witnessed. It was too dangerous a risk to get too near the interior of the town, and the heat was indeed stifling.Not a breath of air hardly stirred unless the dire fire he hurricane broke loose. No rain fell, and the hunder thunder of exploding dynamite had ceased showing the rangers had been defeated by the fire and were driven away. Many of the refugees who could not catch ships left the night before at the waters edge, ready to s take boats down the river, should that be necessary to escape from the terrors of the Red Plague.

After a longer distance of sailing down the river the Mary Jane, arived at St Johns at four oclock in the following afternoon, and ac anchored, about six hundred yards from the river docks of the city... It was the purpose of the captian to sent the refugees through this town to a point of greater s afty. There were about one hundred and sicty nine refugees on board the shipp. Captian johnston was in the cabin arranging his papers, and starring was in his own apartment superintending the removal of the refugees to the shore. Three hundred and fif ty yards away lay another shipp.

Suddenly about five oclock the sky grew dark as pitch overhead, and the nearest portion of the shore was blotted out in the darkness. Captian johnston came on deck at that moment and with a look of fear and excitement on his face, sprang for the bridge, and,,, he had barely reached his post,,, when river and sky seemed rent by a terrific flash of fire, and a terrific hurricane arose. A rain of fire was blown on the ship, and with it came the chocking fumes of pine tar and pitch and rosen.....

"Heave away the anchor for heavens sake." shouted Captian johnson.

So panic stricken were others that for a moment they hesitated to obey, and therefore Starring sprang upon the forecastle head, and with the aid of two sailors which hd he forced to come and help him began to take inthe cable.. The heat of the fires trying to reach the ship bit and stung them, and their nostrils were filled with the fumes that filled the air. They had rel reeled in about fifteen feet of the cable when Captian johnson who had been joined by Third Officer Handon shouted again wildly,

"It's coming.It's coming. Open the windlass and let it run.Ilet it run."

Some other sailor opened the windlass, and half the chain had run out, when all at once there came a river of fire rushing along the opposite shore, and Starring started

to leave the forecastlehead, when a great tongue of flame reaching across the very river surged down upon the ship. Inky darkness had fallen on the scene behind them but shoreward the shoreward the blazing trees illuminated the scene. The wave of w fire surging clear across and borne by a gale struck the ship broadside on, and nearly every thing inflamable on deck caught fire. Starring grabbed the iron cover of a ventilator and ran tward the steerage with the ventilator over his head, to sheild it from the heat of the flames overhead.. He was caught in a rush of sailors, and refugees aboard toward the same shelter, knocked down and almost trampled on. It was at this time that he recieved some slight burns on his neck. Though the ship was going full speed now the far reaching flames was still pouring across and tward the vessel deck, and members of the crew and refugees were fleeing to all safer quarters of the deck. Starring would have been been one of those nearly burned to death, had not two refugee women seized him and dragged him into the steerage. There they stayed, and by wrapping their heads in wet blankets escaped serious injury.

During the panic Captian Johnston was accidentally knocked overboard. When the ship righted with the gales slight abatement the captian was alongside in the water. Starring hearing of it, jumped overboard, and drawing himself upon a hatfa hatch cover dragged the captian upon it. A patch of falling leaves fell squarely upon Captian Johnso Johnsons head, but Starring knocked it away before it singed his hair. A rope was thrown to Starring and both he and the captian were hauled on board.

Then the ship continued on full speed untill the vessel passed the wall of fire and Starring and the captian remained below all that time. When it was believed time Starring alone went on deck. The fire was still raging and spreading on the opposite shore with immeesureable fury, and it was still as dark as night, except where it was lighted by the leaping flames. It could not have been more than five minutes between the time the sky first darkned darkened to the time they passed the surge of flames, and Starring returned to the deck. Sixty eight persons were working like mad to put out the fires blazing on the ship, the vessel being on fire in a dozen places. Then Starring saw a huge ship coming down upon the Mary Jane, apparently unmangeable. There was a man at the wheel of this ship however, and Starring ran below, seized some flag and waved it wildly to warn this other ship off.

he however nearly collided, not be able to see the othdr other in the fog, but its was only a side glance blow and did not do any damage. Then the Captian himself of the Mary Jane appeared, and turned his at e attention to his own crew... Only five or six had not responded to his call, and those who were working were seriously burned, and he found of only out of sixty eight refugees on board his ship only fifteen remained alive. Starring th and the crew, and the rangers together carried the suffering survivors below and made them as comfortable as possible. Then Starring and his own followers also began to aid the sailors to fight the fire on the shipp.

Their desperate struggle continued untill the following morning, while others fearing they would not succeed in getting the fire out began to build a raft out of materials gathered below the deck...

They were about four hours in building and provisioning the raft.. Life preservers were strapped about the injured, rough ao oars were constructed, and even a spar and some sails got ready, for they intended if pesible to make their way down the river as fa tfast as possible. yet for all this work, it was not necessary, the fires on the ship was put out, and then despite their own handicapped condition were finally compelled to rescue the crew of another ship which was also on fire. Every many on deck shouted together for help, and every body wept tears for joy, when the raft made so hastily was lowered and then came alongside of the ill fated ship, and starring and twenty others in l including the captian and his officers began the work t of rescue.

They took off fourty eight persons altogether from this doomed ship which was the Thomas, but some died as they were brought aboard. Most of them suffered terrible agony being burned internally as well as externally. The awful heat caused by the flames leaping inclouds across the river entered their noses and moths mouths, and even penetrated their ears.

Starring saw hundreds of dead bodies of all kinds of forest animals in the river. They floated on down the river, and the entire region was a charnal house.

The first offi cer of this doomed ship was among those lost by being panic stricken and leaping overboard. Another man said he owed his life by the reason that he was asleep in his bunk when the forest fire suddenly rushed down and across the river, and the tidal wave of flames overwhelmed the ship. When the fire enveloped the ship this man drew his blanket about his face. There was an open porthole in his cabin, and some of the flames rushing in burned the hair off his head,, which was turned tward the aperture. However However he escaped other injury.

After this Starring never saw a river harbor as ghaitly as St Johns, when he entered it on the following morning at about nine thirty oclock. The hills far distant was still afire and smoke was rising and spreading ou li out like an immense mushroom and overshadowed the landscape. The water of the river was covered with ch arred limbs of trees. And as the ship finally approached what had been St Johns its outlines were invisible in the fire and smoke. At hundreds of places tongues of fire were shooting up indicating where buildings were burning. Near by lay the blackened hull of some big ship. There were six or seven other smoking black hulls in the river, six of fairly large vessels. The ship steamed through the river ane partly pass the town, those on deck looking for signs of life but saw none. No trees were standing with a distance as far as eye could reach, all a sea of smoking forest ashes and debris burned to dust and the scene was one of indescriable desolation.

Thick smoke hyng over the scene and the air was full of fumes that is noticed after the ravages of a forest fire.

Starring heard from one of the survivors from the ship that had been burned the story of his escape. He said the captian had ran the ship on a race for ten miles with the swiftly advancing fire, when the fire finally ove rtook the ship, and the captian who was at the wheel dropped from exhaustion. He told also of how the town wag hit, and how the people running through the streets were struck down by falling walls of fire gutted buildings, and how several times many others fell over the bodies of those who died. Another man told the following story of the struggle on that ill fated vez vessel, when it was enveloped by the blaze. which leaped the river.

He claimed that the ship had no escape whateyer from the flames; and that in an attempt to escape the ship ran head on into the blaze. Captian Johnson urged the

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theship onward with the hope of getting out of the forest fire region. They reached another little river shore town about two oclock in the afternoon. Then here at the proper time the survivor came forth with his story. It is as follows;

We left the city of Pandora at the later afternoon two days ago, and arived near St Johns on the evening of that fatal day. Our crews had seen the forest fires from the woods for many miles north of here during night, and the smoke easily by day, and now as we came up into the river port of the town the pillars and waves of flame appeared to be rising high and the smoke clouds rolled grandly and was most intense. Many of the passengers a came on deck early to watch the grand fire scene. The Thoa Thomas steamed up to the station off the easterly part of the city of St John less than a hundred feet off the shore. The water of the river was quite smooth and although ernormous quantiee of flame and smoke were boiling up from the distant forests, the sky, though the sun was not shining was not darkened, and the view was excellent. The main firecseemed to be about ten miles from the opposite thttt shore a little by the head of us and over the port bow.

The Abbiemia West Calvorinia, and Angelinia State Telegraph companys Steamer "The Hanson" was lying moored to a huge buoy.

Thus in some way or other she proved a big screen between us and the fury that came upon us afterwards. Not one of us on the Thomas would have escaped with his life, if the Hanson had not been in a position to save us. About a mile and a half astern of us a river cruiser lay at anchor near the Provision station. Altogether there were hundreds of other ships i near the town. I went on deck early and found many of the passengers and all of the crew who were not on duty far below on deck, lined up on the port side watching the " fire show". As the distant forest fires made the weather so unusually hot no one in the town of St John would do any work. The citys Mayor and his pretty twenty year old daughter came along side the Thomas a little before four oclock in the afternoon, and notified our captian whose name was Murgar purgar of the situation station that the town was in peril.

While on deck they remarked to our captian that the forest fire at that spot was at its worse. They had never seen such a forest fire before. And evidently that was the opinion of everybody in St Johns, for the piers, the streets, and in many cases the house tops, and tree tops were covered with spectators, enjoying the majestic yet fearful spectacle. Aftervour strange visitors left, the Second Mate said to me;

"If the captian gives us permission will you go ashore with me, and get as close as we can to get a better view of the forest fire?"

"I replied. "No not if it is heading our way. I value my life more than that. I have read a all about volcanic eruptions, and though I would not be foolish enoughto to go near one, yet it is more dangerous to goo near a forest fire if it is moving tward you." And this was about fifteen minutes before the fires came upon the shore and singed us and our ship. At this time all of the passengers in cluding women and children were lined up on the port rail enjoying the sight. Most of the crew were lined up on that side too. I don't suppose there were any persons below except the Engineer and his assistants, and the captian who had not yet left his bed.

Whice while I was standing with two children, friends of mine, a boy and girl. in the allyway on the starboard side of the ship, not far from my stateroom, which was a little forwards of midships, we heard a terrific roar like an approaching cyclone, and the sound seemed to crush everything flat, and there was a sudden intense increase of heat in the atmosphere. We then in looking in the direction saw that the whole stretch of forest along our side of the shore extending as far as eye could rea h reach has suddenly burst into a wall of flame, and fronting us. There gushed forth everywhere an awful mass of fire, and in less than a minute the fire leaped in clouds of singing flame overhead, and there was a series of musketry lke reports as many trees crashed down in being burned through, many of the flaming branches striking the water with a frightfully loud hissing sound, while strangely probably from the heat the wall of flame seemed to soar high and rolled over and upward upon its self, as it soared across the sky setting trees afire on the other side.

I never saw anything like the rolling of this flame. It stretched out tward us at times like a giantic beach comber of flame, wholy the rolling of the smoke clouds was very unusual rolling over and over upon itself in tremendous billows as it advanced tward us swept forward by a wind with its top part always rolling down and under the main mass and with the after pae part of it constantly rising up to a height of many thousands of feet as the great mass of flame o soared in our direction.

We finally out ran it, but it was th the worse experience and many of us never lived to tell the tale."

"But what happened during the disasterous fire?" asked Starring.

Vast clouds of steam arose from the contact of the heat with the water. The fire seemed to blot out the city of St Johns from our sight. There arose up an outcry of a myriad of voices. Now as the long flames stretched out close to us, the steam from the river rose in great clouds and cut off from our view what was left of the burning city.

"Run for your liv life" I shouted to the others, as I saw the flames getting as bad as on the other side and roff roofing us all in a fearful canopy of fire..

"Oh no, it will burn itself out before it gets to our ship." some one replied as I turned and ran into my room on the starboard side of the ship. If the wind did not blow all would have been well but it was literally the fire hurricane, and the ship was tossed about in the boiling river, and something like a great whirlpool pulled her far over on the port side. Then a terrible hurricane of fire enveloped her, and the roaring force of the glae gale hel heeled her far over on the starboard side, so that she almost lay on her beam ends. At the moment this fire hurricane swept over us I heard a terrific noise frightfully loud and threatening. This turned out to be the sound of our four masts, and the four huge smoke stacks and the port side of the bridge being swept away like chaff.

Even then we had not recieved the full force of the fire hurricane for the ships nearest us served as a screen for us. I was told later that two ships in front of us were flung down on her sie side blazed up in flame in every part of their hull and plunged down beneath the river in an instant. When our captian heard all the commotion he leaped out of bed, dressed only in his night clothes, and ran up on

on the bridge. He was one of the bravest men I ever saw.

"George" he called to the first officer. "Go heave the anchor. Hurry."

Then the captian in a frenzy called down to the through the tube to the chief Chief Engineer crying; "For God's sake let us get out of this as soon as we can. We are in hell." We however had full steam up in one boiler, and the other fire was bunked. The chief, and the third engineer made a rush for the engine room to get the ship going. The First mate yelled to one of the crew, to get the windlash ready to heave, and as the man ran tward the windlass the fire hurricane struck us, and swept him away, so that he never reached the windlass. The first Mate was then seen running for the Companion ladder so as to reach the forepeak, where he could give further orders, when the second mate seized him around the waist, and suddenly and almost roughly dragged him into the steerage. That vact saved the First Mates life, and neither he or the first mate was even singed by the fire.

When I ran furiously into my stateroom on the starboard side of the ship my idea was to plunge under the bed clothes in my br berth and so protect myself from the fire and heat but before I got half way covered the fire hurricane hurled the ship over almost on her beam ends on the starboard side.

The porthole of the stateroom was unfortunartely for me wide open, and the water came dashing in in great force. It was almost scalding hot, and the inrush of the water swept me off my berth, and I staggered out into the middle of my room. The wate The water was so hot that I felt as if the fire was burning me up, and I madly tore off my coat and vest. As the ship rolled still deeper, I thought she was going to turn turtle and then sink, and as she lay wallowing in the river and trying to pick herself up I held fast to the cupboard. When all quieted down I jumped outside then into the gayway gangway. The captian was on the bridge giving orders and trying to save his ship when the blast of flames overwhelmed him.

He was bareheaded and only dressed in his night clothes, and his hair was singed off and he was burned from head to foot. Then whether he was crazed and delirious by the pain or whether he became so weak that he could not support himself, I do not know but our captian immediately fell overboard. One of the sailors jumped after him catching the captian by the shirt collar and tried to bring him back. Then the big booty hatch torn from one of the other ships came floating by, and the sailor got onto it and pulled the captian up onto it too. For many minutes the poor captian lay senseless, and his rescuer thought he was dead. Then he was surprised to hear him suddenly speak;

"Get me back to my ship. For heavs heavens sake get me back to the Thomas. If I have to die I must die on board my ship." Then the captian lay back as if dead, but the sailor soon had him back on deck. As he brought the captian over the side he saw women and children all burned and bleeding and with their clothing hanging in burned and bloody shreds. It was atbthis time that I took the chances and made my way forward from my stateroom. I saw a child a little boy s lying by the no. three hatch. I found that he was dead, his hair was all burned off, clothing too, his skin was scorche scorched black, and what was left of his clothes, and also his skin hung in ragged patches. The ship had passed the blast of fire long ago, but at the moment of thd the disaster the hurricane had hurled through the air clouds of flaming embers, which came down upon us in a rain of fire. Everywhere they fell they started a fire.

Hot ashes were flying with this hail of fire, and breathi ng in the heated atmosphere and smoke was almost impossible. For a time it was impossible to see at ant any distance. The roaring of the conflagration, the sk shrieks and cries of the many dying, the rain of fire and ashes, and the fumes of smoke from the burning trees, and the glare amid the continued darkness everywhere made it seem to me as if the end of the world had come and we were all in hell.

The ship was already on fire o in both of the holds forward, and her saloo saloon aft was blazing. The rain of burning embers blown by the wind lasted only four or five minutes. I and three other survivors stood looking at each other. Every where thay we went lay dead men and women and dying people, who were so scorched and torn and disfigured by the heat and the fire, that no one could identify them. The dying and the injured were all begging for water, and I am sure they must have all inhaled the flames. When we went aft we saw several women and children coming to us from the saloon. They were burned and begged for water. I went forward to the messroom to draw some, but I found the messroom tank tossed up on deck wreched apart by the by the fury of the forest fire hurricane, and not only empty but scorched dry. I got a pitcher of water from the washstand in a stateroom.

One of the survivors asked me to help him put out the fire in the forehold, and we got four or five fire buckets. We did pretty well with the forehold and the other portion but forward of that we found the captians cabin smoking and went in there. A part of the flooring and the matresses were on fire, and as we pulled out the mat tresses to throw water on them one dead body after another rolled out on the floor.

These were of some passengers, women and children, two two of the firemen and some of the crew who were off duty at the time the forest fire reached across the stream and overwhelmed our ship. The door of the forecastle was shut, and the portholes open. They were not burned therefore I believe they must have died from inhaling the flame and the fumes. We put out the fire in this cabin and also in the forecastle, but could not succeed in the main holds. The wind and rain of fire fiery embers had ceased, and we were grouping our way in the darkness that would be like erebus if it was not for the glow of the fires.

A big steamship which proved to be yours, which we knew to be yours, came up a astern of us as if she were going to pass. The Second Mate who survived ran up on the bridge and burned four coston lights. He got no reply from yours. I feared that the only reason no one on on board your ship did not answer us was that every body on board was killed or disabled, when in fact at first no one saw ys us. Then a surviving sailor suggested that we throw one of the skids overboard and use that as araft. We launched the skid. Then we saw through the fog a ships light coming t tward us and soon we again made out yours. some one on your ship hailed us from the bridge.

"Ahoy there, how many of you is there on board, "!"!!!!!"

"I don't know I answered" but many of us are dead..."

"Then came the order" get all the living together, and we will take you aboard our ship." the man on the bridge called to us. Then there came to us out of the darkness a big raft, manned by you and a number of others. Now for the first time we began to take an accurate account of how many living there were aboard our ship. Including

those who showed the very faintest signs of life, there were only ten, out of our crew and passengers numbering fifteen hundred and six. All of them were taken aboard your ship at nine oclock in the evejing evening. All of them except me fortunately had the hair burned off their heads. The faces of all of them were swollen and cut, and they were disfigured, OF course it was necessary to place each sufferer in a cool sheet which was carried by four men of your ship. And with two men lowering the sheet by the corners, andc we standing below at the edge of the slanting deck of the burning Thomas, to recieve them at the raill our poor fellows were lowered with the greatest care and then handed or hauled down aboard the big raft. Of course I must say that the women and children who were not injured were the last to come. It is a rule of women and children first but not in case of our affliction, when it was the injured first.. The captians wife refused to be go first untill her husband had been hauled aboard your ship. The sailors from your ship carried the tttttt poor woman very tenderly to the side of the ship and lowered her o upon the raft. The captian of your ship then left a large rescue crew on board the Thomas to gather up the rest of the sufferers, and headed the raft twqrd tward yours. After several trips back and forth they were all taken on board. We saw you pick up many others at the northerly end of the burning city at the face of great danger.

Some of them in fleeing the burning city were on rafts, some on logs, and many were swimming in the warm water.."

Starrings ship now proceeded slowly and cautiously for a northwestern course. Even then the smoke of forest fires had not hardly lifted, but nevertheless those on board had an occassional glimpse of the ruins of the city of St john. The city and all the country around it were blackened with fire, both the shattered walls of the houses, and the remaining bits of charred trees looming up in glowing embers over the great clouds of heavy white and gray smoke that had settled over everything. Flames were still rising from hundreds of houses, showing that all the inflamable materials in them them had not yet been com consumed. The immense shipping in the or at the river docks had totally disappeared and had left no trace. The last Starring saw of the ship the Thomas she was lying almost on her beam ends within with immense sheets of fire blazing out of the steerage, both the holds and the saloon.. It wasevident that she would burn to the waters edge and sink. Out of the fleet of a hundred ships that was at anchor in the harbor of the city of St John only the blazing hull of the Thomas was left. Four of the rescued members of that ship died on the short run tward Hansonville, so there were only a few to be taken to the big hospital there.

The doctor in charge of Starrings ship told him that even the wife of the Thomas's captian cannot live. And he said that out of all those who were taken from the ship only three or four maybe less will survive. nother man was picked up from a small raft in the river. He was all in rags. His custom consisted of a battered old soldiers h hatthat he had picked up from the edge of a ruined town and his suit of underclothes and an old pair of trousers were tied around the waist and at the ankles with pieces of old shoestring, no stockings or shoes, a mans slipper on one foot, and a womans old abandoned shoe on the other.

When this man was brought aboard the Mary Jane he was so shaking and trembling that he could not hardly walk or talk. It eve made Starring himself almost shake to think of the hell he went through at St johns. Starring was not much burned but holes were in his clothes, and the captian himself had suffered more from the terrible shock than anything else, and some of them believed he would never get over it completely.

All this while the sky remained totally overcast, and sometimes it grew a little lighter and then darker, and sometimes the blackness was intense. Sometimes no one could remain on deck for the wind being ea t east the smoke would drift across the river in blinding and chocking quanities. Sometimes the ship had to be stopped on the way, and although Captian Johnson knew that the forest fire was drifting on to new courses he decided to allow it hereafter to beat him instead of allowing his ship to get ahead of it for he did not wish to run the fire gauntley a second time. He headed the ship slowly for Hansonville which lay on the regular northwest route, to unload the rescued refugees there. Fifty miles away the flames could be seen, and one mountain side was all in seeming eruption for a thick pall of rolling smoke hung over the scene, and Starring feared it might be evident that even the city of Hansonville might be burning. They were still within full sight of St john passing now the main and northern harbor of the city, and they came across another ship that was still smouldering.

Not a living thing was seen about the harbor but bodies of many an m animals were were still floating in the water. A stretch of fire was pouring up the side of a forested hill, and in slowly passing by Starring saw a valley in which hundreds of people had formerly lived all asmoke and aflame.. The aspect of the scene where the tremendous conflagration had passed was gras grayish white and all smoking, and the slopes of one mountain up which the fire had passed were covered with a cloak of ashes and the few skeletons of still smoking trees, the ashes making the scene appear as if a volcano had thrown clouds of ashes all over the scene.. A great cloud of white smoke smoke was above this desolated hill. Indeed the desolation was complete and there was not a sign of a single lving thing as far as the vison vision could reach..

Captian Joh son soon discovered that for a time he could do nothing because of the dreadful smoke haze, and the ship was slowed down and anchored near the extreme northern part of the burned town of St John. while waiting here for the smoke to lift some of Starrings followers picked up four little children on a raft de de gaft. They had been inland, and had escaped to the shore and taken to the raft, rather chancing this risk than the dangers from the blaze. hen Starring got within hailing distance of them he heard their cry for help. They had been burned and had endured much suffering. Starring decided to have them landed at Hansonville as soon at that city was reached.

Starring who was so near St Johns during the horror that descended upon it, and was an eye witness to the destruction done to it by the fire was asked to write his experience but he did not deem it worth while and refused. About fourty orphans, mostly Calverinians were also brought on the ship with two nuns rescued from the town, Of

Of all those who were rescued from the ill fated town few however were injured. Starring had hoped the vessel could have sailed that day but it had remained smoky and dark the darkness continuing and he was worried for as far as eye could reach inland from the river the utmost devastation and desolation prevailed and he feared that a trip down the river to the Abbieann region would be of no avail. The appearance of the whole landscape was like whitewash, or indeed a sea of slaking lime might have easily resembled the scene with the thick smoke rising from it and scattered here and there the smoking gaunt skeletons of burned trees. Nothing was visible but that awful sea of ash and smoke and overtopping all a burning ridge. In the harbor every vessel that had been passed that had survived further north was stripped of masts and deck housings. It seemed as if the whole country was dead, that all its inhabitants are dead, and that the country would never be redeemed from the ashes of the fire, and the flood and explosion horror. no one it is believed could live here now. outside of the disaster zone the people who are not in want, did theit b st to aid those in trouble. Yet when all the bodies are taken care of there will be little more to do. The disasters left little to be done.

Despite the fact that the city of Calverine itself was four hundred and eighty miles distant from the head of the forest fires, the streets of the city as Starring recieved word by telegraph from there(wireless) was hidden at times with a strange fog that smel led like smoke from burning wood and pine needles which at first no one in that city could account for... The mayor said in his wireless message that the first appearance of the fog was noticed on the morning of St September the twent First and for two days after the fog continued, sometimes dreadfully thick and some times less. when the wind turned to west, or north, or straight south, the fog disappeared. There was no sunshine at the time the fog came. Starring suspected there was so much smoke sent by the firesthat the winds carried it over the ontire stae.. state..

Starring also reached or recieved word that it would be high time when he could reache the city of Hansonville. So rapidly had the horrors of the last fortnight piled upon one another that to the people of that big town it now seemed ages since the first news was recieved there. It was just on September the ~~twttt~~ third that the first wireless recieved from some unknown location announced the unusual progress of the forest fire, and gave warning of the great disasters that were to d follow. Starring in trying to get details while the ship lay at dock learned that the forest fire had been threatening this big town for ten days, but often a change of wind forced the fire off in a new direction, but now it began serious operations.

Though the fire was about thirty miles away the volumes of smoke issueing from it was so great and the rolls so fantastic and large that the conflagration seemed raging within some part of the city, and even then flames had been seen among the ro-li rolling smoke. Naturally all in the neighborhood of the forest firs were in a state of unatural and horrible consternation.

Some some took th warning and began to leave Hansonville but the great pro-portion of the dwellers remained to take their chances. The next day smoke began to reach the city, and thereafter business in the city was practically suspended.....

It is worthy of note that the flames were first seen to rush forward from the east stretch of the Mic-Hollester Woods, and the question was then asked,,

"What will become of all our beautiful forests if the Good God does not send us rain soon!"

Many ofthe scientists also believed that if the main flood waters of the Abbieann torrent had reached and swamped the forests in that vinicity, the fires then probably would have been stopped. Cables came through on Monday telling how the Sunday had been spent in Hansonville---the last Sunday that was to be spent in that once flourishing flourishing town. A stiff southwest wind then blowing had kept the smoke from fogging the city, and that day all were more hopeful. Yet the day also was one of prayer, and of Novenas offered up for the cause and the victims of the disasters with of course no Thanksgivings added.

Then came the first serious news, just as Starrings ship arived to the citys docks. docks. It however was first told by the cables, that the forest fire had again changed direction and had spread so that no matter what way the wind blew, except from the north, the breezes would not alter the dangers any. and that also other big towns had been destroyed and that scores of hundreds of persons were missing. It was not believed in Hansonville that this could be true, even it seemed to them that it was impossible that such a catastrophe could occur, and that the forest fire was so large. Nevertheless a gloom came upon the people of this city, who had many friends and relatives in all the towns reported dd destroyed by the conflagration.

That same day the news was recieved that the city of St John was destroyed, and that great trouble had resulted in that region, and only thi this served to impress every one with the possibility of great disaster, but no one was prepared for the sacrifice that was soon to be reported.

With orders to repair the cable between St ann, and Calverine, a cable ship called The Gertrude had left the city of Hansonville the day or two before Starrings ship arived. Even it was feared then that some nseen danger awaited this ship, and therefore the captian was instructed to use his own own discretion and to take no risks if it was not necessary.. All communication with all points s shout by cable . ceased.It was announced that the underground cables were broken or melted apart by the fierce heats of the blazes cutting Hansonville off from the world in general. Strange detonations were heard from the south and east... It seemed to them like the heavy guns of ships of war far out at sea. It was believed however that the fires had struck the Rangers arsenals but the explosions were heard over an area of over fifty miles..

Panic was beginning to make itself felt in the town when Starrings ship arived. The ship did not go far in however but remained out for water space.. for he feared

feared there also would be trouble here.-and that if the ship nentered the river harbor close to the docks it would not havecroom to manaeur manoeuvre for her own safty. No news was recieved after the ships arival untill that evening, when a wireless report was circulated that some calamity had befallen the city of St Thomas. From Calverine came a cablegram announcing that one ship which had left Calverine for St Thomas two days before had returned a wreck, with many scorched and badly injured aboard, some injured so badly they could not recover. It had been told by the captian of the ship which name was not learned that St Thomas had been destroyed by the forest firem and that all the shipping in the river roadstead that did not get away was burned down to the waters edge.

The inhabitants were in an open plain surrounded by burning forests, homeless having had not even time to save the leasts of their belongings. That was a terrible blow to those in Hansonville. Starring knew that he had just recently left some refugees tere there ffo from his ship thinking that town safe and it was feared that the Cable ship had gone there. And that fear was soon known to be too well founded. To Starring and all the rest these were black days here---days of morni mourning and heartrending grief to all of the inhabitants, a day to make even the most thoughtless shudder and stand aghast. The mind first failed to take in the ernormity of the forest fire calamity. And to make it worse news came the fire was coming headon for Hansonville a screaming hell. One other cable had failed to communicate with St Thomas. The condition were then sixteen hours after the catastrophe so threatening that the captian of another ship who returned to Hansonville said that he did not dare take his ship nearer than twenty miles but loathe to leave without at least trying to do something a boat was sent in through the impenetrable smoke pall and darkness. How near the boat got no one knows but near enough at any rate that when on returning to bring the word that the city of St Thomas was in flames, and not a soul was to be seen. This ship had not reached the river roadstead of St Thomas when the fire struck. He was near enough to see the awful fate of the Cable ship sent from Hansonville, and many other ships in the harbor. The inhabitants had probably fled befr before the fire hurricane burst upon the city. It is his belief that the fire broke through the gap made by some ravine and this shifting caused it to change its course and come for the vi city.

There was as the captian stated an explosion that scattered fire, burning fragments of trees, rocks, forest fire ashes and burning leaves for five hundred yards, in all directions.

It would also explain how the inhabitants were driven outso quickly as have no time time to save their belongings. Meanwhile while Starring waited for a time at Hansonville the terrible news continued, and all feared the fire would soon wiped out their city as well...

The next day was another day of terror and panic which was among the people of the city of Hansonville. For sixteen hours on the next day a terrific gale sprung up from the straight east bombarding the city with flying embers of burning trees, sending into the streets clouds of dust and smoke, and flaming brands rained upon the city. Houses closest to the danger zone were said to be destroyed, and fires were started in many quarters. With the flying embers came clouds of flaming leaves and ashes.The air was so so filled with smoke that it was barely possible to breathe, and at times it seemed as if suffocation must be the fate of all who could not be taken on board the ships in the harbor and many started to fe flee for all the vessels. While in this city the loss of life has not been great, the forest fire in coming near to this town was far worse than Starring had ever observed it before, and for many hours the explosions afresh from rangers striving frantically to s check the flames were so heavy and con-tinuous that it seemed as if the city would be shaken from its own foundation. The wind grew in intensity and burning leaves fell at places or flew into the air and borne on by the wind as thick as snow flames in a blinding bliiz blizzard, and the flames could be seen rushing on like the furious wave of theocean in a hurricane....

Thousands got onto the ships to leave the city of Hansonville in panic.Children were crying, women were praying and others were e even crying loudly. Some were leaving for the mountains to almost certain starvation and perils from fires if they too turned out to be in the path of the " Red Plague, yet they preferred that to the fate that would be theirs if the conflagration trapped them in the city. Others were fleeing toward near by towns, there being forced to depend upon the chairty of neighbors. Starring saw he could not land any refugees there.. every ship in the river harbor and there were scores of them were being constantly crowded with those who were prepar ing to flee at the appearance of the great danger.

Clustered about the big ships Starring saw small boats filled with women and children who begged to be taken up. Hundreds finding it impossible to ib obtain boats to take them to the h ships have swamped risking their very lives in the water to avoid the the danger which fills them with more terrible dread..

One who it seems took this mode of escape was the Mayor of the city himself. When the conflagration came so near that the city was hidden in a fog of smoke and the gale turned into a near cyclone, and while fear struck to the heart of every one in the city, the Mayor rushed to the shore and plunged into the river.. He first removed his shoes and trousers, and being little weighted with clothing he struck out for the Mary Jane which was nearly a mile off shore, with steam off and ready to put off down the river rather than be gauntletled by the fire again. He reached the ship saftly though much exhausted. He asked the captian if he would take some of the refugees on board the ship but starring who was in charge in person, declared if more were on the ship the vessel would go under. In the excitement time was found to be given to starring and his officers and others of his followers, and the rangers and calverinians under his command who never lost their presence of mind and were working bravely to save those who were unable to save themselves. He saw to the unloading of a number of the refugees onto a better ship, and then the ship was ordered to run down the

river coast to make observation of the course of the forest fire to see if the city was in danger or not/. The ship went as close to the opposite shore as the smoke and heat would allow until driven away by a surge of flame which reached momentarily clear across the sky and the river.. Starring then br brought b back the report that new fires were raging far beyond the city and was spreading in broad streams. All along the shore near the fire zone the waiter was boiling and such curtains of steam rise that the view of the land and the forest fires was only possible only when the wind blows with sufficient force to lift them for a few seconds. The whole country side as Starring described it is like a country driven deep into the pits of hell. The heat from the burning forests is so unusually great, and the Mary Ann went so close in tward the shore that she returned with the paint on her sides blistered..

When returning again near the dhoos dok docks of Hansonville Starring saw a great crowd of old men and women and children on the shore signalling wildly for help and Starring thanked heaven he had previously unloaded his ship onto another of his first rescued refugees from the destroyed ships and elsewhere. All were taken on board, and those rescued were almost starved. Supplies what could be spared were given to them and then when another big ship arived from the north, the people were transferred to this, as the captian at his orders did not go on ahead.

From all parts of this section of the country not cut off by the forest fires and remaining flood horrors, or explosion disaster, refugees not at first knowing the situation were flocking into Hansonville, All mouna mountain roads are said to be filled with panic stricken and starving women and children. Ariving here their terror does not decrease, and when they see Hansonville is threatened they were more anxious to press on to some safer place as they were to get here. Starring heard that all the roads were dotted with dead, or those overcome or suffering from heat prostration and many are reported to be dying, having fallen from weakness on the way.

Unusual wages were offered for rescuers to go out and assist those who have fallen by the way, but it seemed every one were too full of fear to be tempted by any offer. As Starring learned the panic however was greatest the day before he arived, when the sun arose shining very faintly through the haze of smoke. The skies were filled with rolling and whirling clouds that appeared fiery red, and many believed that some explosion would occur and hurl the burning forests into the sky so that the fire would fall upon them from the heavens, and the terror that had ensued was pitiful and exciting. Indeed the spectacle was so appalling and unusual that the populace could not appreciate the sublimity of it. All day long the streets were filled. Soldiers and sailors mixed freely with the women and children, all frightened witless.

All struggled to get to a place of safty, they knew not where . Indeed believed that whereever they went they faced the greatest danger.

Some screamed prayers in their frenzy, others fell upon their knees in the streets and besought protection from above and begged God to send rain. No one were able to refrain from tears. Then when the panic began to subside a little Starring could observe there was a general scramble for the waters or the water fronts, and the hills west of the town...

With starrings ship started for Hansonville another ship had went on the utside, and made a tour ofthe city and its vinicity but in the opposite direction. he passed Hanson-Ville and had a part in the work of rescues of the refugees who had been driven to the shore by the threatening fire storm advancing tward the city, and the forests beyond it. hen Starrings ship in going a short distance from the city of HanHanson ville they came within sight of a burning ridge and found the panic panic among refugees here even greater than within the city and its subburbs. The forest fires was turning and sweeping in that direction, and the valley here was a sea of smoke. There was a storm of detonations in this location, and it seemed as if great eruptions were raging near this part of the city under the endangered ridge.

A steam launch from a ship called the Heidi picked up two hundred and seventy fi ve persons who were struggling in the water and took them to a river ship. Scores and scores of others were taken to the Heidi and to even Starrings ship. The small boats boats of the latter ship ere were out constantly saving many who otherwise must have been drowned. This was a work of very much danger, as for some reason or other the river at times was as rough as the sea because of the fire hurricane blowing.

Supplies however in this town had been quite plentiful but great suffering was be being caused by the smoke, intense heat, and lack of water. All of the river water, and and all the natural water supplies had been plo polluted by the river and the flood which has strangely enough developed sulphuric acid and thyphio Phyphoid fever germs. Water that could be spared was being supplied from some of the ships, and word had been sent to other places for a greater supply.

There was as Starring learned an unual unusual ammount of charity going on here. Those fortunate to own small boats that are sufficiently sea worthy, to make the run down the river to safer places instead of making themselves rich as they could have have done by taking those who desire to escape the wrath of the forest fires or charge extravvagant prices in demand for their transportation, took them away for little price or nothing at all. This enabled hundreds to get away, and thousands had only to wait a short time to get away.

Starring later decided to penotrate the territory that afternoon far enough to get a glimpse of the fire from the land and see if it was moving on the city of Hansonville or not . when he came back he reported that the whole region within his view was running with fire, and he said that as the clouds of smoke and fire rage forward the ridge so threatened can be seen burning on one side, and the valley is filled with smoke and flame and that danger did threaten the town from two sides. But he said nevertheless;

"As long as the winds does not change its direction, there doesnot appear to be much danger. but if the wind changes we all, including ourselves will have to move and pretty blamed quick too.."

Scarcely had he said this when he heard a loud roar and loking back saw a huge mass of black eruption burst from the lower portion of the burning ridge, and this was immediately followed by a great wall of flame which seemed to rise and topple over and then down into the valley below. At first to Starring it was the sensation of an eruption and then he realized the fire st struck something that must have exploded.

There were other loud detonations, and looking in the direction of the sound he saw that there was a line of blue puffs of smoke, and sawthat the upper part of the ridge was emitting a thinblue smoke which by its simmering effect he realized to be the overhead overheated air rising from the blazes below. Without a moments delay, Starring ordered the look out to keep an eye on the scene, and he obeyed. So far as the look-out could see from his post the whole scene of eruptions did not last above two or three minutes.

Starring asserted that every one in the city would have plenty of time to escape escape for it was the talk of the city the evening before the fire storm threatened the place, and yet he believed it was best now to induce the people to leave while there was yet tije... time... Many of those on board his ship who had been rescued had barely sufficient clothing to keep them covered. They believed that the city was about to be destroyed by the fire as the other towns were. When they left a windstorm was sending blazing embers into the streets, and the inhabitants had either taken refuge on the ships in the harbor or as said before had fled into the mountains south and northwest of the city. From the city of St John a relief expedition sent from Pandora on returning was hailed by Starrings ship, and the captian came aboard to interview him bringing tales of horror. He gave this account of what he saw;

"We knew before leaving Pandora that this forest fire horror was going to be a disaster that would shock the world, but we were not prepared for what we observed. Steaming into the harbor we saw the entire city in ruins, with no sign of life about the place, and thick smoke was rising from the blackened walls, and the smouldering wreckage of the burned forest was horrible. As we neared the shore, we observed the wreck of only one surviving ship out of a hundred, which was still smoking. The sides of this ship which looked to be the Thomas were still hot, and as the river water lapped against her it sizzled and the steam,, arose.. We found all the largest trees near the river shore burned down to the verybroots. Everything was desolation.

We noticed that one small house which had escaped the fire had fallen in, and the ceiling laths though torn loose were twisted all in one direction, just was one might twist a handful of straws or hay. This seemed to me an evidence that the sudden escaped of so much heat from the conflagration caused a sort of fire hurricane or whirlwind in the advancing path of the " RED PLAGUE" which blew down this house. smoke and flame were to be seen still in various parts of the town, and far in the distance two ridges was enveloped in rolling clouds of smoke. But when we tried to enter the ruined town in spite of the heat we saw no bodies and wondered if all had escaped. Several Cathedrals were smouldering, and here and there we passed houses still aglow, and smoking.

But I came across the charred bodies of frefugees outside the city who had been overtaken by the blaze as they reached the river. Lying on a raft that was half smoking yet, was a body which we believed t was that of some fire ranger. Not far away but under the smoking trunk of a big fir tree lay a magnificent specimen of a man evidently another forest ranger, who had perhaps seeked to escape by the river when worsted in the fight, believing that he could escape the dangers of the burning hell by the river, but who had been overtaken. He had pulled his wet jumper over his head to avoid the suffocating smoke but all to no purpose. Just a little way in shore were six bodies in a heap. All must have been running through the burning horror to escape death, and were overpowered by the conflagration in a twinkling of an eye.

Then I came across the body of a slender little girl, hardly eight years old. And I discovered that just beyond her, lay the charred bodies of two others, evidently her mother and father, their hands tightly clasped.

Showing how sudden death had coming upon those who had tried to escape, I found the body of a boy who had just stood up against a tree to rest himself. Death had stricken h him as he stood there, and it seemed evident he died without sufferinb.. suffering.

A little further down the desolated shore,, I came across in what was once a road a covered wagon, and a dead horse. The horse had been burned to death, but the driver I could not find. Evidently he had escaped. Every where I saw destruction and death. Side by side I observed lying a young woman and her father, who had clasped a little boy to his breast, and had lain over it, hoping no doubt to save the childs life, though death came to all."

Later that evening a new peril which was greater than that of the morning threatened the lower section of the city near and under the burning ridge, and the city was again in panic, and every one was awaiti ng in fear a cataclysm even worse than that which only recently filled the world with horror and consternation. That night was one of alarm and terror here, and even the earth seemed to have lost its foundations, for all along the valley poured onward with a loud hissing roar as of a sea of soarking skyrockets a raging fiery storm of death. Even somewhere in the valley occured an explosion so terrible that some weaker buildings were shaken down, and the people wild with fear,,, [illegible] the fate of the residents of Abbieann, deserted,

their homes a second time and with fe frenzied cries rushed into the smoke fogged streets av again making their way with all speed to the water front to get boats to take them anywhere into the open river to escape the impending danger. Many of them carried household effects on their arms, while others ran about w ing wri.wringing their hands and crying or praying. There were a few new vessels in the river coming just recently but just now they would not send boats ashore.

Smoke continually, filled the air, again making the sky more darker than before. When the heavens are filled with the glare of the flames, as frequently happens, it could be s een that the forest fires was not yet changing its course..... After the first danger threatening the city there has been a perfect a cepm calm upon the air, and yet the advancing side of the conflagration as stilll lashed into a fury indicating that the same fury or the same forces that was driving the forest fires onward, were working tremendous changes in the atmposhere atmosphere. Indeed no ammount of wording could describe the actual conditions.. New disasters were expecting by starring and his friends every moment, and in the harbor of Hansonville every ship still there has steamed upand are ready to slip from their cables ane and speed away.

Starring e stimated that 120,000 people had continually rushed out into the streets of the town, shrieking and praying. He also knew that a " Tidal Wave" of fire had des troyed the villiage of Canor which is a southern suburb of Hansonville, and which had a population of 20,899.

Many letters from victims of the flood and other disasters of the past, as well as of t big Abbieann dia disaster were found to be on Starrings ship headed for many places and they were to be forwarded in great numbers. They formed a unique series of unusual documents filled with all kinds of human interests for all future historians of the immense catastrophes.

Starring had himself felt like writing something, but he was under the most gloomy of impressions, as he knew now no one could exaggerate the situation throughout the country..... his unchaining of the forces of natu nature by Glandelinias menas itself means itself was unusually horrible, and now starring wished himself far from here. Every one was leaving the region as from a terrible epidemic, but the men folk, especially the those not yet in the army and the elder boys, st stayed behind to if possible make an effort to repell the Red Scourge. Indeed all this is very sad. The heat is suffocating ad very high in temperature, and sometimes those even on board the ship cannot leave anything open as the smoke enters everywhere burning their eyes. . Fortunately much food have been preserved but no one has had the courage or the heart to eat. It is always thus during such accursed wars. When it is not a battle, it is an explosion, and when it is not an explosion it is a flood, and sometimes its a combination of battle, flood, fire and explosion and a complication of other disasters together.

As Starring had observed when he landed to take a look at the fires that new blazes had been created in the extreme southwestern territory by the tremendous winds raging and lashing the forests in that locality. At first when he saw a sheet of flame in that locality he thought it was the forest rangers burning some kind of a warning signal. He then had climbed a high trees and could see that fire was issuing from a a new blaze. There was much smoke, and he went forward as far as he dared to go, and found there could be no doubt as to the nature of the discovery. The sky in this locality was dark, and a pall was spread over the whole neighborhood. He had sometime earlier inspected as far as possible a locality pasr which a forest fire had burned its course and saw that the destruction whu which had been wrought was something to make him heartsick. He had passed this locality only a few days earlier, and at that time the stretch from St. John to Hansonville was a most beautiful piece of forested country, and beautiful suburban homes was nestling into the green verdue making it an unusual paradize on earth. When he returned this paradize had changed into a region closely resembling the awfulest inferno. He saw many bodies even of human beings floatig floating in the water. He saw pass his ship one small steamer crowded with refugees who he supposed were survivors rescued from the eighborhood near the red plague. Then his ship passed through a blinding storm of smoke and a terrific heat.

All the time the ship lay before Hansonville, watching for a change in the wind the greatest clouds of smoke starring ever saw in his career was reaching far into sky, and the air continually was so thick with smoke that all on the vessel were compelled to remain below deck to breathe with any comfort..

As Starring learned Hansonvilles first remarkable experience with the approach of the forest fire was related to him by the terrified mayor of that city himself. He said it was about midday three days before Star ings arival when hundreds of loud reports in four hours time as of distant cannonading was heard frombthe east. The reports were repeated in fusellades fusellades every fifteen minutes, and then a large and unusually dark mass began to rise and spread like a heavy cloud which gradually spread over the whole sky, the weather became intensely hhhhhh hot, and

and the sky took on a murky appearance as on a gray winter day. He told starring that b three oclock in the afternoon it a had become very dark, and that the mass of clouds had spread over the entire sky. Strange flashes were to be seen far out to the south eastward, and an occassional glare overha overhead. verywhere in the streets the people gathered to watch the heavens. By six oclock It had become so dark that lamps and other lights had to be used, cocks began to crow and those still cloud gazing noticed the unusual heat and be came apprehensive. Many hoisted umbbrellas to keep the smoke a little from their eyes.

At about an hour after midnight darkness had set in,, and those on shore had to use lantrens to be able to see before them. Even most of the refugees had to take the cnahces chances to sleep where the intense dackness had caught them. However when morning broke it had grown somewhat lighter, but nevertheless smoke stiffwa smoke fog was everywhere and immense clouds of smoke were stilling rolling through the air and across the sky and so thick was the fog that no one could hardly see more than a hundred feet. This continued most of the day but the wind by the afternoon changed its direction, and the air grew clearer. As the day its lf wore on Starring began to wonder if the forest, fire was going to hit the city or pass off harmlessly by. But from some other source some one brought to the captian an alarming report that another great forest fire was raging at another quarter.

Smoke as he observed was issuing from a new quarter, and the atmosphere every where by now had become excessively hot. And tward evening while every one began to take heart was and was returning to their homes in the city, something lke a like a luminous cloud ascended thirty or fourty miles to the south of the city and drifted sluggishly to the northwest while also it kept increasing. The inhabitants were again panic stricken from the outbreak, fearing again the fire was coming on the city, and many in the suburbs ran from the streets north of the city into the country crying and praying for preservation from the threatening calamity. no one in the city, slept that t night and in the districts near this new fire the rumblings of the explosives n of the rangers were appalling, and gave no confidence to the inhabitants.

Villiegers from the southern section at first were pouring into the city, this being the furthest from the forest fire. Another steamer passed Starrings ship also bringing refugees. Despite the fact of the citys danger, Hansonville was now heavily confested, and the demands on the city aurthorities was also increasing rapidly as more and more persons are obliged to leave their country homes. For three days since the Mary Ann arived here a thicky l thick smoky cloud ob overspread the land, and every one was filled with fear of the future.

The feeling of dread and suspense was more intense than is described. Most of the bolder people pass their time gazing at the southeastern sc sky where the worse of the thunderheaded smoke clouds gather and the mournful roaring of the conflagration is heard. About ten oclock in the morning Starring observed a curious and most awe inspiring fiery cloud, surmounted by a fleecy white caps resembling highly polished silver issueing from the valley nearear bearer to Hansonville than usual more on the southwest, a place not seen before. This phenomenon caused alarm in the town of St Lucy not far from Hansonville, especially as a long wall of flame appeared in its wake. So rapidly did the results of this new horror pile up that the people of this town flight in panic tward Hansonville.

Starring believed that it was a matter of vast moments to the people of the city of Hansonville to ho to know what the movement of the forest fire holds in reserve for them. And Starring even wondered to himself if the very explosions which obliterated obliterated Abbieann was only the bei beginning of a series which are to eclipse it in in violence, or if it is the enemys fault, has he reallly done his worst./???? prediction especially at this distance where acual conditions as to the results of the explosions are not yet actactly acttly perfectly known would of course be extremely extremely rash.

A consideration of other great explosions and flood horrors just past however shows that sofar as is known all have and had a general similarity.. Being the source ofthe same causes they have had the same results, except that thwy were of local conditions.

The generally accepted ex-lanation of these awful forest fire and other war disasters and their accompanying phenomenon is that through some cause or other the Glandelinian generals of all stages through the apparent overconfidence of the Abbieann nian and other tribunals gain access to important places learn the weakest spots, and being there x secretly disguised, place unusually dangerous mines with the purpose to create such so called eruptions that have startled the nation and the world in general. As Starring believed from the reports he has heard that the force of the exploding materials reached a point beyond the strength of all other explosives known, and therefore what the foe may have used and where it was obtained isa mystery.

Starring knowns in his in vestigations that a forest fire that is even dangerous beyond compare may usually be devided into three well marked kinds. First there is a period of several terrific ground fires which may burn deep into the ground and which if it gets a good headway is impossible to be overcome. That was the way this big one was started which traveled over the forested ground for several weeks charact erized by crown fires of bigger or smaller size with terrific thunderheaded smoke. displays pc bl, accompanied by the ravages of the country towns, and fire hurricanes.

Rack.

This This is the period in which the efforts of the fire fighters might be successful if they can counter charge it on time, and thewind does not change against their reckoning. In many cases no misfortune follows, the rangers being able to fight this one successfully by timber clearing and by breaching, and fighting with wet blankets and so forth before it gains forward to the main and more dangerous forests. If however the weather of its own natural self is very windy, the conflagration continues to increase even beyond the limits of its own fury, and then a sudden and more terrible hell breaks los loose. This is the second phase of the forest fire and usually marks its culminating point to its main ravaging fury. It is much the worse and the final destructive action of the three, generally taking only a few hours to burn over a hundred acres, but it is in this period of burning that most of the destruction is really wrought providing the forests are thick. Following such a condition of the conflagration there is usually a short period of comparative quiescence of wind, followed by an over spreading of the conflagration untill finally it reaching it reaches a proportion beyond its own very control, and this in turn yeilds the forests to the waves of a raging fire sea, the world seems to turn to a molten planet and the so call fire hurricane or tornado of whirlwinds raging in the path of the conflagrations form from the effects of the awful heat.

This is the third and the worse phase of the conflagration. This terrible part of the scourge a scourge once formed, the screaming tempests produced by the heat tears trees wholly up into the air by the roots and hurles hurls their flaming fragments among the forests further ah ahead, a and a series of smaller conflagrations serves to start new and other big ones at different locations, and hence the Red CPlague gets to going at such a rate that it is sometimes a miracle that people of towns in its path even gets the a warning to escape in time, both because the fire storm hurls great clouds of smoke over the whole territory blinding the fugitives and making it impossible to see their way, and also because the fire can move in two or three ways so as to intercept their escape, as the bigger blaze will advance against the windward side at a dangerous speed to boot. This period of the forest fire is beyond all control except by the aid of a torrent of rain, as that alone can then stop it.

And even then the lobger longer it continues in this stage the worse it then will grow untill all the community is totally doomed.

This third phase is like the others characterized by the terrific flames and the ernormous quanities of smoke that darkened more distant territory than the biggest volcanic eruption has ever done and this smoke is scattered far and wide by air currents, and the heat also goes a long ways. The forest blas blaze leaves great areas of desolation never to be retrieved, and therefore it will thus be seen that the forest fires, are due to the causes of what is said to be of the three phases.

Starring believes therefore thatbthe danger which threatens the forested sections of war devastated Calverinia would not be from a renewal of the explosive eruptions of the enemy made mines--although exceptions of explosions of decreasing violence will doubtless continue as long as the awful war rages ---but from dreadful forest for fires. There is however great danger of the conflagration wiping out all of the forests of Calverinia if the unusual draught don't be broken soon.

It is however extremely fortunate to starrings opinion for the rangers of the forests and for the future welfare of people living in forested regions that a group of rangers are already drafting all men not in the armies to fight these red scourages and have forests scientists to study the condition of the situation while the evidence of the stupendous conflagration is still in its height. It ix is also an opportunity to advance scientific knowledge of the nature of this conflagration such as rarely is afforded.

With increasing knowledge comes increasing possibilities for safeguarding human life and it can be quite within reasonable expectation that enough will be learned to render such a catastrophe, such as he is witnessing day after day in its fullest fury impossible in the future at the hands of the enemy..

8-2-20 Chapter 25

CROWDS OF PEOPLE SAID TO BE HEMMED IN BY THE FORESTV FIRES.
ATERRIBLE DOOM FACES THEM. EXPEDITION THROUGH A PART OF THE BURNING..
FOREST.

WHILE waiting for a chance to run through the Hell, Starring made efforts to learn of additional accounts depicting the disasterous explosions that destroyed Abbieann and other cities, which could and should confirm all that had been hitherto stated concerning the overwhelming catastrophe. but he was so far being disappointed. The conflagration was spreading around the valley behind the town, and even Starring and some all of his followers began to show signs of uneasiness. pense volumes of smoke thicker than usual began to rise from large prtions portions of the valley, and at night it looked like a huge volcanic crater belching out flames. At the northern edge of this valley were two unknown villiages, and the inhabitants of these places were thrown into great consternation by the sights andthe sounds of the conflagration, and especially by the continued darkening of the day by volumes of thick smoke which rose in a perfect rolling wall. Therefore there was an exodus from all over the district.

Even Hanson ville appeared again as if enveloped in a fog and all the hills beyond, was wrapped in the smoke which issued from the forest fires. All on shipboard kept their eyes on the actions of the conflagration and the greatest anxiety prevailed and all business prevailed.

A very anxious morning was passed, but thanks however to a strong westerly breeze the situation appeared a little better at eleven oclock but as the breeze died away at noon the smoke again overshadowed the town and the hills and the forests all around presented a most dismal aspect causing much alarm as to what the approaching night would bring forth.

Nothing happened however, and again on the approach on the next morning although everything was not quitecserene, the aspect was decidedly encouraging, There was not ever quite so much excitement. At six oclock on that morning a private wireless telegram came to starring from a place he would not name stating that the Vivian Girls had learned of his trouble and perils, and that they were advising him to give it up and return home as they believed conditions made it impossible for him to accomplish the expedition. They reported that the christian armies with which they were with were moving someward somewhat northward all the time, and that the armies had frequently encountered the forest blazes, and that they had seen a large stretch of blazing fires suddenly rushing up a slope near Calc Calsos bend, and following the course of Mic-Farrn River, overwhelming everything. Estates and towns were destroyed by the fiery wave which appeared to rise to a height of some thousand feet over an area of nearly twenty miles.

When the flames had reached the wider stretches of water, it was found that the town of Victorian on this river beach fifteen miles w east of Hansonville was destroyed by the fire. From where it was first se seen the burning fires had only taken three minutes to reach the town, twenty miles away. This new scene of the fire created a general panic, and the people made for the more pen hills open hills, and the panic,, was intensified by terrible detonations which broke from all distant points at short intervals accompanied with dense emissions of smoke and lurid flashes of flame. This was awful in daylight but when darkness fell it was mre terrible still, and at each maneofestation of the fires menance people in their night clothes, carrying children, and lighted by any sh sort of lamp or candle they had caught up in their haste ran out into the dark streets of the doomed towns wailing and screaming, and running aimlessly about the town...

The mental strain becoming unendurable, some other ships were placed in readniess readiness, and as many as could of the refugees wet wentthurriedly on the board and staried for more safer places.. In the meantime couriers were being sent from Hansonville imploring that other steamers be chartered to bring away terrified people from the city. To make it worse streams of frightened refugees had been continually puring into pouring into Hansonville from all the surrounding country. These people so far did not seem to be destitute, but they were frightened out of their very wits. There was nothing else they wanted except to be taken far away from the scene, with which they say has decended into hell. The very Consuls there, and the officials of the vessels in the river harbor were continually waylaid by hundfr hundreds of persons crazed with fear, and begging to be carried away...

The weather however is calm and tensely hottt hot, the fires now assume a vast and more threatening aspect, and occassional heavy rumblings like explosions were heard. How welcome indeed would a shower of rain be.

A week later, Starring and his followers as many as were permitted,,, went to inspect Hansonville. They faced the greatest of all difi difficulties before they succeeded in making a landing. The effects of the awful outbursts of the day before were simply,,, tremendous. The huge towers of the ernormous cathedrals and other churches were absolutely pulverized, and the walls were flat withthe oith .. Starring believed the heat of the flames were not sufficient to account for any of this at all, at all, for he declared to those with him that there was plenty of evidence to the passage of a most furious blast of hot wind blowing at an ernormous velocity and incalculable force,

The ank ammount of the smouldering ruins is indeed ernormous beyondcomparison. And not a single living, person except those on the boat saw what had happened at Hansonville that awful morning the day before. It seemed that at this section the forest fire a had become many more times terrible since it first originated so far down

in southeastern Calverinia. Nor has the big fire passed beyond the town yet. Vaster columns of smoke than ever before still pour from the burning forests elsewhere, and gh the smoke clouds seem to be mingled with strange yellow whirlwinds, which rush now from one point, and then to another. Inc Indd Indeed from a sombre silent city of destruction and desolation, Hansonville has become a most hedious amphitheatre of fiery roaring destruction. The people are almost convined that by these disasters Glandelinia will surely have fair chances to win the war, and that wicked Glandelinia mean to scourge it with fire. Indeed the most unreasonable and utter fear possesses all souls of the refugees. Even the region as far north west as Calverinia, and Francis-Atlanta is not believed to be safe.

The presence of the relief ships and that of Starrings however were helpful to the people. The Mary Ann could not approach close to Hansonville. The outbursts of the fires probably mean a ruined country, as all confidence is lost. "We want not food but only to leave for the north" was the cry of all, rich and poor alike.. The terrific forest fire continued to menace the existance of the entire eastern and middle sections of Calverinia, for without cessation the blazes have continued to spread and no rain comes. It is also known that there has been further loss of life, and what is more distressing a large number of the refugees, mostly women and children are said to be imprisoned by the seething fire seas which totally surround them. It is even impossible for assistance to be rendered to them by human beings, and nothing less than a miracle can save them from the awful death which confronts them... And as Starring learned these unfortunates numbering over 10,000 are surrounded in the threatened forest town of Sesemann. They were cut off from escape when the forest fire wiped out Hansonville giving the remaining inhabitants there only a few hours to escape. The section of the conflagration that pageaddon after wiping out the city of Hansonville swept across the only road, set fires on the forests across the smaller river, channels, burning down the only bridges and avenues of escape, and reaching this other doomed town, spreading through the valley beyond, and moving three ways at hot making the very rocks on the hills and in the valleys so hot as to be almost totally invand incandescent.

In this way have the women and children at Sesemann been surrounded. Efforts by Starring and his parties have been made with desperation and frenzy to reach them,, and though they can be seen pleading for deliverance, it is utterly impossible to give them aid. They also have no food supply, and starvation if not a more terrible fate also confronts them. And gradually but more steadily, the rivers of fires are spreading, and if no rain comes soon a wave of fire will sweep away the doomed victims.

Also the town of Sandscreek had been destroyed, as has Lanton where twenty forest fire fighters perished. Many inhabitants of the villiage are also believed to have been lost but just yet it is impossible to be be able to tell the number. Inall In all parts of the destroyed sections of Calverinia the conditions are alost almost impossible to describe. Unlike reports were heard night and day at irregular intervals and after each report the ground appears to tremble. Believing that the whole forested part of the country is doomed, the population continued in a state of panicand and confusion, and just as fast as possible they were leaving on ships, not careing where they go, and all that they asked was a means of leaving the place they have regarded as an earthly hell.

Six hundred fresh refugees have boarded Starrings ship, and Starring decided to head down tward the north tward San Salvador which is reported not in the path of the Red Plague. He decided to bring these, and then get three hundred more. Those on board the ship are in a state of poverty, and all are almost naked, and not one has brought more than the clothes he or she wears. And among the homeless ones are many many too young or too old to care for themselves. Many are orphans, whose parents were victims to the race of the enemy and the disasters. After the refugees had been landed at San Salvador, Starring and a number of his followers including the two girl and two boy scouts started on September 16th for a view of the forest fire by the road leading along the river course from San Salvador Point, and accompanied by the ships captian and two mates, they all reached a height of twenty two hundred feet without difficulty and was able to ascertain that the present fire is traveling tward the west. On the east the whole country side was or is an inferno of smoke and fire. In order to make known their presence at the point where they stood, to those still remaining on the ship, Starring waved a piece of white cloth, attatched to a branch in the air, which was replied by a correspondig signal from the bridge on deck, who signalled to Starring in that manner in order to show he saw him and his party.

They felt a number of hot draughts of wind, and their very shoes were damaged by the heat. A lake which was situated near them was completely dried up and all was within a few scores of yards beyond them a smoking desolation, with a few burning smoking trees standing here and there. A big iron bridge which crossed a creek has been been melted. The edge of the fire zone was dangerously close and the heat where they stood was intense, and the whole aspect of the scene before them was most terrifying. Some burned trees fell near them, and the heat with a sudden change of the wind became so intense and the smoke so thick that they were obliged to retreat. Their retreat from the burned area was more difficult than their approach. The wind hurled a blinding cloud of hot ashes upon them, yet they succeeded in reaching the river and the ship on their return, after having been for four hours and a half on the edge of where the forest fire had passed passed under the most dangerous circumstances.

Starring then went aboard and the ship continued on its trip back to San Salvador. The unusual warmth caused however so much consternation among the refugees and inhabitants there, that many were even anxious to leave this city also and go further northward, and large numbers were emigrating by boat, and a wagon to guadeloupe city where it was estimated, 11,200 people had already sought shelter.....

Starring had noticed during the exploration trip to and from from San Salvador that outside of the forested zone even all the formerly cultivated land between that town and Hansonville had been completely destroyed destroyed by the heat. The inhabitants of those two towns had suffered, and were still sufd suffering a great deal but they had not yet determined to abandon those localities, but no efforts could be made yet to apply them with provisions.

The ship also approached that part of the land, where further away from the scourge the forests was in a better state of preservation, especially between Gunton and Herdride. During one of the trips to and from San Salvador Starrings followers took on board with the last of the refugees, a little eight year old girl, and her nine year old brother. Both Both whose names he could not learn presented most pathetic figures. Both children were terribly burned. The boy got it worse, for his nose was almost burned off, and his face was disfigured and all the hair was scorched off his head. On the little girl both arms were fearfully burned and her feet too. They were greatly distressed over over the loss of their parents. and they were all alone in the world now.

The little boy tole this story.

"I lived at Fourteenth street in Hansonville with mama and papa papa and sis. We intended to leave every time the city was threatened, and on the morning of the awful fire which struck the city we were at breakfast, when some concussion caused by the fire hurricane knocked us off our chairs. I caught hold of mamas dress, and she took me in her arms and carried me out into the street, papa and sister following. Fire was raging all around us, the sky was all aflame and buildings were burning. Fragments of burning materials were falling all around us.

Papa tried hard to keep the fire from reaching us. Mama was struck down by bricks when the walls of a burning building crashed, and then some men picked up up and carried her away. We two were saved but papa and mama are missing.

Then your big boat came along, and we were taken on."

The only friend these children have is their aunt who is a very capable woman, but yet do not know what to do with the children. The doctors said they would recover. A maid who so bravely protected the children also is sadly burned. There were terrifying sights in one of the cabins. Several men who were rangers were literally burned to pieces but were still living, and the whole left side of the face of one of of one of the men was burned off entirely but his sight is not injured. It was believed if Starring and his followers did not help as they did, they would not have even saved the ship when the fire borne down upon Hansonville.

Among the rescued on board Starrings ship were two foriegners, who were living in the city of Hansonville. They were terribly burned but were bearing their sufferings more bravely and patiently than was expected. It was found found their bodies were,, scarred badly and scarred when they must have ran through some of the fire for their escape. However these foriegners will always have the proud record of having saved the girl and boy mentioned a little before. The Forengers showed no fear.

The annihilation of Abbieann, the principal case of which Starring was on his way to investigate to the good of the cause is also unique in one parc particular so far as the story itself may be concerned. To combine all real disasters of history into one it may be repeated the Abbieann horror can be pronounced the most destructive of human life among the catastrophes, resulting of what the enemy so far is suspected, not alone only of the explosions, but the resultant flood, and the combination of all other horrors.. If the story itself dares to say the number of victims of the city of Abbieann itself alone could be computed comparatively at nearly 8,000,000, only of her entire inhabatants, out of which only five hundred thousand really did escape with their lives. Considerably heavier losses of lives were lost through the destructive floods which so immediately followed, the brunt of which overwhelmed Abbieann, and wildred Greenburg if we may judge from the paucity of human remains b from the flood that had been recovered. Considerably more persons perished, on the other hand in the concussions of the explosions that demolished Abbieann, and the other cities than by those drowning of the flood.

One And what renders the tragedy at Abbieann is the appalling quickness, and the time with which the work of destruction was completed. Proofs were discoveredthat the disaster actually occured at 1, P.M not at twelve oclock as the statements beginning with fires raging over the disaster zone, and the actual explosions broke out one after after midnight, at about ten minutes after O. I. A.M and a cloud of hot powders and flames hurlee by the explosions from a flaming forest eveloped the northern part of the town, and river harbor, and in fifteen to twenty minutes all was over. Every living thing within the sweep of the fiery hurricane hurled forward from that blasted blasing forest was scorched chocked and charred. If the girl heroines Angeline Richee, and the others who were at Abbieann at the time would have been in that part of Abbieann they too would have met an awful death. They were in the extreme southwestern part of the city, which even only got the fringe of the flood and entirely survived of its concussion destroyed buildings. I also repeat that so far as this story accepted as for fiction only is concerned, the southeastern section of the city being on higher elevation escaped entirely without even an injury, but the inhabitants deserted the place at being horrified at the destruction of the remainder of the city. Had the total went without hope for any one the destruction of the population would have been twenty million as that was the number living in so vast a city. All but eight million nine hundred thousand escaped. The sections large as New York and Chicago put together were obliterated only by explosion, the remainder except the extreme southwest, and southeast ravaged by the flood or fire.

What was not destroyed by flood was by fire. Starring was to see more of the remains of the city than he expected. Even the parts swept by the flood remained. Only two quartors of the city was swept away. All the bodies were deep under the ruins. Yet never nevertheless there is in real history no record of a catastrophe equally

sudden and decisive. For an exact counter part in this particular we should have to go back to the tradition respecting the lost Atlantis which was related to the or by Egyptian Priests to Plato and according to which the inhabitants of a great and ernormous island that once existed in the atlantis to the west of the Straits of Hercules were entire exterminated by cyclonic flames attending volcanic eruptions. If we can regard this legend as embodying an historical fact this cataclysm occured thousands of years ago. There would be nothing incredibe about such a story if first, we could assume simultaneous eruptions on the part of many eruptions outrividling Krakatoa a hundred times in intensilifying fury to compare with the explosions at Abbieann, and if secondly soundings under taken for the purpose in the ocean should indicate the submer gance of a great island in recent geological times. To go back to the adventuerers. When making another and last trip for Hansonville, starring made an unsuccessful attempt to land there on the morning of the eighteenth. On board the shipwere two foriegn scientists who went to Calverinia on another ship before under the direction of the Abbieannian aurtheritiesgence Sence9

Since the passage of the forest fire the entire aspect of the landscape and the veryruins have changed. The smoking smouldering ashes had covered the entire landscape effacting even all landmarks and remains of the forests. The region has the apprance appearance of being a gray white desert emitting smoke and fog. It was impossible to enter the town as the heat from the ruins was unbearable. When the Mary Jane left San Salvador for the exploration of Hansonville, that latter city was still safe but panic continued among the inhabitants and the refugees flocking there, and it is feared if the fire comes there an explosion will occur among the hundreds of tons of most high ex explosives stored in an arsenal near the city. However all was quiet at that city. A ship had come down the river from the north to land relief supplies which she brought from Pandora.

The day however was passing without incident, and it was hoped the population and the refugees flocking there would become much calmer especially as the forest fire does not threaten the place. Nevertheless from elsewhere the exodus still continues. Another party from Salliston numbering ten thousand people left for Calverine.

Those with about thirty thousand who have gone to Pandora and many others who have sought refuge at Poverty Row has considerably lessened the population. Moreover two hundred thousand have gone to the northern part of Calverinia, where three hundred thousand more refugees have assembled. Some of starvings men brought from the ajb subburbs of Hansonville several books and money which they found in some safes there. These and other safes have been burst open by irrestible force. All the articles recovered were cared for on board ship until it could be placed in the care of the Government.

During the following night a great light was seen in the direction of the extreme west indicating clearly that a new fire must have broken out there. But the sign if icance could be greatly overestimated. Big Girl Knool is i in that location of the glare almost exactly one hundred and thirty miles from the Mary Jane, and midway between the two places is Mildred Greenburg and Francis Atlanta. The glow must there fore be at some other location. Yet the conditions favorable for the production of such a new phenomenon can be very simple. There was doubtless, a new and large fire somewhere, or the heat of ashes left by the main fire might be like a large sea of something incandescent. This might cause the light. And probably of the glowing embers because of its greater mass and became because of the clouds of white smoke rising from it, the whole country side may be as hot as a million seas of molten steel, and the very debris will remain in this condition as long as the supply of remaining unburned embers is sufficient to continue burning.. To return to the light observed in the west the great white clouds of smoke forms overhead an immense cloud which hangs over the scene of desolation and is illuminated by the glare of flames from the sea of embers below. While it is highly probable that the flames rage from many trees still standing and some actual fire may be seen by far the main part of the illumination which characterizes such conflagrations is due to the reflected glow from the embers. It is precisely that may be observed when the ray from some search light is thrown on some mass of smoke or steam. There is therefore nlthing nothing unusual or disquieting in such a sight from the boat. Later reports was doubtless indicating that the same glow was observed from much greater distances. This report was regarded as more cheerful. It indicated that in in the west the air is more clear and freer from smoke than usual. Otherwise the glow from the embers could not reach the clouds so high at ten thousandfeet but would be cut off by the dense pall, which is described hanging over the country.

With regards to the reported sounds of explosions frequently heard during the raging of the forest fire it should be remembered that every ear of all refugees was strained in that direction and all sounds are egar eagerly noted which under ordinary conditions would be wholly wholly ignored and it does not follow that these reports are from explosions however but that it comes from rangers and fire fighters dynimiting trees to breach the forest in the path of the fire.

However when all seemed more calm and peaceful there was observed rising some twenty miles south of San Salvador a cloud of smoke black as ink, through whichhh darted tongues and sheets of flame. The cloud spread gradually and quickly outward again obscuring the sun. This went on for several hours,, and finally on the third hour it reached a final, and again,, the darkness became intense. The fog that resulted was so great that for leagues around people actually were forced to desert their homes fearin fearing lest they be suffocated. At Leonto more than two hundred miles away, the smoke fog obscured houses two hundred feet away, and the smoke fog spread, to Jamaca Junction, Vera Crutzeir, and Santa Fa over an area of twenty hundred miles. This seemed evident now the forest fire was following a course that would bring it upon San Salvador and the neighboring forests next...

Every one began to realize that of all these disasters, they would have rather faced a volcano vomiting out lava and vapors, and other materials, than to face all these terrible horrors now go n going on, and they even wondered if the enemy would not yet bring on some means of causing the earth to open, and swallow up all the christians their houses and churches, and closing on them with a snap, and smashing them to pieces so the enemy could win a easier victory. Maybe all this would not be as terrible as the disasters already occuring and to form a correct notion of at least the horror of the past visitations. I suppose the ren reader if this was really true would be tempted to ask why and how it is that God has permitted such a fair and righteous country to be visited with such destruction by the hands of His worst of all enemies, and when it has been done with it is that He does not strike. I can hardly be for the sins of man in this ecality, for there in this story was no sinning people hardly in any loyal Calverinian city through to true to Gods holy cause, and besides, the worse disaster involved the inhabitants of Abbieann and its neighboring cities with an explosion which no hundred Krakatoas could compare in one.

But perhaps on the other hand it may also occur to the reader to ask himself wi wither it is not just possible that these ugly affairs have been allowed to come upon these holy states for some future beneficient purposes for the good of the cause, or at all events that they may form part and parcel of some great scene of Our Blessed Lord in His arrage arrangement of bring Abbieannia to an awakenening of what a peril glandelinia is and bring means to down her sooner or later.

In the explosion horror at Abbieann, trees for fifteen minutes had flooged and thrashed the ground with their branches, which proved that their stems had been jerked instantly away for some considerable distance by the concussions and as suddenly pushed back back and the same conclusion followed from the golden ring of the waters of the lakes and rivers where the heavier concussion s reached them, and their fall on the opposite side the beds of the lakes and rivers being k jerked away for a certain distance from under the water and pulled back. It was the compression of the explosion concussions that carried the shocks forward and backwards. As the shocks of the explosions raged the houses of the towns were seen to topple down in succession, beginning at one end and running on to the other, as if a succession of mine s had been sprung. One survivor saw the wall of his house bow forward and recover itself not all at once, but with a swell like a wave running all along it with intense rapidty.

The scene of the black cloud as mentioned before came to its climax three hours after its appearance, followed by a most ernormous volume of snow white clouds of thunder headed shapes, piled like bales of the whitest cotton in a mass exceeding four times the height of the so surrounding wooded hills, and the largeneat of the sky in that locality and a stream of fire began to rush up a slope. The seething flame rushed an immense height into the air. Then from somewhere there came a loud report which shook the very houses in San salvador to such a degree as to alarm the inhabitans, inhabitants inhabitants and those on board the Mary Jane. All windows were broken on the sounding side, and walls cracked from by the concussion of the air from that explosion. The fire had hit the explosives. Elsewhere in one instant a wall of flames began to rise, and gradually increasing, arived at so amazing a height as to strike every one who beheld it with the most awful astonishment. It had struck the thick porti turpentine forests near San salvador. I myself shall be scarcely credited when I would assure you that the height of this stupendous column of flames could not be less than three times that of the hills in the background themselves, which are four to five thousand feet. Immense rolly walls of smoke as black as can possibly be imagined rolled upward and spread out in mushroom and other great shapes, and accompanied by the flames interr upting its splendid brightness here and there by patches of the darkest hue. Within these rolls fof smoke at the very moment of their forming flames pierced like red blood.. The immense flames after having at times mounted at lea t eleven thousand feet rising forwardly forward, covered the whole scene, and the valley near by in a sheen of fire. Fires starting far ahead because of the heat soon formed one complete body of fire of its own which could not be less than twenty miles in breadth, and of the same extraordianry height cast a heat that was sensibly felt in San salvador itself .

The wooded slopes of the nearest mountain was seen in flame which being of a different tent from the deep red of the flames piercing the black smoke, and from the silvery blue of the other flames still added to the contrast of this most extraordinary scene. After the column of fire had continued in full fury for nearly half an hour a most dense smoke finally overshadowed the whole scene. At this manesffestation mostly all of the inhabitants of the city of San salvador flew to the churches, and others preparing to quit the town, when again a sudden violent report was heard and they suddenly found themselves involved in a thick cloud of smoke, a horrid clashing noise was heard in the air, and presently a terrific hot gale sprang up, roaring and screaming, and flying embers all ablaze came upon the houses, and in an instant the town and country about it was afire in many parts, for in the outskirts on a small farm there were many star straw and hay stacks all of which caught fire. A great lumber concern in the suburbs of the town was all aflame, and with the help of the wind the flames began to spread universally, and the inhabitants realized they would all be burned in their houses if they did not stir out.

Many for a time found it impossible to sir out because of the terrific wind and those who did try it were either knocked down or driven back to their close quarters

quarters, under arches or in their rooms. Many were wounded, and to add to the horror of the scene, incessant flashes of fire was writhing about the black cloud that over-shadowed the sky above the city, and the smoke and the heat would scarcely allow them to draw their breath. It seemed the city was doomed. and all would perish.

After a great white a great wall and pillar of smoke was observed to ascend a abo t ten miles nearer the city, which darkened the city like night, and descended in a whirlwind of smoky fog. Innumerable shafts of flame were seen soaring through this canopy, and a smell of burning turpentine was in the air. Starring mounted a high hill on the opposite side of the river to see what was really happening. He saw a perfect sea of flames pour across the stream further south. It crossed a ravine like a racing expresstrain, though it was six hundred feet deep and two hundred broad. It then like a flood of water overspread the surrounding forested country, and ran around a lake making the water so hot that the steam rose in explosive puffs. The fire then divided into two sections, and presenting a scene that only to observe could describe describe.

A canopy of smoke hung over the surrounding s country, and though starring was on a hill thirt n thirty miles away, he was uncomfortable from the heat.

Starring was indeed witnessing a most awful sight. Flames in a new spot suddenly broke forth over a surface of more than three leagues, and through a thick cloud of deep reddish brown smoke illuminated by this ghastly light, he could see the ground as if softened by the heat glare as if it too was turning into fire. He saw a portion of the river fairly boil over but so far from quenching the fires, only seemed to increase the smoke.

In a short time a whole mountain near the town appeared like a body of liquid fire extending itself in every direction. The fire and columns of flame continued to rage onward with unabated fury until the darkness caused by the smoke obscured it about three hours later. He could see that a violent whirlwind was raging near San Salvador carrying the roofs and light parts with it. On the subub suburbs of San Salvard San salvador the effects of the wind were much more violent t tr tearing up by the r roots the largest trees, and carring them while all aflame in the air, together with men horses, cattle and whatsoever came within its path. The whirlwind lasted about an hour in raging past the city. Then the city was on fire. Of all other villiages around the city, one call La Tenor is the only one remaining. In three others not a single house is left, but it is hoped all escaped. The trees and herbage of every description have been completely destroyed destroyed with the exception of a high point of land near a wide bend in the river. a san salvador was burning al and all the inhabitants were fleeing in panic to the river.

While being delayed in the progress forward because of the forest fires Starring once more studied his map of Calverinia a to find out the extent of the Abbieann disaster because sometimes because of its enormity he was somewhat inclined to doubt whether it was caused by the enemy nor not... On tracing the map he discovered from the names of the places destroyed that the great horror was one of the very greatest of all disasters on record, for the concussion extended all over Abbieannia and other states, indeed all over the whole nation, and even into Angelinia and some foriegn countries. May its effects even extended across the Mic-Whirthian seas to Protestentia country where it was very violent, and to other places. The most striking features of these concussions was their extreme suddeness....

All was going on quite as usual in the city of Abbieann the morning before that mem orable one am , the weather however hot and sultry not fine and clear but smoky, but nevertheless there was nothing whatever to give the population of that great city and the surrounding country and the nation in general the least suspicion of such a catastrophe. Yet all at once at a little after one oclock, there were great eruptions north of Abbieannian as stated before, followed by shocks that tumbled down all the buildings within the region. More explosions and shocks followed for twenty minutes and from the commencement more than eight hundred million persons were said to be buried in the ruins. One man that night was on the river with his wife and children. The boat was shaken by the concussion, and his wife and children w r were frightented at the awful eruptions and asked him what was the matter.

He stared at his wife in blank amazement, and looking at Abbieann, saw it gone out of sight in smoke and fog and thd they heard th roar of falling buildings. They got scared and hastily made a landing and raced for a hill, whence the next morning early they beheld a sea of water coming rolling on the front of the flood like a vast mount-ain fifty or sixty feet high, over the lena land and sweeping all before it.

10,000 persons had taken refuge on a large railroad station which had survived the shock but in an instant it was turned bottom upward, and the whole station and every person on the platform, while all the trains in the railroad yea yards near by disappeared in the raging torrent, and not a vestiage of them ever appeared again again.

Those on the higher part of the city too far from the explosion zone to be blasted though shaken badly, had fled into the t streets in panic, and on the mornings approach fled to the higher ground when the floods came rushing into the lower parts of the city. In the section either shaken and blasted it happened to be that mostly were all in bed inside their houses which fell and crushed them before they even knew what had occured.

That no horror might be wanting, big fires broke out in innumerable houses where woodwork had fallen on the fires, and much that the concussions and the floods had spared was destroyed by the fire. The huge flood swept the whole central state as is predicted in the general flood scenes past It swept culte into the Angelinia State. In Calverinia from the concussion of the explosions every lake and firth in all parts was dashed time and again out of their beds, the water not partaking th of the sudden shove given

to the land just as when a person splashes a plateful of waer water, the water dashing over on the side from which the shock is given, One of the most curious of the incidents incidents of these concussion explosions was their effects on the ship ping far down on the rivers, which would lead the reader and me to suppose that the immediate impulse was in the nature of a violent blow from the air. Thus it can be recorded that the concussion and the shock of the far extended air waves was so sudden and violent on a ship, fourty miles from the city of Abbieann that the sailors on night duty on deck were tossed about for several minutes. One ship fifty miles from the scene was struck by air waves with such force as to unship and split up the mainmast and level the three smokestakc.s

At a greater distance the concussions of the explosions had the same effects as the upward bounding earthquakes. Ten towns were said to be buried under fallen hills and at Adeleheid a great number of corpses were found to have been tossed across a river, and scattered over the slopes of a hill on the other side. survivors had to throw themselves on the ground, the earth being shakenwithout intermission for upwards of twenty minutes minutes with such violence that animal or man could not keep their legs. The explosion concussions extended their greatest intensity over an oval space of five hundred and twelve miles ff from east to west, within which space every city town and villiage was leveled with the ground, but the total extent of surface shaken was upward ten thousand miles in one direction, and fifteen thousand in the other. Indeed the frequency of these explosion disasters and the others, are not more extraor-dinary than their duration. And one of the most circumstaintially described shocks on record is that which mentioned before at or near Abbieann, for it is claimed that during those twenty minutes one thousand six hundred and seven explosions took place, of which nine hundred and fifty one of them were great and most severe so as to be felt over a quarter of the woild. The worst explosions wr were closest to Abbieann .

Therefore as the reader may know by now, that in that locality every town and villiage was destroyed in those twenty minutes, and within a distance of ten thousand miles all were seriously shaken and much damage done. The whole of Calverinia was mainlyy e affected, and even across the sea Protestentia country was shaken, and a great part of A bieannia was shaken. From the unusual force of the explosions there was no end of the capricious and other ways of the movements recorded in these awful concussions..

Around Abbieann and Adeleheid, it is to be said that the ground undulated like a ship at at sea.. People who escaped with their lives became actually sea sick and to give an idea of the strange undulation, the smoke clouds of the explosions seemed to be fitfully arrested during the pitching movement when it took place in the the same direction, and to redouble its speed in the reverse movement.

At The northern end of Adeleheid city, houses were thrown down bodily, and loose objects were tossed up several yards into the air. The stones of the streets were found all turned bottom upward. Great fissures were split into the earth for hundreds of miles by the explosions, and near Calverinia masses of rocks hundreds of feet high traveled miles down a big ravine. All landmarks were removed, and the land itself in some instances with trees and hedges growing on it carried bodily away on the crest of landslides, and set down in another place. Altogether about fourty thousand people perished in Adeleheid.

A crowd of refugees who had escaped from the city,,, were that morning examining from a short but supposed short safe distance the threatening masses of moving waters, and many others were carrying off in haste the f goods from their cottages, when suddenly the tidal a wave of water overwhelmed them all. Everything was destroyed by the sudden appearance of this unusual wall of water, trees houses town and many farms, and all who had been caught by it perished to a man. It was said that the debris hurled into the air by one of these awful explosions spread over the sky in a horrible black arch three hundred miles in width, and covered the forested country and plians plains and meadows for a distance of fourty eight miles with a layer of debris, grass, broken fragments of trees, and dust and muck at least sixteen feet thick. At the very scene of the explosion the headland advanced one thousand feet into and across the river and two new pieces of ground formed of debris and stones falling from the sky after the tromendous explosion rose in the the widest part of the river three miles away.

Beyond the districts close round the explosion crater, the bed of dry dust, which was said to have fallen gradually became thinner but it was carried by the wind more than sixty degrees of longitude, tward the east and west, south and north, near and in the Calverinian seas, and the ships sailing in those waters penetrated with difficulty difficulty the layer of foliage spread out on the sea near its mouth which was brought down by the rivers. To the orth the rain of dust was noticed at Calverine, Francis Atlanta, and even at Vivian Wickey in western Calverinia, on the south, it reached Evangeline St Claire, Dorothy Gale, Angelinia Agathia, and other towns a distance of eighteen hundred miles.

The uproar of the explosion was heard as far as Angelinia Agathia situated 10,000 miles away in a straight lne. While the formidable cloud was settling down round the explosion area, thick darkness filled the air. even when morning came the smoke still kept everything in darkness, and for half a day nothing could be seen except by the sinister light of the flashes of the fires far off, and the red glare of the forest fires. To escape from this prolongedy night, the horror of fires and the burning atmosphere the inhabitants who escaped the horror and the resulting flood fled in all haste to high rises of ground. Men women and children and domestic animals travelld traveled along difficult and perilous paths, through forests, quagmires and marshes,

. so great was it said of the terror of all animals during this long season of unspeak able horror that the wildest animals themselves such as serpents, birds, wolves, and every animal of crution in Calverinia joined the bands of fugitives, as if they recognized in man a being endowed with intelligence superior to their own. In Calverine equally as far away northward as Angelinia from the scene, the explosion was heard, and the immense quanity of debris, the whole mass of which it could be said could be trice the size of a mountain as high as Mount Mount Mic-Kinley fell over an area in Calverinia larger than that of Germany or France. The debris of trees and foliage which floated in the flood was more than a yard in thickness, and with it in rivers it was with some difficulty that ships could make their way through it ..

This prodigious flood also hurled onward before its force many kinds of debris, and poured over the plains, and over the town of Jentonia so large a quainty of water mingled with stones and debris, that the inhibatants were tough given time to escape compelled to fly with the greatest panic and speed, and to seek refuge in reconstructed camps near Gl lton. The flood however raged so wildly that it inundated this also and compelled the refugees to again migraite. The water carried before it immense bogs of md and mi mud and sand, so that all the neighboring plains around Abbieann were hundated inundated, and many thousands were drowned in the deluge. At the time of the explosions a whole side of a mountain sank before the concussion, it being an old volcano with a tremendous lake in the crater, every portion of the side sinking down with the forests which grew on it, and the lake in the crater poured down to add to the treem tremendous flood below.....

Chapter 26

STARRING AT LAST REACHES WHAT ESS IS LEFT OF ABBIEANN AND SEES THAT DEATH CAME TO EVERY ONE IN THE MAINLY DEVASTATED SECTIONS OF THE CITY WITH THE QUICKNESS OF A VOLLEY OF SHOTS.

BODIES OF MANY FOUND AS IF PRAYING. DARING FEAT OF STARRING TRYING IN THE FACE OF FOREST FIRES TO REACH AN EXPLOSION CRATER.

Starring had now after such a long, and to also speak more plainly a hot journey through the Calverinian hell, reached the extreme southeastern limits of that is left of Death city or Abbieann.

Far to the westward but close enough to be in good view, despite the haze from the distant conflagration lay an immense expnsp expanse of water, which at first,(forgot ting about the flood,,) he thg thought was the arm of the sea...

He took a look at it with his field glasses, and seeing from that its nature and what was floating on the surface of the water, he realized it h was what was left of the flood.. Everywhere he looked, desolation was absolute, he alsoalmost fancied he was on a foriegn planet that had been wiped out by a terrible lunar disaster so fearful was the scene beforew him now. Angeline Richee, and the three others who were with him and who stood close by him shivered at the sight..

"This is Abbieann or what is left of her" said the guide. "Horrible desolation, ruin and a frightful death---this is Abbieann. See all that water! Well the rest of the city lies under it. We can use m ans to means to drain that water so the remainder of the ruins could appear, but just now the governments forbids it, or otherwise we ll not have evidence against Glandelinia . Any ne caught trying to release the water is shot. That is the orders."

Starring or the others did not say a word. They couldn't find word for speech. He now realized the full extent of the disaster, and believed that in the worlds history or since mankind was created on the oith there had never been in all disasters combined into one so instant an annihilation of human life in one city as in this once beautiful Calverinian city of Abbieann . Tidal waves of floods, great fires, and hundreds of various plagues, horror upon horror, starvation, sorrow, and suffering, and other visitations have resulted from this immense catastrophe. Starring realized as he glanced glanced over the scene that in a few moments maybe fifteen or twenty minutes, the concussion of explosions, and floods, and blasted air caused by the explosions, an immense population was destroyed, a vast city three times the size of an American New York flung into ruin, with two quarters swept away, and hundreds of miles of vegetation burned from the face ofthe country, a flood that wiped out more cities and towns than the United States boasts of, and panic shook the souls of scores of millions.

Starring however was worried. He saw no evidence that could help him discover the true cause of so great a disaster. And the scene made him almost bawl like a b aby. babbly. He and his followers slowly wandered among a few of the streets in silence wading through mud and debris, stumbling pon bricks and stones, and looking through threatening clouds from eastern forest fires, towering into awful darkness out of its own making, the distant slopes smoking as if covered with dying lava flows, and smoking and flaming as if from a million vents.

Not one soulc soul remained in even this remaining section of Abbieann. The soldiers who were guarding it against feared looting from glandelinian vandal spies the men who had been gathering the fragments which over a month ago were walking these tumbled swampy streets, s n singing laughing, and making love, and doing all good things have fled. No one had the ver nerve to stay and guard it any more, as the forest fires menanced the eastern forest s dangerously cose to what is left of Abbieann,

It was from, and through the courtesy of the Government that passage was given Starring and his fol owers from

a Starring and his followers from St James to the " dead city" The Calverinian Government sent him a pass, and then Starring took a party of news paper men, besides the captian and the officers of the Mary Jane. However theyfirst mate remained behind saying " If the forest fires are threatening here also I will blow the whistle, and you must return instantly for if you delay the fire may come i into the ruins, and trap all of you."

Starring and his followers had been in the city for only four hours, the party however keeping close together, when half a dozen sharp Toots from the ships whistle caused them to look up.

"Gracious" cried Angeline Richee."Look is that an eruption or am I seeing things."

All saw a dreadful darkness rising up the slopes of a mountain close to the city, and straight in a long wall moving tward the city like a black rolling a squall came an enormous fog, the upper part which rolled and writhed into ray shapes and was poerced by zizag lights and flashes. Other clouds of more immense size were rising from forested ravines that have been cut in the sides of some of the mountains, and the inclined planes that reached from the edge of the flood verge to the summit smoked and flamed as if with the firing of two armies in tremendous battle. Indeed this spectacle except for the gloom that seemed to fall lower and lower out of the heavens

suggested nothing so much as lines of immense avalanches of lessons, many miles in length, and in many columns file fighting their way into the sky.

"Its a fire and its threatening the city" said Starring, as a yellow haze began to blow over the city, bringing a sharp and irritating smell of burning pine and brush. Starring believed it was time for all to be off.

"Let's beat it for the time being" he cried."The fire might strike."

And indeed they did not stay on the very order of their going. Starring himself cleared thirty feet on the first bound. Leaping down the terraces, blundering and stumbling over foundation stones, and wreckage strewn in piles over the streets, passing corpses shriveled and half buried in wreckage drifts, they might for the shore, where two boats were awaiting them as if they were trying to escape the mouth of hell. The company had no sooner been rowed back to the ship,than an arm of the fire came close to the section of the city which they had been exploring, and the drift of smoke grew thicker. The anchor had been pulled p, when a solitary figure, a small child appeared, moving northward that connected this lower southeastern section with the northeastern section of what is left of the city. The field glasses showed a little black haired Calverinian girl. The captian sent a boat to bring her aboard, if possible for it seemed she had gone to the river shore, as if seeking for safty. They took her on board, and found she had aimlessly wandered into the city, one of the refugees of the forest fire.

Succeeding this sudden scare, came a violent but counter blowing wind, which caused the burning forests to rage in fire yet more violently, and a hundred stretches of lower country side gave an effect of a " sea of Clouds", and made the whole region appear like the entrance of hell.

The appearance of the remaining sectiond of Abbieann from the ship is that of a abandoned city in Dantes Inferno. Half of the buildings are all thrown doo down, unroofed, all the highest buildings are razed or hasclost their pper stories, and the ruins puts one in mind of an Lisbon or some other city destroyed by an earthquake, and then partially ruined by fire and flood.. so thick is the wreckage lying in the streets that the city appears half buried in other rubbish thrown up by some exploded mountain a volcanic cyclone and a shock at the sametime.The damage which had recently been wrought by explosions could have occured in a minute.

That a terrific explosion also tore off the whole flank of a high hill near Abbieann Starring was sure of, but he did not believe the concussion had anything to do with the twisting of buildings, and fences, the wrenching asunder of great masses of stone, or either the terrific explosion blasts hat hithered portions of the city either. Some believe that the explosions did not cause the " death cloud" either but that awindstorm was raging in the path of the forest fires, or rather it might have been the fire hurricane itself, and the explosions may have therefore whirled some of the seas of flame and smoke from the fires itself upon the city. Or could anything else have done these things, except the explosions making a strange upheaval of the earth.

Also where did the floods come from. Evidence proved the rivers never did it, After the first ten minutes of terrific explosions, which destroyed the life in the extreme northern part of the city, the houses were little injured. They were set on fire as if clouds of fire had been hurled in a tempest through the streets,, the tallest buildings not wrecked by the concussion were devoid of their roofs, and gutted by the fires that followed, but of buildings that escaped with only detatched roofs, and broken windows, had their interiors entirely intact, whereas the buildings of the southeastern sections were shakd shaken down to their foundations... shops, factories, stores, immense elevators, railroad elevations of all kinds, and so forth are not distinguishable from dwellings, and all the streets are nothing but mere crossword puzzles.....

By a mighty thrust ofze force the terrific explosions had shaken the maz masonry of THE TALLEST buildins buildings to the ground and hurled the wreckage into the wildest confusion. Starring had crossed over still smoking heaps in the streets as high as the wreckage noticed in the city of Galveston after that disaster, or what had been observed in Lisbon after the earthquake there.. The interiors of homes as he had observed, and also of those of churches and facot factories and offices and stores were as deeply filled as the streets were incumbered, and often he observed also that it is seen to be only the pieces of wall paper, or decorated plaster or pictures hanging on interior walls that is the only evid nce to show which is the s inside, and which is the outside of a building.

All the cathedral towers were hurled down flat with the ground, and many of the fine bells that chimed so glad placidly, lie buried deep among the rubbish. Starring had gone into what remained of the ruins of one of these Cathederals, and discovered that the alater made of fine carved marble with its beautiful brazen lamps, and candle sticks was also a wreck, and of many other beautiful beautiful and ornamental portions of the building, noti nothing at all was to be seen it. The inside was deep deep in rubbish, and Starring in wading through it, suddenly stumbled upon a gnarled white looking and uncertain l kind of ze object, dressed in gray..

"Heres another of these our victims." he called to one of his men ...

And a body of a man it surely was, a man, aged man, one of those who had probably sought refuge in the place to pray before the disaster occured.....

Bodies of even pri sts were also found here, many of them in the attitude of prayer, , but the uplifted hands in many other cases may have been mere proofs of them trying to ward off the masses of falling wreckage. Starring also found the charred bodies of many others in an open square before the church, and they were so badly burned in the smouldering wreckage that there was no danger of them decomposing. They were only charred remains throughout. Indeed how hard it could be to realize that there had been life in the city at all. Before this, Abbieann was a gay beautiful city, with its immense crowds dressed in gay colors, fairly dazzling to visitors from distant lands, and cities and towns, with oleander, and all kinds of flowers blazing in the various gardens and immense parks, also with all the highest things known to be in great American cities like elevated structures for trains, street car lines, and main railway centers, beautiful river bridges, many subways and the like as a thing that never existed in the same land or century with the remains of this mournful and hedous hedious wreck with a good portion of the city swept all over the country by a flood. Here was the headquarters of immense size for the Holy Name society, and its meeting halls and clubs, here the big hotels, or beautiful decend show houses and movies and other theatres thetres theaters, not a single jail to be found, not a singl sind of any bad people living in the city, and by the way things looked of how the attendance at all daily and Sunday masses was unusual to break all records. All are blent in one. wide and most awful co downfall. The evidence proofs proves that it was not one of nature. Nature worked by God had nothing to do with the horror. If it had been true Starring would have noticed through some instinct that the Anger of God was in the very air over this awful tragedy. "What you do to the least of these my brethern ye do it to me."

Calverinia being a rel righteous country, was devastated, so why would not God claim too He was devastated. Oh what an awful price Glandelinia will have to pay if it is proven she was responsible. A curious phases of the disaster was the absense of all floors of remaining buildings, doors roofs, with window frames and furniture. Every thing of wood was totally destroyed, save save part of the little kitchens, and out-buildings in the yards. It is the stoniest of ruins and looked more like St Pierre than Abbieann. sharp as was the flames that was hurled upon the city by the explosions its duration was brief. The destruction of Abbieann was no doubt accomplished by the explosion in twenty minutes, by flood of course in a days time. A tumbling cloud of dense smoke many miles of hurling flame andcall was over. The cyclone of fire which was hurled pon upon the north and the rain of debris that followed, did a kindly act of burial.

In that gust of flame that explosion of owders, which may have been ignited by gases in kitchens, everything of life disappeared. All trees were uprooted and burned to ashes. that were pretty gardens in front or rear of beautiful houses is a waste of bu building ash, with a stagnant fountain in the center, the only green . thing being the view of its water..

All the trees and the flowers flowers, the splendors of all this section of the Calverinian country are no more. Large stately palms, lie at length like slain giants, their roots already mantling with a fungus of brilliant colors. All the foliage that mantled the clifty steeps behind the city have been wiped out by fire. Before the awful disaster this big city of Abbieann was a perfect Calverinian garden. It was divided into sections by the rivers curves with a pretty esplanade, of which now nothing is left except desolated destruction, and from that point the highest sections climbed the light slopes of the hills in terraces.

There were parks and pleasure grounds in some sections of the city, pleasure grounds like Riverview Park or white City, in Chicago, or also like Coney Island in New York, and a Statue of the "Flight of the M,Mther and child into Egymp Egypt on a promontory at another were features that drew attention from tourists and visitors as they enjoyed time in the city, and as they passed the capes and saw this immense and charming panorama unfold itself they marveled, the houses of many colors and magnificent shapes, shining in a sun of unusual brilliancy, flecked by tree shadows and flecks flecked by flowers of countless brilliant hues. On the river landing it was found by starring and his followers that even the quays were gone. The anchor chains chains and other ship stores along the river front, were rusty and added to the look of long desertion. Even who would imagine that the entire river fronts of the city had immense double rows of high shade trees, and a splendid main line railroad m and benches for travelers and sight seers and hard working tired men to rest on. Not a hintbof them is now to be seen any where. All kinds of Holy Statues in the Cathederals lie broken among the rubbish. Where a beautiful band played on pleasant evenings not so much as a sound is heard. Not a bird sings, no cricket chirps not even the sound of a fly or any insect is heard.

Yet Starring saw that among the ruined shops are odd survivals, useless cups and saucers, utensils of every kind, rows of dusty tumblers, toys for children, images of china, tin and every thing used for kitchen purposes. Much treasure if any is left will never be brought to the surface. It is buried as deep as the flowers, and lawns on the delectable hills above the city. For those heights are as barren as all the other scene of desolation around. As a person sails by the region they might look for Abbieann in vain. Some one may cri cry " there is the city", but you see no

city. "Ah " would Starring say" You mean that flood, and those broken hillsides, which more than any other thing suggests a destroyed haden regions?" A little nearer and we see that it is like an an immense cemetery in a Laten Country. And truly it is a vast grave yard. Only when a person is close tward the scene can he realize that here was one of the most charming and most relied city in all of Calverinia.

What Starring really wondered was" What in the o world happened atb One A.M. that fatal morning. Did the forest fires raging near by at the time really cause it? What matter if it did? The enemy made the forest fires and are therefore to blame on that line. An hour after sunrise that day before, the aurthorities in the city, who had been uneasy for some days because of the forest fires, said to be menancing the city, had send up early in the morning, and late in the evening signal rockets and fire works to warn the population to be on their guard, and the fire departments especially.. But what did this matter? The enemy had tried to frighten Calverinia before with past disasters and had not succeeded.

Yet the conflagrations kept the sky over the city thick with rolls of smoke. Poor people. There was it is believed almost time to escape, if they had only known. Many roads leading northward were open. By taking all kinds of cars and trains or by wagon and so forth they could have at least won a chance for life. But no. There was no warning of what was to come. The day before the terrible event had begun. In woods and gardens on the hillsides, and in the city parks, the flowers were opening to the heat. But no birds were heard, animals strange to the people were entering the city odors of orange and jasmin mixed with that of burning trees blent with the balm of the morning. And peacefully rocking in their towers o in the cathedrals, the bells were humming their call to prayer, and the golden notes went abroad in waves, reaching to the forest hid villiages along the river shore..

Chimneys were sending up smoke, and faint notes of unhurried life issued through doors . The river waters sparkled green and blue, and a number of vessels swung carelessly. The industries of the kitchens commence, commonplaces on the streets are in exchange, but then hark. Above and beneath the sound of the boats, the puffing of railroads and ringing bells, a rumble. They think it is only thunder. If it rains the Red Plague will be wiped out. Again , and much louder that pulsing sound, deep! long stirring vague terrors, and this time it does not stop. Twaid late night they strange rumble grows, that vening there being a yellow light, like that from a dying sun had been had been upon Abbieann, making it shadowy and uncertain. How close it had become, and what soltriness there had been in the air!

The very fish in the river are uneasy, and are leaping from the water. People step into the streets to see why it grows dark far ahead of the hour. Even the whorses are stamping in the stalls, and the dogs whinning and the cats screaming and Meowing. Clouds nearly always rest on summit hills of great height near Abbieann, but not such clouds as these. See they! are rent with flames, and the gloom is deepening fast. Yet th the bells ring on, and there is comfort in them. The people can take that comfort while they may for it is nearly over. you mother kiss your little ones for the last time. Good Father in the churches commend all the souls of the people to Our Blessed Blessed Lord who is to requirethem, for the hour has come.It is One minute to one. Every one is in bed asleep. Yet to every one in the western and extreme southern part of Abbieann this is the last of earth.

The horizon sky lightens. guddenly the groundshakes as if there was a terrific earthq ak earthquake, while there came a roar as if the whole world was blown to pieces like a fire cracker. A smoky pall appears to rise, and a terrific flash appears, blotting the view of walls of flame that are hurled forward tward the city. A very devils tatoo is sounded from the cathedrals. However these rapid notes are the pounding of stones that shower from the sky..... The cloud of debris falling with the speed of hail spreading as a fan, its edge rolling and volleying like a breaker falls upon the city. In one breath the people are buried beneath the ruins. In another moment it seems as if the cloud turns to fire, with a roar like a naval warfare.

Now great clouds of mud, eart earth, dust and the like falls thick and fast upon the northern portion of the city. But human eyes do not see these things. They are glazed, and stare at vacancy, for at one throb eight million human hearts have ceased to beat. Abbieann!!! There is no such a place. It's citizens abraod abroad who have been not there at the time are of the race of Ishmael, and homeless.

After fifteen or twenty minutes the tremendous roar of eruptions is over, the rattle of stones are over, the crash of trees, swept from the ground has ceased, from end to end the city is on fire but burned untill the flood obliterated the most part of it, the shipping in the river are aflame or under water, and all is what hascbeen .

Starring however saw that just now even, his explorations ofthe southeastern section of the city of Abbieann was quite dangerous. On the second day of his entrance into that part of the city he was looking at the distant forest fires, wondering what the next day would bring for in his favor or disfavor, when to his surprise a dense creamy colored smoke,, began to issue from a new section, as if a volcanic eruption was about to start.. There was a glare of light, and soon it seemed as if the slope of a notherr hill was becoming a mass of flame..

Starring believing it was something unusual ordered his followers to retreat and he and they took to flight, but before he had gone as thousand yards, he and all of his followers were suddenly thrown down, as by a hot wind, and slightly burned. Then to their relief a breeze came from the south(de mouth) driving back the odors heat, and the smoke,, and as the air cleared they saw the southern ruins far below in f flames. None of his party were killed in this encounter, but twenty were injured

and the city was deserted for a good space that time, and they remained on the ship. Not a one dared to leave the ship and go on shore again. He saw far off to the north that there were bright fires still burning near the river front at the northernmost part of Abbieann. He and his followers could see them as the ship apprached a little nearer in the night,, and any one not acquainted with the region may fancy they were cremations. But they were not, for they were the citys coal yards, lumber yards, and many other places whose destruction however is delayed by the fallen wreckage of buildings over them. Even here and there those on board the ship detected the odor of chemicals as if they were burning in some cellar. The flames had withered and seared where it did not destroy. Starring the day before found among the ruins several books that were said to be still good, though of course the very paper were browned, and would crumble to dust before many days were passed... And strangely this char affected the whole book rather than k just the outer leaves.

Unusual and extreme he heat was noticed on the day when they firsted entered the devastated city.

The engineer of the ship was testing the river water that runs through the city,,, at this location and discovered a temperature of 192 degrees. He could not condense the water, it was so warm. In the engine the vacum had dropped from twenty six inches to twelve, the pumps refused to take the water, and the hose was turned on to cool them. During this time many dead fishes were seen floating in the water. It seemed to Starring that the end to the disaster horror is not yet. Because of the disaster some of the currents of rivers have changed, prevailing winds have gone about spreading the forest fires more than ever, and intense heat prevails over the whole state,, but what the people insist is not usual is to that that this heat is added by the wilting humidity of an African August in the Go Congo.

The ruin of the sections of the city still revealed in its physical aspect, is remarkablely like that of St Pierre in 1902. Forest fires, battles, massacres, raids, sacking of towns, and visitations of horrors resulting from such awful battles, and massacres of children were thought to be enough without adding great explosions and immeasureable floods, but such things came. The scenes going on were more horrible than the worst kind of a volcanic eruption.

Starring had heard that some reason or other there had been various warnings of troubles several weeks ago, the ground shook from minor explosions, rumblings were heard and the great fire was discovered very close to the city, and when ever there was an east or south east wind the sun never shone. Sometimes when the fires dammed up a stream with fallen masses of blazing trees there w re were escapes of steam with great noises, and the city population were excited if not alarmed by witnessing enormous columns of cloud rolling upward to the height of probably fourty thousand feet. Sometimes as it was said the cloud sometimes even descending a little was likened to strange flowers and heads of cabbage, or thunderheaded nimbus, or leaves of v smoke miles long, incessantly shot through by webs and seets of red fire.

The river running through the city grew hotter and hotter, and when it was dark a glow as if from a sea of molten lava shone against the under side of the clouds.. Rangers flying from the battle field of the Red Plague reported danger to the settlement settlements in the forest, and presently there were regular processions running along the roads, tward Abbieann, and other places out of reach of the fire.

For some time after the disaster occured it was not known that any lives had been lost, and more than a month later the discovery that eightbmillion persons must have perished in the infernal explosion blasts, earthquake shocks produced by the explosions and the flood horror rushing over Abbieann, came with crushing force upon the whole state of Calverinia and deepened apprehension which extended to the remotest confines. It is not that the people are afraid of burial under the wreckage of their homes, but that in these great explosion upheavals, new caverns with roofs collasping may broke break under ones feet, and strips of coast coast slide into the sea or river, the submarine avalanches falling for hundreds of feet, carrying villiages and people to eternal burial.

On the following day Starring decided to enter the section of the city said to have been only slightly affected by the dea devastion. As the ship steamed into this part they scoplanded, and found it a very good sized section. It was hot and close and dirty. Piles of dirt, and earth debris had fallen from roofs and laid in the streets. A fall of eighteen inches or more of this had taken place, and all is sad colored and gray as in the neighborhood of the southeastern section, but the scorching has been lighter. The terrible forest fire that Starring keeps sight of out of the corner of his eye is withdrawn in sulky appearance behind a curtain of rolling smoke. Neary every windo window in this part on the side tward the explosions has been smashed.. That means either by concussion or flying stones, which vary from a pea o to a cocoanut in size and which are strewn in the streets in millions, and Starring scooped up a half ouch ounce with both hands to look them over.

All down in the south it was dark, and sometimes it looked as if it was going to rain but the thermometer kept steadily. At four oclock starring feltthe heat as he was trudging through, and it kept getting worse till at eight oclock, he decided to return to the ship. Starring thought he heard sounds like explosions, but thought they were rangers dynamiting. Especially vivid was the recital of the victims which later he came across on a high hill in a hospital camp northwest of the flood zone. It would need a Vedder or a Goya to paint the scene at night, when the injured sitting on their cots, theit skins red and seared. They waved their bandaged arms, and nod their bandaged heads, their eyes shone in the light of the single lantrens, and the girl scouts with starring listens in awe as one of them tells his experience.

"We were c far from the explosions but got hurt any how"He said. O"On the morning

of May the last the sun had died th out, and it was dark and smoky all day. D ring the early night up to twelve o'clock there were sounds as of many explosions, but at an hour past midnight we heard a tr omenous tremendous noise like the world blasting to pieces in striking another planet. A thick cloud rox rose up and swept down tward Abbieann, and part of it fell upon our own town, and the town burned. This was in the town of ruth where I lived. windows were crashed in by the convussion, and the dirt and wreckage come into our streets. When it occured the air grew so hot, I felt as if I was burning in my throat. I wanted water worst than anything but no water could be obtained. Oh Heavens how my throat burned. Many of my fellow people died. There was a great fall of all kinds of rubbish, then sand, th n clay rocks and water, broken fragments of trees and even mud followed by grit and pebbles and dust. The people closed their doors and windows and prayed. The debris and dust came down in suffocating quanities, followed by an awful heat that penetrated the houses, and buried the country in a heap of destruction. The people crowded into their sh lters, were half buried and half stifled in the strange fall. We thought a volcano had exploded. A ter the detonations had ceased it became cool. A great bunch of firecrackers to sweep by, then as the windows were opened the air rushed violently out as through and as though a vacuum had been created outside. Many were saved, though with arms, heads and legs scorched ad abd and flayed while others inhaled the burning powders and died. Those of us who survived to tell of the dreadful thirst that was upon us, a thirst that they could not slake till they had staggered down the city streets to the safer settlements or till others came to the rescue was terrific.

One man who shut himself in with sixteen hundred people, told me that a flash of the explosion entered through a camp and killed over sixty of the party on the spot. And where the floods a have receded everything left is mud, mud, mud . It has put forth torrents of slime, and you know yourselfe that the waters of the river itself is very, hot. There are hardly any bridges outside the remains of the city now, the flood having swept everything away, and when we attempted to cross we were driven back by these hot waters. Had we crossed them we might have been cut off from escape by the flood. Goats Goats and sheep are bleating piteously , for their forage is buried deep deep, and those that can are wandering to the lonely hills at the south north,, where things are still growing."""

Starring roamed into the fields behind the outa eastern part of Abbieann the that night. A mountain afire was throwing up ed clouds like a volcanic eruption , clouds that boiled upward in cushiony masses, their rolling edges taking a pale pink light from the glare below.. The mountains devastated slopes glared like so many furnaces, and along the edge of a ravine were twinkling a score of fires. Nearly every one of the refug refugees in the camp near by has lost a father, mother, brother, sister,, wife husband or child, some or many are bereaved of all their families, and all their friends, yet there are few outward signs of grief. And yet no one can say that they appeared to be resigned. Rather it is a daze, and it seems as if they do not even realize for fair what has happened, and what is going to happen next. They have passed through explosion horror, fire and so forth and the taste of air and sense of safty are still strange to them. So far they all seemed ignorant and slow of understanding of the situation, and they appeared as if in a dream. Many it is feared were made insane from their experiences. And their suffers sufferings are chiefly mental instead of the body, and yet all these are endured with a Christ like patience that is wonderful to a person who does not know them .

Starring stepped into one of the tent hospitals and noted the silence there.. and also the resignation of the people. These tents have been pitched close to the edge of the remaining flood to get air and escape the forest fires. Their sides are drawn up for free as access of the breeze and the cots are arranged with feet tward the central pole. All the patients are women and little children, and only a few doctors and nurses are there. There are old and yound young women in the company, but no rich and poor. All are poor, abjectly, unconsciously poor, with a poverty made by the disaster that A was never to be compared before. To most of them this care and tenderness seems to Starring a wonderful experience. The few doctors go from one to another with a cheery reassuring word and a smile that are worth more than any medicine. And as the bandages and the cotton are snipped and peeled from the raw flesh the patients A patients wince and sometimes tremble with the pain, but there is not a single word of complaint not even from the little children, not a sigh of weariness, no crying of whimpering, not even a groan, though it is feared some of them by morning may be carried from the place and lowered into the earth, out there where starring saw the grave digger laying his line of double trenches, long lines, filled in at ne end as they they lengthen them at the other. The injuries are not as serious to them as occur in the fallen buildings or railroad accidents, there are no crushed skulls, and broken legs, no deep lacerations, and big bruises, but they seem worse. These refugees were fugitives of the forest fires, some were overtaken before they were rescued, and their flesh has been scourched, and baked,, the skin has been peeled off in strips, ears have been nearly roast roasted from the heads, eyes have been half blinded, arms and legs are deeply swathed in cotton. A few relatives, a wife, a son, visit the tents and sit beside the sufferers, as still and as patient, and fan them, or pass water to them from time to time.....

The disaster around Abbieann is as Starrig observed more widely scattered, than other horrors he had seen. Most of the bodies that are not buried under r wreckage and flood borne b mud have been cremated by forest fires.

Starring learned that hundreds of refugees had dug caves into the hillsides, to be saftly under cover from the dreaded forestfires.. No one made any complaints even tho g though they believed the enemy were responsible,,. When the flames came up close to them there was a quick rush for cover, and so many would crowd into these caves, that

Starring arived at the edge of the crater no two at half past two, and remained there,, for over four hours, and one half,,. When he returned to Abbieann he resembled a man turned back into dust, a statue of dust. The weight of dust and mud he carried on his person, the horrible atmosphere he breathed, and the fearful difficulties he had encountered, reduced him to a condition of extreme fatigue, notwithstanding the fact that he marched to the crater from the most easiest side. Starring decided to return to the boatthe next day, if he had sufficiently recovered by that time to do so.

The captian and some of his followers, who went to extreme north,, Abbieanne, found on their return trip, that a bridge across the road had been carried a ay by the torrent of water. Nevertheless the guides managed to get the party across the obstruction. They took the carriages to pieces, and carried them and the members of the partyyy to the other side of the river, which was hot and full of floating wreckage.

Starring said when he returned to the boat-the lout;

"To my idea" he said "The most interesting point about these supposed volcanic eruptions is the fact that the debris thrown a out during the explosions in a most vertical direction, afterwards took a full shoot or sprah spray in a horizontal way, and while it might be too early yet to attempt to explain more fully this most singular phenomomenon I am inclined to believe that the ejecta thrown bythe force of the explosions was hurled to a great height, and following the lay of gravation, descended withgreat velocity a velocity comparable perhaps wifter than its ascension, especially as it neared the eruptions again. Here it encountered the " matter in ascension from other and more violent explosions, and was accordingly deflected in a full horizontal position and direction. For the so called fire cloud which swept upon Abbieann, this action was probably by the fire hurricane of one of the near parts of the city, and the force of the explosion and the flames of the fires must have heated the dust thrown by the explosion to a white heat, and all this was hurled in the direction of northwest Abbieanne, and upon the vessels lying upon the river roadstends.. The intense heat from the fiery dust cut a path through a certain section only, for there is very well defsinded defined line of buildings destroyed by this calamity than of those that were only raized or shaken into ruin by the con i concussion.

As far as I could observe, as we passed along the craters rim, no large stones or any kind of matter bo belonging to volcanic eruptions were found about. All I discovered was the ordinary fragments of the ground, clay and sand and so forth. There are are some very small fragments of solid rock lying under the heaps of dirt and rubbish with which the streets of Abbieann are heaped in the north but we do not yet know the exact nature of the matter ejected untill a critical examanation of the ground and She ejected material is submitted to careful analysis.

I am inclined to believe that the matter belched forth by the force of the blasts was almost altogether pulverized rock or the earthly and mileran mineral and sandy matter of which our Calverinian Soil is composed. These substances when blown to dust by the terrific explosions, resembles all the materials we find in the soil everywhere.

As to the character of the explosives that is believed to have caused the eruptions I am not prepared to express any opinion untill I have made a more careful analysis. It may have been gun cotton, T.N.T or even higher explosives still in an unusual immm immeasureablecquanity, or it may have been merely a large number of ernormous munition pits used for the storing of m mub munitions hidden from the enemy that might have been touched off by the heat of the forest fire.

The union of some kind of a posion gas also may have produced the instantly disaster ous effects that some attribute to asphyxiation by gas. If the enemy really did this as it is suspected Glandelinia sure has a black record on her name."

"Do you think in your opinion that there is any danger of further disasters?" asked the captian.

"Considering the fact, that since this war began there has been many terrific explosions and floods, and view of the further facts that these later ones was of the most greatest terror it may naturally be expected that there will be further and worst catastrophes. Then again the fact that the explosions at Adelaheid, occured on May the 24th and at Abbieann on June the First tends to show some sort ofscems existing between the landelinian government and the wicked Glandelinian generals . I am incling I am inclined to believe the same, and also so does Violet, and her sisters."

This theory is further strengthened by the fact that the Mayor of Abbieann who was in Pandora at the time is also investigating the cause. He also is using his means in observing the advancing forms of the forest fires traveling over the country on a line between the Vivian Hills and the Bondon range. They were he believes formed by the winds of the main conflagration. Untill there is something done to stop this "Red Plague there will be recurrent explosions or more or less severity.

If there had been any show of the danger the people of Abbieann would have been forewarned.

On the next day Starring made another visit to the eastern section of the city and found the eastern arm of the dangerous fire had shrouded the whole region beyond in a sea of stinking smoke, and the heat was felt with such greatness that two of the workers with s Starring were overcome, and had to be soaked about the head with cool water. It was blazing weather, almost as fierce as the worst African climate at its worst, but not quite so under, not quite but a little worst.

And what a scene of desolation his eyes now fell upon.

It was stern in the blackness of the nights explosion, but the twilight of the days bring new woes new woes into being. Everything still reeks in the mud left by the passing flood. Yet as he and his followers go through there is a faint and fae faded stench of rosin as they slosh about, tripping against hidden rocks, and one of his followers slips on the edge of a retaining wall and tumbles into a yard fourteen or fifteen feet below, to the sorrow of his being. I don't know how it is than I can

not another person could enter, and those who were hammering for help outside, were urged to go somewhere else or distribute themselves in clearings, or treeless ravines. All who could as Starring learned crawled under large rockglens, into river beds, and elsewhere. The air was hot and stifling with smoke heat, and flyingdust, and a stream close by the dugouts tr dried up entirely. There was then as they told Starring a splendid show of flames, and though a perfect hurricane of smoke flames and embers appeared to spread and stretch o almost overhead, there was nothing so alarming as feared.

Starring believed all these incidents and had about even resigned hope of seeing the fires quit threatening Abbieann, but at four of clock, while going back dismally back to the eastern section of the city, through a driving wind swept smoke, distant thunders began again to rumble. The noise was somewhat like thunder, but shorter, more interrupted. Rather it suggested the bumping of freight cars. Several times the sound was repeated in resounding volleys.

One of starrings followers became excited. He begged Starring to go back to the boat but he appeared to be the only frightened man of them all.

The others including Starring were not timid or unquiet. Starring had never been conscious of any peril at any time. The tragedies seem to him to be in the far past and a ravaging forest fire even a mile or two away, seems as distant to him as if it were a hundred, so far as there is any possibilities of doing any injury. Yet it was a terrible forest-fire that threatened so near, and at any instant it may veer in its course. It has devastated the northern region east of Abbieann, just as the forest fires have done it elsewhere. The raging of the forest fire to day, that to Starring an and the braver of his followers was merely a distant scene, was better seen from the ship that went up further in the northern country section, where explosions has made changes in the geography, building as it seemed new hills, channeling hollows, altering the river line undermining the soil, utterly destroying life, and ruining all the villiages and estates north of Abbieann. Though shrouded in smoke, the spurting anf and fizzing of the thousand thousands of acres of pine trees ablaze could be heard and seen on the slopes and in the plains and valleys, and the booming of falling trees was constant.

Starring believed he could score a great success through an effort to reach one of the big explosion craters near Abbieann, ad therefore he decided to undertake the expedition alone, with only four guides, as he knew the trip would be quite perilous. First Starring w pt tward the London plantation, which he was told was near the crater, in company also with a ranger.

The expedition left the north of Abbieann at noon September the 18th. The following day was spent first in studying the many formed rents or cracks in the ground near the crater, on the north flank of the forests. The next day Starring determined to attempt the move through the these woods to the edge of the crater, and therefore with this purpose in view he set out about four oclock in the morning. Near by the forest fire was threatening the forests near and around the crater, but amid a hundred thousand dangers, he reached the edge, and looked down into the huge pit. It was half full of water. Here he sep spent a long time in taking careful observations, examing the debris around it, and taking note of the crater itself to see if it was of volcanic p origin or not. If he saw such a thung as a huge cinder cone in the centre of the cratd crater than the report that the disaster was caused by volcanic eruptions of secondaey duration would be a fact. He saw no such thing, and the opening of the crater itself was about six hundred yards long, and five hundred yards wide. It was not rounded or in any form observed of volcanic craters, but of shapes that big explosions usually leave.

While Starring was on the edge of the crater, several violent squalls of hot smoke laden wind raged, tearing the limbs from the trees, and bearing the distant fire still onward, and again and again his life was in danger from falling trees. Branches fell about him in such quanities at times as to give him a good drubbing, and the thickness of the smoke borne along on the wind,,, completely,,, obscured his vision. One particularly violent gust of wind covered the general from head to foot with thick dust and his hat was blown clear across the crater. He still persisted in his study and ob observations however, and twice mof more was showered with pebbles and stones, and dust, and once was almost blown into the crater.

He learned as he had suspected, that beyond there were three seperate big cracks at close quarters with each other, as if the groundall around the crater had been split by the force of the " eruption," and all the trees were standing inclined in all direct ions or uprooted entirely.

He could however not discover whether it was of a volcanic eruction or not. He puc put some of the rocks and other materials into a sack he carried to examine on board on the ship. Starrings journey back from that hot region was fully as dangerous as the approach.

The forest fire seemed to resent the intrusion of a mere human being into the most awful region, and raged furiously onward as if to overtake him.

However Starring also made the important discovery that at the head of the stream or river Ester Esther had another crater of the same size, and that the same material of eruptive wreckage was observed all around it, and the trees nearest it werecall destroyed in the same manner. The water was more of mud and looked boggy. Starring had proceeded tward this hole on a horse, untill he came to the steeper part of the region. From this point he continued on foot leaving the horse that had carried him up the steep slope back to the tree.

Upon reaching the site of Lake urnor starring found it completely drained out. He crossed the bed of the lake and continued u on up the gently rising slope to the forested region above. Formerly the edge of the hill was a high bluff or shoulder. Thus the expl explorer found had fallen down the side of the hill, and he thinks this change probably occured at the time of the great explosions. He saw mud gravel and every ground wreckage had been thrown up in the explosion in high columns. This is the first important alteration in the region which has been noted and verified. But there was

light of this matter, or pretend to, but it does seem comical to see them go slipping and floundering through the mire, but the deaths theysee seldom haunt them, and some of the unfortunated who stepped into corruption, that was alive the other day, feel dus disgust and sickness rather than horror. To Starring and his followers there is a full evidence, and overwhelming evidence of decay issueing from some spots he goes over. When he first entered the city he noticed it, yet when traveling over the rubbish the odor was partly submerged under a smell of burned material, the smell of scorched wood, paper,, clothes rugs, building materials, a general indescribable foul foul and most pungent odor...

Still all of his followers could locate cadavers easily by the scene in ze air, and yet only a few are made sick by them. Starring passed to the right of a corpse, and the proof of dearh death was yet so persistent, that he could not help looking in that direction. However he could not yet see anything, among the heaps of the fallen masonry the prostrate trunks of trees, the iron and other fences and the rubbish of old tinware covered as they are with debris and dirt, but nevertheless he knew the signs.

Wind had blown the debris from some of the forms so that the faces were plainly seen while while on other occasions the corpse is merely suggestive to the eye. In a street starring found one man, whose position was that of rest, the attitude of one who has thrown himself into bed for to sleepth, the head thrown back, the arms extended the legs close toe together . . At a slighter d distance was the body of a little girl lying face down. In the debouch of a wide street was one that was half skeleton already, the bones showing yellow white through the singed flesh.

Atop of a tall retaining wall, closing a yard that is nine or twenty feet below the level of the impending terrace, lay a woman with herhead hanhi hanging back over the edge, and arms danglingbover the stone work too. The form was like that of some Egyptian mummy, dried and blackened, but the expression did not donate fear and pain. Those Starring had seen donated calm. The visi Visitation of near by forest firesfor some days proceeding must have persaudied those who were watching the dreaded conflagration, that this was only a passing danger. It was not the explosion that killed it was the falling of buildings while all were asleep in them, and therefore it was a merciful death.

Those who were lying beneath the wreckage were killed by falling stones and timbers. But they might have been so sound asleep ty that they had passed all feeling. One figure crouched behind the wall of a building as if he feared what was to come, yet his collaspe in that position was believed to have been an accident. In front of a house containing a score of bodies, is a street car. It was not injured. The body of three girls, and two children in one house had fallen easily to the floor.

Often while Starring was walking over fallen walls, he was conscious of bodies by many scores beneath, the stench rising through interstices in the stony mass. Some of the bo ies were mere fragments but that may be they had been crushed. Complete incineration of many of the bodies by the fires was impossible in such a case, but it probably dried the bodies and reduced the danger of plagues that i is expected when the air clears of smoke enough to indi induce the flies to return.

The progress of starring and his companions was mortally slow, though it must be said in their behalf that they had to contend, not only against the severit ies of heat, but with the sting of the distant fires,, and the noisome exhalationfrom roasting exhations from exhalations from roasitng bodies. Although the explosions which destroyed so much of the population, the heat of the houses out of reach of floods as they burned afterwards, the heat too of the distant forest fires, scorched the bodies indoors and out, and n n none was partially preserved. One of the corpses that Starring found near a park was seen because of a little foot protruding through the debris, and the bottom of this foot showed a skin typical of a little goil. Starring on opening the door of a bedroom found a woman a man and four children. The woman had been in bed dying there. The children were all lying in their beds, and of this whole company it was only the child in the bed nearest the window that had been scorched. And yet none of the bed clothing was burned. One of the most curious finds was that of one of Starrings followers. He went into a bakery containing the bakers stove ovens. One of the ovens of the immense range was empty. In the other were two children a girl and boy lying atop of one another, feet at the door, arms extended and knees tightly bent. What possessed them to hide in the oven. In such a situation it is true one seeks coolness so they could not have gone there for sleep. They must have been terrified by the roar of explosions and falling buildings, the oncoming fire cloud, the hail and cloud burst of wreckage, but the hot fire cloud sought them even in that re refuge and it was found their bodies were disembowled the heat having probably exploded them .

However at this stage to m put it mildly identification of bodies that might be still found amid the wreckage of what is left of the city, save by doubtful findings of rings, watches and the like is impossible. It is for the reason that all the bodies that had been found have either been blackened by fire, or crushed beyond recognition in the wreckage of the falling buildings, and most are half or totally buried in the mud left by the flood wash.

And those lying deep beneath the stone heaps will not be reached untill the wreckage is entirely cleared and that may take years, as all hinderence is going on that prevents any laboserers laborers from coming to the scene, and the reader may be sure that when they are uncovered, practically nothing will be left of any of them.

Nowhere did Starring see any si token of such things as concerted exertion, no crowd in a single street or square or struggling for the open country, no company or mob arrested in flight on the roads and pathways near and outside the city, nay not even people huddling in corners as if to get as far away as possible from the disaster.

Buildings and o environments predica predicate everything of their contents. For instance Starring found in a hospital beds half covered under foundation stones and other wreckage and here in scrapping some away he found the patients dead in the bed .

All of the inmates of the place when the building fell before the concussion were asleep in the beds. And the corpses do not lie in the position of patients who had been awake and tried to get out of bed when in anger danger. They had not even been awakened in time to realise what had happened. Other places the corpses are found in every position and in bed as well, no one found in ruins outside the buildings. Their clothing in some instances are burned off. And sex is seldon fis distinguishable, and all evidence proves that death was mercifully swift, and that no one evidently suffered before death came to them. There were or are also many domestic animals that could equally threaten health. In one stable Starring counted twenty horses lying in the wreckage half charred. Of dogs and cats and fowls there is no telling how many are or might be in the ruins. And a in all this unusual holocaust there is no consolation, everything living having been extriminated for hundreds of miles around Viv Abbieanni. Death here is grim enough Heaven knows. yet in comparison with the reach of the awful immeasureable devastation the number of huja human creatures are small, even great as they are. The many corpses are mere incidents incidents. The destruction of a huge city, three or four times bigger than New York and Chicago put together, and the devastation of a whole country side q at the same time of cities and towns that was an upbuilding of probably a century of toil and a cumulation of scenes of art and commerce is and can be more impressive and appalling, and even sadder in all probabilities than those poor wrecks of flesh and bone rotting among the rubrish..... debris.

Indeed as Starring had seen in his trip to Abbieann from one city to another, that in each place concluding Abbieann too the absolute sign of ruin is so great that never in real disasters would there ever be a comparison for it, in the past or future. Starring as he passed through thought of the case of he and his followers visiting on a planet that had been destroyed of life and cities by some awful visitation to the whole world itself, and he did not see just merely burned districts of the great cities, where walls and chimneys will still be standing, a few windows intact, some streets clear, but even the very architecture does not exist, the cities he passed through were merely foundations of rim rubbish, with not so pane of glass for miles.

Even the horrid ruins of St Pierre in Martinque is nothing in comparison. Here in Abbieann there is not even a yard or clear street. It is as if a volcanic blast of most immense force had occured in the center of the city and shaken and blown the town asunder. Streets and lanes lead nowhere at all, and the phatoes is heightened by the names and numbers stamped on the still standing street signs, futile guides now, only to be read by the souls of the dead.

To stand in one of the streets, like the Central Avenue, formerly lined for miles with as attractive stores and store buildings as seen in big American cities, and gay with all kinds of colored goods, and all kinds of articles, and see it now with mere skeletons of houses on either side, the windows staring like so many sightless eyes, the doors gaping like suffocated mouths, the pavements heaped with stones and charred woodwar woodwork, tonots the fixity and silence, is like standing in the presence of a dead city on a dead planet, death enthroned in concussion horror, fire, and suffocat ing clouds, wielding strange thunders and hurling posion. Never before in real disasters has the world yet any spec tacle like that seen in cities and town in Calverinia.

So complete is the destruction ofveven what is left to show of Abbieann that little remains to mark the character of the buildings.

The parallelogram of masonry scarred blackened, debris covered, might be a house, a store, a facr factory, a church dwe dwelling house, a stable, a shopping building, hospital or what ever we know of buildings. Ten story buildings seem to be only three story junk piles. now and again there is seen a yard, or a court with flower pots or something once a fountain that denotes of what might be the mere piece of a former home ovof some rich resident, but which was his house, his office, which is his carriage shed, which is his servants quarters, is of course a well known " crossword puzzle."

And this wide thrown down sea of walls, and blocking of streets makes it even hard for Starring and his followers to try the least effort to estimate the size of the sections of the city remaining. There also is no douvts that the first reports of the fatality instead of being exaggerated was far below the actual number. They first put the known loss of life at Abbieann at aboud two million. so near as one may learn from the imperfect methods and records the population of Abbieann was nearly, twenty six million with enough houses to room 100,000,000, and the outlying villiages which were destroyed at the same time ha added but a few hundreds of thousand.

The household ornaments, though nearly all of them are heavy in price, beautiful in color and yet flimsy in substance are occassionally of a fineness and delicacy that bespeak the Abbieannain taste. Probably not a picture, mostly all religious ones is left in the city to donate the populater pol popular likings as all are gone, even crucifixes, lamps, bronzes, silver and other such belongings, which h are deftly wrought and most beautiful.

The alters of the ruined Cathedrals and churches and the religious houses, were as magfi magnificent as they could have been are adorned, but now nothing if left... in some of the ruins however sewing machines were found, and bedsteads and machinery of foriegn type also, and a large number of all kinds of musical instrments..

Of course it is going on through the month of september, and june is quite a distance past. Yet even know the whole nation,(in this story) or the whole world, does not yet know hardly a large particle of the history of this greatest of all catastrophes in the main, but its details probable will never be known unless Starring succeeds in accomplishing his work. This mch is certain however, as Starring knew, Abbieann had no warning. Neither did Adelcheid or the other devastated cities. Yet it was and still

is blamed on the Calverinian Government for overconfidence. A t trust in the probable inability of the enemy to do anything else but fight battles, massacre children and burn forests caused the fatality in each instance of the great explosion and flood calamities. The Governer of Calverinia advised the authorities of the various towns and cities to remain on the watch and therefore did not do it. He believed in his own advice, told the authorities of the Government, but they kidded him as being too much of a calamity Jane. For more than eighteen months since the war got its progress well well started the enemy had been doing the most astonishing and shocking things, and yet no man ever dreamed of the fate that was in store for the State of Calverinia and her fellow cities. People went about their daily tasks, the armies fought in the battles losing or winning, the women and children took care of things at home, went to daily Mass,, and all the busy antics of life went on as usual. The great horror at Delights Junction, and also at Hendrick Junction should have been construed as warnings.

An issue of May the sixteenth 1912 says that at five oclock on the previous morning, the destruction of Fullaway occured.

Over confidence brings lots of trouble.

For some time now Starring was blocked in his efforts to get back to the ship. A fire hurricane was between the city and the shore, and he from a tall pile of ruins saw it overwhelm and destroy a large stretch of trees far to the southeast of the city ,and he also observed a new branch at the borr bottom hill. A valley near by also was an inferno, and a long stretch of wooded lowlands not far off to the east was taking on a threatening aspect.. somewhere beyond where a fire had passed before starr ing had reported seeing smouldering ashes fifteen feet deep, and all beyond there as is desolation drying dryness, heat and silence and a wall of impenetrable smoke.

Starring wishing to investigate the scene tried to approach the extreme eastern suburbs of Abbieann to see the phenomena. The whole country side was obscured by st smoke, so thick and smothering that it began to penetrate that portion of the city like a thick haze hiding objects fifty feet away, and he and his party were compelled to put back. some returned by land,, afoot, and on horseback. ,, is followers were now becoming dig disquieted. This time too the two girl,s and the two boy scouts were also with him. Comment however was calming, and nothing could as ascribe the atmospheric conditions.

The two boys was as badly frightened as were the men. They believed they were cut off from escape but starring was not so frightened. He saw that the north branch of the fire seemed to move off another way and therefore he was in a calmer state of mind. Yet the smoke still continued to come into the city, and they had to abandon the expedition in that direction. On the following afternoon, there was tongues of fire seen across the river, and many trees were breaking before the force of a gale then blowing. The latest fear is that a small part of the stream was overflowing became of the nature in which the water was boiling from the heat, and threatening once more the swamp the lower ruins of the city. If this happens they will be cut off from the ship . The people in the near by neighborhood were in a state of madness, and tried to seek refuge in the ruins also. Thousands leaving their towns run for the city. Child ren are crying, women lamenting, and the wind was strong from the south.

The next following hour, the opinion was expressed, that the rising of the river was not probably due only to the heatened waters, but to some dam that was burst by the heat, for the river now was a torrent . Starring felt a little nervice nervious. They all begged him to give the order to leave the place and return to the boat, but he did not think it possible just now. He could see now a mass of seething flames pouring over the treetops, and engulfing the forest within view in a sea of fire, leveling a xonsiderable stretch of country, forming in a short time a sea of smouldering wreckage.

Starring and and his followers began to flee the district. A small country mountain town within view on the sloping plains and all its surroundings disappeared in the flames. One man escaped by leaping a parapet into a poll of warm water.

Starring wondered what is this new peril that is repeating the deadly horror. The conceal in concealment of all eastern hills by the smoke clouds made any sort of guessing possible or impossible impossible. The columns of smoke that was now writhing upward from the fires now burning down is of the thickness of storm clouds and of wonderful dimension as it win widens and spreads over the surround country and the city. One of the curious allegements of the explosion near the city is that it raa rained upon the surrounding region a shower of fragments of human bones, which fell even in wickey Lansin fourty miles away, many of them coming on the shipping in port. It is indeed most unusual conduct in bones of human beings to endure a drop of miles to the decks of a ship. The bombardment of stones was more serious. Yet Starring declared while waiting for the cnahce to chance to get back to his ship that it would be futile to attempt a scientific explanation of the causes of these explosions. He considered them somewhat unique. He watched the smoke clouds as they raised heavily, sullenly, ope opening into great rolls of ground, changing color showing now a dazzling white, anon a dark gray, a dirty yellow, a brown, or intense black. The whole eastern country side around that part of Abbieann is covered with smoke that looks as if the very clouds of the storm had descended to the ground, and what surprised Starring and his followers is that the raging of the conflagration appeared silent. They had heard no sill sizzling or roar of flames, and only the sound usually heard and felt is some sort of dynamite explosion, and the columns of smoke which are brandished from the conflagration come from such destroying weapons that all human devices for injury are trifling in comparison. It is not merely the central region that is aflame now, but minor ones have broken out elsewhere, and the action of the wind reduces the danger from the

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conflagration hitting the ruins. He believed the ruins would not hardly burn anyhow.
"hether the reader could imagine being in Abbieann and seeing the distant conflagration in early morning, with the clouds of smoke whitening in the moon or starlight if thdr there is my, or turn pink in the glare of flames, and then turning dunnush and black and orange and yellow in the twilight dawn as if the spirit of a opal were there, or as he sees it in the gloom of a full darker cloud like an eruption, it is strange and no less than diabolic, A chaos of wild forms, a something aside from nature, or so etimes sometimes lifting into the forms of big cumuli or nimbus, or thunderheads, a layer of denser black and brownish color streaking the lower part of the clouds, and the scene indeed has a real hellish grandeur. very green thing past which the fire has swept had been burned and swept from the countryside, and it is all of smoke and debris.. The remains are burning trees, and smoking debris and ground, and the scene also is like witnessing a whole country side in volcanic eruption.

And Starring had heard that before Abbieann was destroyed its people were taking up immense collections for the refugees and homeless of those who perished and lost their all in the horrid disasters just past. Impossible that the charities of Abbieann would soon be asked for the regions of Calverinia and Abbieann. Numerous smaller fires, that seem to change their places almost while they watch them give forth smoke of a silvery white, a dirty yellow, and sometimes black from which issues small shoots of flame from time to time.

Chapter 27

STARRING BELIEVES THE WHOLE CALVERINIAN COUNTRY IS ASSAILED,, BY GLANDELINIA MADE FOREST FIRES.

ABBIEANN, ANNIHILATED BY THE EXPLOSION SHOCKS AND THE FLOOD..

AFTER studying on the matter while he remained on the boat now for a considerable time Starring began to believe that he was one of the witnesses of the after affects of one of the most spectacular catastrophes ever known to have happened, and if it really passed into the history of the world, it surely would make all other disasters combined look like nothing at all. almost at Abbieanias very doors, in her beautiful middle Sister State, Calverinia, A word which means a Country of heaven,, a country with part winter zone, and trp tropic, disaster and destruction unparalled of any of the past of her state have ruled. If the earth itself had opened to pour its relent less fires upon helpless humanity, if all the volcanoes had broken into explosions at once, they would be trifling incomparison even to the recent disasters of November 1912. And yet here is a catastrophe that breaksall records at Abbieann.

Starring believed, and so did many of the christian generals, and emperor Vivian also besides Violet and her sisters, that the terrible Abbieann disaster, as well as the horrors before which overwhelmed so many sections of c Calverinia, and other states, and destroyed an unestimated number of lives in an instant had about it certain unique features, that not only justified special attention beyond all ordinary cataclysm of nature but brought a great suspicion upon glandelinia as a cause of the whole thing.

However stupendous and most shocking the great catastrophes of the past in Calverinia may have been they were added to the difficulties caused by the latter, and the very telegraph, the submarine cables, and the railways and other means of communications were totally destroyed, and therefore therefore before the printing presses could put it into newspapers and books it took about nearly a month to spread it abroad only through the lower sists sister states, and the camera has not yet been made ready to depict wity with perfect truth the very scenes of destruction themselves because the forest fires are assailing the whole Calverinian State as Starring believes.

Now Starring knows that the very beginning of the beautiful June month came in with a strange and mysterious conculsion of nature incon cive inconcievably tremendous almost at Abbieanias very doors, with all these agencies of modern progress at hand for recording and prevers preserving every graphic detail also wiped out .

As the records first never were known, it was believed by surviving people that immeasurable eruptions had broken out from the ground, and earthquakes had been produced that wrecked the whole state. where if no communications had been destroyed the news could have been flashed throughout the nation with the speed of lightning the news came with the slowness as if there had been no communications at all, and a month came and went before even the most meager details were gotton of the disaster.

The first news bearers were Gertrude Angeline, and her followers, and she brought the details and also sent it by courier,to Violet and her sisters who were the first,, recievers.

And the Vivian Girls laughed good heartily, because they believed Gertrude was up to one of her usual clever" jokes" .when they learned it was true they were prostrated. As far as the news could spread however the tide of universal sympathy was aroused. And beyond Measure. As can always be known the heart of mankind was wrung with f greif grief. And prompt of course was the response to the cry for relief. The benevolence of the other sections of the world took practical form, and ships laden with food clothing shelter and money given out of the fullness of sympathetic sorrow, hastened as close as possible to the scene of the unusual ammount of suffering. Of course while they were giving, the people of the nation wanted to know the whole truth of what happened, whether it was a volcanic eruption, a terrific earthquake, and if not what was it, and where did all the flood water come from...

So near to the very state of Abbieania was the greatest of all these disasters,, so imm asureablytremendous its awful effects, so withspread the simultaneous reports of other strange explosive disasters during July and August, throughout Calverinia and elsewhere, that no one dared ignore them. And what state would be the next to be stricken.And why should a country where all people are as good as can be should be devastated thus. ?Was this the beginning of a series of world catastrophes, or was the time quickly coming when the end of the world was nigh...? And what were the reall causes of such disasters of nature, and could h they not be foretold or averted. Or like the disasters of the past, did the enemy do it.? If so, how and why???

These were the natural question questions rising in every mind. In response to these q e queries, and for the purpose of the countyrs cause to relate the whole story of this greatest of all catastrophes, is why Starring was out here now to go on in his work of discovering whether it was n really a natural disaster, or d done by the enemy. If the enemy was responsible..... The purpose of his expedition has been to combine in propo proper proportion, the various causes of the disaster, which when written out whould give it permanent value for reading and reference, no less than immediate value for its rising the countrys men to action if he can prove it is a disaster really caused by the enemy as is suspected.

If not, then nothing else can be done but let it go down in history as one of the worse natural disasters known. With that in view, Starring decided to find out and write down even scientific explanations of the causes of the so called "Volcanic eruptions bursting out of the countryside in Bengall State, and the devastating floods that followed and all kindred disturbances of the awful catastrophe, to write

down a series of chapters relating the details of the most unusual disaster of all and an complete and authentic account, of the fo flood itself.. Although this stricken region belong to the best part of suffering Calverinia, it was Abbieannia that first recieved the news and came to her aid as far as possible, with ships, provisions and money. Abbieannia though not being able to prove it suspected the real cause of the catastrophe and therefore her armies were rising too like an overwhelming flood, and if Starring only proves Landelinia is guilty, then a storm will soon break upon Glandelinia that will be more overwhelming than the flood itself was in its sweesp upon Calverinia.

In preparing to present these subjects it has been a pleasure for Starring to recall his recent journeys in the Calverinian country, and all otherlocalities that have suffered the great war disasters, and to look again at the photographs which he has taken and gathered there, now to include in his illustrations of the stories he will have published to rouse the nation.

It is for him a melancholy contrast to note the b uties of Abbieann as they were only a few months ago and the desolation that reigns,since the disaster broke loose on that awful June the foist.. To him also it is a great pleasure to acknowledge the prompt and generous courtesy of newspaper and war correspondents in for his sake permitting the use of their own graphic accounts of conditions in the devastated regions, and of accompanying him in his expeditions.. These correspondents, are since the war been the writers and makers of current Abbieann history, always in the forefront when anything happens no matter how dangerous, tireless and fearless, and therefore for Starring their work has a quality of merit recognized by him so much that he permitted quite a number to accompany him on his expeditions.

Indeed this was to Starring like a portent of universal destruction as said it before, before, or as if Starring was on some dead and destroyed world, blazed before a terrified heaven, and he was within the scene of where the crashes of the greatest disaster of the world burst with appalling threat upon the Abbieannian nation, and to startle the world itself. Before this, this section of Calverinia was joyful in the beautiful beauties of late springtime despite the ravages of the war elsewhere, and prosperity and prosperous were reigning. Suddenly out of the region of pengall state, a community beautiful, fertile and peaceful, came the shock of so called " tremendous volcanic eruptions from the very country side, the destruction of Abbieann and many cities villiages and towns, the death in horrible nightmare and torture of countless men women and children under the wreck and in flood and fire, famine and thirst, the thirst and the heartrending grief of millions mourning their lost ones, the wail of scores of th millions crying for succor.

Starring fr from what he had seen so far realized now that it had been a spectacle of horror never to be obliterated from the memory of any survivors who had seen or been a partaker of it, or those who hastened to the relief of the suffering . And indeed the one bright spot in the whole picture of terror was placed there by the demonstration of our universal human sympathy, the brotherhood of man, and that touch of nature which makes the whole world kin, where ver suffering and disaster assails some stricken land. p t oh indeed the pity of the most grevious scene that had met the relief expeditions. They could not hardly write, the voice even trembles, in the desperate efforts to describe what horrors were there. All phrases fail, even the imagination retreats. No hundred millioj thrillion words are able to convey the whole of the des desolation, the suffering, the grief, to one who saw it or not.

Indeed let the whole world be glad hat such visitations in this story has not come true yet, and that hundreds of millions like in Calverinia will not have to bear in their memory the terrors and the t ears that followed fast upon this most vast of all catastrophes known. Man is indeed powerless to save when even in reality Nature herself assails, and indeed how feeble his boasted strength and intellect against the stupendous natural forces which rend mo mountains in twain, make the earth rock like the waves of the sea, but when a disaster occurs like in Calverinia he might as well give up all and be humbled.

Now the period has passed for the worst of these disasters, and the arlarm alarm growstill worse because the war is growing in great intensity. Abbieann--- Lake Selicia, the horrors of the Mic-Hollester and Arronburgs Run floods, four greatest disasters,------and yet what part of the nation, or which state, and community would be next to feel the convusllons of the dreadful war, shuddering under the pressure of new floods, bursting with the expansive forces of tresmendous volumes of explosives, like like the Krakatoa gases struggling to find a vent and blowing a whole island to pieces.

Starring since his expedition started and up to now has through some resources which he would not reveal learned of simultaneous disturbances and many frequent occurinb occuring ones that had been reported near and far throughout the months of July and August, explosion and other disasters, flood and fire of immeasureable form that made him feel for sure that the enemy had something to do wityythe one he was investigation, as the ones reported were surely done by the enemy,,.

Mullencatt was one to feel a severe shock of disaster. Next of the new bigger ones Angelinia Agathia Dorothy gale and many other places were scourged by a more tresmendous flood than ever before. In quick succession came the news ofactual or threatened explosion and shock and flood or fire disasters, from Angeline State, Calverinia, Angelinia State, Abyssinkile and Western Calverinia, where scores of thousands of lives were lost, of disasterous battles, turning Calverinia into a land of hellish horror, from even extreme southern Calverinia scene of some of the most destructive forest fire and flood horrors ever known since the Abbieann disaster, from Martinque city , from many Calverinian counties, but none of these can compare with the horrors of pengall State and Counties , where explosions occured far worse than if Krakatoa had erupted ten times the strength than she had been reported, with a noise hear for ten times the din heard at her own explosions, the most tresmendous explosion and flood horror ever known, from elsewhere, in Eastern and s southeastern Calverinia which poured forward the most record breaking forest fires that destroyed thousands of miles of forests since it began, and is raging worse than ever, and indeed threat

ening every other forested region of Calverinia and other states. The whole population of Calverinia stood aghast. If the hidden forces of nature were to manifest themselves in a series of most destructive assaults on the world, they would not compare to this. Starring in contemplating on the suvject wondered exceedingly and with apprehension of what would be the news from the Blengiglomonean Islands, connected with the rest of the world by Angelinia Agathia and Calverine, and communicated by frequent ships of all kinds, by telegraphic cable, and right in the track also of the wars terrific convulsion as these islands are near Vivian wickey, where the greatest seige on all record rages with bloody battles and terrific cannon firing every day and night without a moments pausing.! The great and famous Catherine isle in spite of the opposition of Blengiglomonean Creatures is in possession of the Glandelinians, and the creatures big and powerful as they are fled from these islands to the longl Blengiglomonean Islands for safty, and the only reason the latter islos are not in the possession of the enemy is because they are fortified as Vivian Wickey is, and held by millions of dangerous Abbieannian soldiery, and willing foriegn fighters for the cause too.

The guns from the fortifications of these islands could blow every war ship out of the water.These islands maintain the seige of vivian Wickey from their side.

The region of vivian wickey is a lane of craters, caused by terrific explosions of mines, and the shell fire of both sides makes the region look like a country with hundreds of miles of terrific volcanic eruptions, geysers, and fires and all other dreadful volcanic phenomena.

What might be the consequence of the wars results there? was it strange that a chill of apprehension was felt by all who stopped to think of the disasterous possibilities when even the disasters, and the terrific noise of battles, and frightful immeasureably loud gun fire and shell explosions and all the other crazy clamor of the f war has almost drove frenzied Blengiglomonean creatures in these states of Calverinia and Angelinia also wild, and crazy.

Where once before Blengiglomonean Creatures could be seen every day as often as birds, now one only appears a year or so and never lands. No one the fearsome in these region asks; "Where is safty for us, if there is none for them? Or what is coming. Is to morrow the end of the world?"

There was lots of work for science to do, while the sympathies of humanity were engaged in the relief forces, but the members of the Scientific concerns were somewhat apprehensive and did not care to take the chances of making investigations of the disasters, not that they were afraid of the resultant effects of the catastrophes but of the enemy scouting parties, that may roam even these regions to prevent such investigations.

The greatest students of volcanic and seismic phenomena, alone took the chances to scann the situation, studied the conditions, and endeavored to add to what they could to the sum of human knowledge that might guide threatened communities elsewhere how to predict and how to escapesuch awful calamities, and these alone had had brought back the reports, that the disaster looks mighty " darn " queer to them. One man said to his superior" if those disasters are not enemy made I'll take sulphur and molasses ten timesa day." Never before since world science reached its present state of widespread learning had there been such an opportunity to draw lessons from a catastrophe that might serve to save life in the future, but never could they make out what this was caused by, except by the foe alone, as any of them said; "It was not of nature to do this, there was no so called Volcanic activity, and the nature of the scenes positively proves ofsome sort of mine explosions."

Such was the effect upon the whole nation and its peoples. Sodom and Gomorrah, the cities of the plain, destroyed for their sins by the rain of sulphurous flames from on high was nothing compared to the Calverinian war disasters. By these explosions many towns were buried like Pompeii but in a few minutes, either by landslides, or by the debris thrown up by the explosions, and hundreds of towns not touched by flood or fire, played off they were the " Lisbon Earthquake" to the destruction of uncounted number of lives, these were the famous horror of the Abbieann disaster, and when the news began to leak through the interest of the world was roused as it had not been since nations began to exist.

When the most violent of the floods had ceased, when the work of the relief parties and the others had ended, it became possible for the time to attempt a realization of what had occured, and the far reaching effect of this dreaded force of wars horrors.

The news came to foriegners, bringing thankfulness, that almost by a miracle the splendid foriegn she excursion ships in the Mic-Hollester Run River, barely missed destruction in the terrible disaster. These ships had put into the northern river harbor of the city the day before. Signs of danger were forseen, but only the evening before the explosions the ships left the harbor.. It was considered for them a most miraculous escape, for if they had remained long enough to have participated in the terrific scene all of these foriegn ships would have been destroyed.

There were about sixteen of these ships and there were over three thousand excursionests excurisonests aboard each ship. One of the most remarkable features of the whole disaster was the great topographical changes it made and threatened to make in the river valley region of the great Calverinian State, of which Starring and his followers took notice of. In some places and extending for scores of miles the country side sank thirty feet deeper than usual, and the river bottom deepened to about as many feet. This easily explains why cable communications with the landscapes by river and underground with the main land was cut off. Some of the rivers became almost dangerous to navagitation to any ship or steamer. In places of the rivers where previously there were as many as fourty feet of water, there remained not enough water for a river schooner, while many known river islands had entirely disappeared. The region of the explosion area was altered to such an extent as to be beyond any means of identification to to what it former was. The changes in land levels and rivers were not confined to the immediate center of disaster, but extended as far south as Francis Atlanta. Vessels plying between these localities found it necessary to make long detours through branches if it wished to reach port.

Very serious transformations went on or had occured in the vinicity of Abbieann as Starring noticed, where a considerable portion of a high sloping hill slid into the river. leaving a wide inlet in place of the former mountain estate of some well to do farmer. Vessels that endeavored at the few weeks of the disaster to approach Abbieann from the north west reported it impossible to get nearer than

fifty miles to the scene of the catastrophe, and at that distance the wider stretches of the monsterous sea like expanse of the Mic-Hollester Run River was intensely and seriously perturbed as if from a submarine volcano, boiling and hissing continually..

The theory was well advanced that the river was draining out somewhere after having been swelled to terrifically by the floods-that recently poured into it from the deluge which swept so much of Abbieann away. Whether a flood had swollen this part of the river remained to be determined, but conditions certainly seemed to point to such an occurance. In any event now the disasters at Abbieann and Adeleheid were regarded as warnings to the whole nation, and by the inhabitants of every city and town, in all other sections of the Calverinian" HELL"

The eminent volcano scientists, studying volcanic eruptions all their lives, and who had investigated this, while other scientists backed out and would not come, held to the statement that the big craters were the results of tremendous outbursts of mining underground, and not volcanic eruptions. They went so far as to predict the possibilities of the same thing occuring again if the Abbieannian Governments did not take steps to drive Glandelinia out of Calverinia by sledge hammer force.

The news of these so called " eruptions" caused panic among all the inhabitants of southern, western and eastern as well as northern Calverinia, and other war torn States. As the cities of St Lucia, Dominica, Montserretia, guadeloupe, Antiggua, Saba, Nevis, and St Kitts and Thomas, were also destroyed being near Abbieann with a great loss of life among the inhabitants there was a great concern throughout Calverinia over the possibility of disasters striking them at every every other city and town, all of which were unguarded and as exposed as Abbieann and Adeleheid .

Strange and unusual atmospheric conditions and unusual actions on the part of all southwestward bound rivers were noticed from June the First to July, by the inhabitants of Calverinia outside of the disaster zone, and even as far back as that date it was feared that some terrible calamity was impending or had occured.

During the latter half of June many of the people of the other sections of Calverinia left the cities and towns to escape the possibilities of disasters of the same kind.

Not alone in the beautiful country of Calverinia, and other sections of northern Angelinia, but in many other parts of southern Abbieannia,the explosions had been heard and the shocks of the concussions were felt. The concussions as starring recorded were were reported from the southern part of Abbieannia state itself, but no destruction of towns or fatalities occured. The disturbances occuring about a few minutes later were much believed to be connected with the so called " eruptions near Abbieanni and Adeleheid.

Pandora, Abbieannia, at about One Fifteen, felt a series of unusual earthquake shocks. For over fifteen minutes, the earth trembled regularly, at secondary intervals but the concussions were not like actual earthquakes, as buildings shimmied without any one in the streets feeling any sensation from the ground whatever. Yet in towns and cities fashionable hotels, and cathedrals and all other big buildings were visibly shaken and all loose household articles, and so forth did stunts that would either surprise the witnesses or cause them to be bent double with laughter. Every shock was proceeded, as Starring recorded by a strange low rumbling sound, not underground but some where in the air, like low booming thunder, followed lastly by afew sharper detonations from the direction of Abbieann. Pandora is five thousand square miles from the scene..

Many in Pandora aroused from their beds fr by the srange shocks and thundering, saw even from there as they said the glow in the sky from the forests fires far to the south and east. It remained there as long as night continued, and the sky overhead in the mlr morning was so hazywith smoke that the sun only shone as a ball through it..... Starring felt that he and his company were to be marooned in Abbieann for a long time. The forest fires partly surrounding it, greatly increased in its fury, and owing to the threatening aspect of the forest fires, work of exploring the city for a while was suspended. After his first explorations of the city, the forest fires though far in the distance increased considerably, and once in a while loud explosions were heard. By this time the smoke clouds from the conflagration greatly increased, and indeed the scene was if a whole country side of volcanoes were in the most violent eruption and were spouting forth fire and smoke. One of the conflagration though only thirty five miles away was burning so fiercely that flames shot into the air apparently clear across the camp canopy of sky over head in Abbieann. The entire eastern country side east of Abbieann was hidden from view of those on the boat by the ever increasing fog of smoke. Every now and then a dense strak of smoke would come tward the boat hiding everything out of sight, and continued to do so for hours. The worse of the forest fire is sixty five miles from their over observation, and makes a beautiful and exciting sight at night. Some of Starrings followers are frightened, and sai say they have never known before of such a forest fire horror as the present one. Others with Starring are greatly interested in the scene, and are not generally alarmed.

As was expected by Starring, some river steamers from the southwest, brought to him of a flanking movement of the flames, and that a vast column of smoke and fire was seen during a full day and night in the vertible southwest, a nw new point indeed. The steamer captian who reported this startling news, sailed from Big Girl Knool July the twenty sixth, but owing to the heavy clouds of smoke which shut off his view of that section of the land, he was unable to determined whether the fire was heading northwestward or northeastward. The captian also reported that he passed another large city that had been ruined by the horrible explosions of June the first. He said the town of Friedly Junction had been buried nder a mass of wreckage thrown by the explosions, and probably half of its people had perished in bed.

Shocks were felt of sufficient strength to keep the residents of the entire region in a state of terror, and little was done to repair the damage done by them. For weeks before a black pall of smoke hung across the sky from the eastern horizon, and the glare from the distant conflagration always illuminated the sky. Many of the inhabitants not in the flood zone fled their homes to places of safty and these escaped frightful deaths. It was long [illegible] also passed off for enough

It was impossible for any one to explore the ruins of that city. Starring had heard that many of the bodies found after the disaster were in life like positions as though death had come in an instant as indeed may have been the case.But the few bodies that starring did see were so burned as to make identification impossible, but he saw so other kind. Those of course taken from the ruins before the conflagration hit the city have been identified by the searching parties, which were under military control and were conducted under orders.No doubt immediately after the catastrophe the scenes in Adeleheid were heart-ne heartrending.Burual parties workd worked day and night but it was impossible for the dead to be cared for as their friends had wished.Military rule was established before the conflagration in the town to prevent vandals from working, for such property as had not been destroyed must be protected. One of the great misfortunes arises from the fact that the storehouses of provisions had been swept out of existance, and already at Calverine and Pandora big as those cities are food was exhausted for they were overrun by refugees from all parts of the country.And every days for months appeals contunied to come in for assistance while meantime the few provision stores are under close guard by the soldiers. Elsewhere in the country there is no food, and it was a fact that hundreds of thousands were still starving.

As Starring was looking on the Abbieann disaster as proofs of theories, which investigators have been long holding, and regarding the immensity of the cata strophe said to the Captian after pondering for a few minutes on the situation;

"It is incomprehensible to me that since the terrible war began, and disasters of a terrible kind has occured people will persist for months in continually taking their livesin their hands by taking for granted that the enemy cannot do such things any more, that the christian soldiery will prevent it and so on. They might as well make their homes in a volcanic crater, with lava bo bubbling up and an eruption threatening.For months the Gemini have held that there is a certain ammount od danger especially in any part of the war zone extending from northern Angelinia state, through Calverinia, and partway into Abyssinkile. The Abbieann flood disaster has extende extended from Bengall State, and County, from around Abbieann, and Nellis Calverine, and the country side of Central Calverinia, in oblong form to Northern Angelinia, and thence part way into the State of Angeline Wine, and finally connecting with and along the Angelinian Boundary line, and going tward Vivian Wickey, where the floods even passed far beyond. In that locality the flood branches off, also up through Delights Junction, and pushes through Lake Selicia, through the southwestern Mic-Hollester Run Valley.It has been shown conclusively that all this section was flood stricken and frightfully devastated.Half of the number of towns even now are still partly or entirely submerged..... There is usually or little or no hope for the recovery of many of the smaller villiages.This means too that no warning had been given of either the results of the explosion or the flood.I cannot understand why people will not be awakened by the disaster."

"The effects is too clear."Said the Captian.And the area affected is now much larger than known at first.If other icities have not suffered severely there is reason to fear that their turn will come, nor is it by any means certain that corresponding war disasters have not occured elsewhere without our knowledge or may soon followed throughout Angelinia, or parts of Abbieannia.In the presence of such war made forces it may seem we are just now helpless and we can only prepare to relieve the sufferers as speedily as poss possible, and pray to God to aid us in finding out the right cause of the catastrophes a d ahd and find remi remendies to avert them if they are caused by the enemy.If they are natural disturbances as at first feared then nothing can be done and we must be resigned.But even now such steps as may be possible in looking to the relief of the sufferers of the disaster still continues, and representives are again and again being sent in every locality possible for the purpose of gathering exact information regarding the fate of friends and relatives living elsewhere.

Ever since the disaster unspeakable horror anh anguish and desperation has resulted from the inability to obtain news from any part of the disaster region because all communications are severed with the whole nation.Without hope that the number of victims has been over estimated, there is is ever the feeling that the apparently impossible has happened.The suspense had resulted in the prostration of countless wome women and men whose relatives are believed to have perished either from the shocks of the explosions or the flood.It seems that it was impossible for any to have escaped from the places more nearer the blasts as they were all caught asleep. Neither do they understand how the big city of Abbieann could be so totally destroyed while other places as near escaped only partially damaged.For all of the people it is utterly hard to rob themselves of the only hope that is left them.Still it is useless for them to take to themselves what reason teaches may be a delusion. If Abbieann has been totally destroyed, as has been di desdescribed by the dispatches, then there remains nothing to hope for.All of the other cities around and near Abbieann must have been destroyed by thecsame blasts, that wiped out the main city of Abbieann.Adeleheidi lies closest to the explosion that tore down Abbieann, and she too was wiped out.It has been impossible for any one throughout our country to fully realize the most terrible calamity that has befallen Calverinia.Ij In those cities and towns destroyed by the wholesale disaster many are dead, who had friends and relatives in safer districts.Therefore every body could worry.I know of two friends

who left their parents in Adelsheidl.The parents were neverheard from.At first most of the population gue g essed they were all stunned,too stunned to act, but now the h whole nation knows the f ull extent of the loss, and have been doing what they could to lessen the effects of the blow. There are about fourty five families in Angelinia Agathia who came f from Abbieann.All are fairly well to do.Their relatives remained b hind.Steps have been taken to give such aid to these suddened ones as can be possible.I sir want to correct the impression that prevails here that warning was given by the disaster coming by volcanic disturbances of Mt Calverine.We had letters from many friends who are now dead that no such a thing as a disaster was impending. In none of the letters is mention made of a threatened activity of any volcanoes in any vinicity, and Mt Calverine was quiet.The volcano is always giving warning and if it threatened to erupt the people would have recognized their danger had the volcano given such warnings as I have seen asserted in some wild news. Yet for a time all accounts g agree that clouds of smoke from Mt Calverine filled the air five or six days bedore the disaster. This disaster at Abbieann because of its size, and of the unusual flood resulting from it brought the whole world to pay it instant attention when the news spread broadcast.It indeed was a disaster so appalling, and so ernormous in magnitude that it can be destined to be remembered by the world forever, and may have appalled the very beings of heaven.

When the war was young there were notable warnings given by the enemy, that they could start surprising disasters..As the war progressed, the vigor of the horror and conflicts, and all kinds of war disturbances increased, the noise of the war and battles became more and more violent, some battles were audible ten miles distant,, even t e twenty and thiery miles distant, and still battles raged fiercer and waxed louder, and the great thunders of the battles of Cedernine and Evangeline St Claire astonished the inhabitants that dwelt over an area for a hundred miles from the scene.And the forest fires have for months caused this pall of darkness that continually hang over the skies. Now has occured this supposed frightful convulc convulsion, which tore away a large part of the country, destroyed Abbieann and otherccities, and started an ernormous flood.In thi this final effort all records of explosions ever known to man, even of volcanoes have been completely broken.

The noise was plainly heard at Calverine, two hundred and fifty miles away, where weaker houses crashed, windows all went out of every building, houses of all kinds trembled, and the windows rattled as if heavy artillery was being discharged in the streets of the city.It certainly startled the inhabitants of Angelinia Agathia, and shook a number of the buildings there to ruin.The ears of dwellers in the neighboring states recieved a considerable shock. The sonorous waves rolled over the two coasts of Calverinia, th they were heard and felt on the shores of Angelinia. Angeline vine was not too far south, nor was Abyssinkile too far northward.

Evidence of the great explosion were seen in the country and elsewhere, the air waves spreading all over the world.It also taught lessons that the enemy can do this and worse. Before the occurance no one had the slightest a idea that such a catastrophe could occur.And because of forest fires, the newspapers in Abbieannia and her other states were full of accounts of strange appearance in the heavens probably produced by the smoke.These came from Mic-Hollester in Abbieannia, Concentinia, southern Angelinia, Domdobia Tripoligonlia and other places.All had the same tale to tell.All these these phenomena were due to the smoke of forest fires.

There was strange glories of the ordinary sunsets which was enchanced by the splendor which has dwelt in the memory of all those who might have been permitted to see it, while Calverinia lay in twe twilight darkness for months. The smoke of the awful fires produced this.

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~~It was wiped out in even a few seconds~~.... where the floods had not touched all combustilable substance was destroyed.... I was told that even bodies of animals such as horses, mules and the like full of mi moisture glowed for a while and then remained charred and melencholy wrecks. Every other combustible thing boined to ashes. Therefore for all this time since the horror broke out bodies of all victims la amid the heaps of once smouldering ruins. That was all. That Abbieann and the strips of river country north and northwest were devastated in an instant, was due even the to even the first outbreak of the explosions, though the direction of the winds, and the forest fires raging where the explosions occured had quite a good deal to do with it all.

In on way therefore it is probably sure how one can understand, the extreme eastern part of Abbieann, where the other people were also in bed, escaped annihilation though it too must have suffered. rocks and dust and all kinds of ground debris mud and water fell upon that section, do b do no doubt g doing a great deal of harm, but did not destroy it, for it was too far off from the main blasts. All the windows went out, from the concussion and only the tallest buildings were thrown down. For many days after this most awful of blasts, floods occured that were never heard of before. Yet I heard that the erupted materirlas thrown by the series of terrific explosions, filled the ravines, and was hurled down upon river courses, also doing great destruction but o most of the inhabitants in their course had some chance at least to escape.

Great crevasses produced by the awful concussion opened in the hills. They said the earth undulated like waves. Rivers were thrown out of their courses by the land of land levels caused by the blasts. In some places they submerged the land and formed lakes or added to the flood. Constant rumblings after the explosions, and terrific fire and other horrid storms made the surroundins so terrile that many w persons were said to have actually died of fright.."

"That seems stranger yet." said the Scientist."I am almost believed or forced to believe that volcanism had something to do with it."

"Evidence so far seems that" admitted starring."I cannot concieve to save my life how explosions could be so ernormous, and if so what caused it. Those who believe the disaster was caused by explosions believe the forest fires exploded ernormous munition galleries placed to hide the muntion stores from the enemy. Yet the many Abbieann ian and other news papers printed just the w few weeks after the great calamity, and recieved in other parts of the country a month after the catastrophe, had served to give a graphic picture of the situation in calverinia as it was after the horror before the outer world knew anything of the dangerous occurance. So many in our country and the thousands upon thousands of letters written and mailed to cor correspondents afte after those fatal days, and the printings in magazines and all other books and so forth we ow the clear idea of what had been going on. I read the papers of the Pandora Times two weeks after the disaster, and it had this story on June the 5th of the days of flood horror proceeding the destruction of Abbieann by the crashing explosions;

"Because of the repeated news of the disaster, and the ensueing floods, and fires raging, the whole of western and norther n Calverinia, and the whole of Abbieannia in general is showing signs of the greatest uneasiness. Calverinia is desolated. It is blamed on Landelinia.Whether however the disasters were of natural occurances is to be investigated."

While they were thus talking, dense volumes of smoke appeared in the straight north and new flames could be seen. Flames were visible also closer to the new quarter in the southwest, and there was strange rumbling noises. Some of starrings followers wre were thrown into great consternation by these sights, and the strange sounds, and especially again by the darkening of the day by volumes of thicker smoke. There was an exodus from all over the district.

The northern section of the city which Starring wished to explore appeared enveloped as if in a fog, and all the newer country side was We wrapped in the smoke which issued from the conflagration. The greatest anxiety prevailed among the explorers, and they all were tempted to abandon the city altogether. However this anxious morning was passed thanks however to a sudden springing up of a Westerly wind, and the situation appeared better at ten thirty thirty oclock, but as the breezes died away at about noon, the fog began to come back again, and the whole ruins of the city presented a most dismal spect acle, causing Starring much alarm, and he wondered whether he should retreat from the city or remain through the night as he had planned.

Tward evening however although everything was not quite also good the aspect was decidedly encouraging, the wind again freshened, and less excitement was visible among Starrings followers.

About seven oclock one of the correspondents came back and reported that at noon that day a stream of fire had suddenly rushed up the southwestern slope of a ridge west of Abbieann north,, and following the course of the River Esther, overwhelmed everything, and horu burned everything in its path. Estates and buildings were destroyed by this fiery wave, which according to this reporter appeared to rise in seething flames to a height of the sloping mountains themselves. When the conflag ration conflagration had poured on across the stream, and had passed on it was found that the town of Bernice five miles from the ridge, and four fourty eight straight north e west of Abbieann was wiped out by fire. The burning conflagration had only taken thirty five minutes from the time he first percieved it to reach this town, fifteen miles from the start. Along the left of the conflagration however a remarkable phenomenon occured before the changes of wind. The sea of fire, was checked all along the front of its left wing for a extent of three miles, but retraced its progress in another direction, and reached two other towns, creating a general panci panic, and the people there had made for the ravines ane open spaces and for lakes for safty.. Though the conflagration changed course again, without great damage done to the main forests in these localities, the panic continued intensified by terrible detonations from somewhere somewhere, accompanied by dense emissions of smoke and lurid flashes of flame, and Starring wondered what it could mean.

"I'm going there to see" said Starring."

"No, no, no not now don't " said the correspondent."It is too dangerous."

But Starring would not be daunted and in two hours he was at the range enough to witness the whole scene.It might have been awful in daylight when the reporter saw it, but now being night when Starring arived, it was more terrible still, and far off in the glare of the flames Starring saw on hill slopes near lakes and streams hundreds of people, carrying children, running northward or straight westward, wailing and screaming, and running aimlessly up and about the slopes. Starring believed among these refugees the mental strain was becoming unendureable, and he wished he could help them but by his own side, the way was unapproachable. He at first decided to

sent a wireless telegram to Pandora and near by places imploring that steamers be chartered to bring away the terrified people from this region, but as there could be no means of boats coming here those who had cared to accompanied him, suggested to have the refugees brought to north Abbieann where they would be sheltered for the time being. Starring however feared the city itself was in danger, and not then wishing to give many details of events immediately following the disaster, he decided to try this if it was possible to get to them. The whole ruined city as far as possible was lit up by the flames from this new paer part of the conflagration, everything covered with smoke and he said to the head scientist,

"My own calmness astonishes me, and yet we all have to await the event tranquilly. So far their only suffering is from the heat and smoke that penetrates everywhere, but we ourselves must be calm. Some of your own followers are not a bit anxious. You alone seem frightered. If we secure them there will be a numerous company to be refuged in those ruins. Will they escape or will they not? Can we reach them, safely and bring them here? It will be what God alone wills. We will have our last thoughts on the subject. Tell brother Robert camp, to detour some of his followers around to the north and see if we can intercept the fugitives. Ti This will perhaps accomplish your desire.But be careful as it is dangerous."

The Scientist whose name was Paul Turner rushed off to obey.

Robert Camp the assistant scientist was notified and after three hours on labor of labor and under great difficulty, and facing terrific heat and blinding smoke he finally reached the head of the fugitives. A whole population of the towns threatened by the fire was flocking tward him and his party. The people were panic stricken, and at first would not obey his commands. The scene before him indica ted impending disaster and the whole region presented an aspect unknown to the scientists. The region was a terrific inferno, a real hell on earth. Robert Camp hailed out to them;

"Hey you people, the ruins of northern Abbieann is your only refuge. Follow me and my company and we'll get you out of this, in a hurry."

For a time they did notseem to heed him, and the air being pressing, Robert Camp began to grow nervious, but finally they harkened to him and he brought at least the rest of them into the city.

In the meantime all of Starrings intentions of making an expedition for Eastern Abbieann had been postponed, as just now the region was inaccessable, and in that direction on the hillsides and forest plin plains there were many large and luminous sections, and sometimes there occurred a terrible suction of air which seemed to try and drag him and his followers irresistibly tward the danger zone in spite of all their resistance. Sometimes terrific sheets of flame, could be seen sweeping up, and then to disappear in the clouds of smoke. The following morning there was still complete darkness, caused by the dense volumes of smoke, and the entire country side around Abbieann was being turned into a chaotic waste. All the trees of the forests were going.

With the approach of light however, he saw that the outlines of the section of the city he now was in imperfectly remained. Indeed the strange tangle of debris, was such that the course of streets could not be followed. Yetbin Yet in spite of the horrible surroundings, and the universal wave of fire that threatened what remained of the city, Starring decided to examine the contents of the remaining houses if there were any. As soon as it was possible, he first in coming across some of them examined the bodies of some of the victims burned to a crisp. Skirmsing along the river shore others of his followers would watch for an opening, then land and start their own explorations. So Starrings surprise he exactly came across the tower and clock, which had stopped at the exact hour of the disaster.

The clock had stopped at exactly one minutes after one. Starring said to one of the men;

"It is now known by this that at one minute, there lay this huge and beautiful city smiling in the into spring night, that in another it was a sea of crashing rumbling run and a mass of swirling flames and waters, with every soul of the eight million writhing in the throes of death. The evening before no doubt all its church bells were ringing joyful chimes in the ears of Abbieannias twenty million people, the next the flame clerged bells were sobbing a horrible requiem for eight million dead... On waft of nightly breezes flame over cathedral spires and domes, over facades arches and roofs, and swirlen and through the streets of a populous and light hearted city, the next swept a long mass of either white hot ruins or upon a sea of water where the city had stood. The sun trying to shine through a smoke haze, first glistened one moment on sparkling fountains, on elevated railroads, green parks, and beautiful forests, its next dim rays shone on gusing metal, blistered flame wrecked sw squares and tremendous forest fires, and awful floods.

One day the and the city was all light and color, all gayety and grave, the next its ruins looked as though they had been crusted over with a hundred centuries of solitude and silence."

Indeed Abbieann is a vast charnel house. Its surviving portions skirting on the southwestern end for nearly three or four leagues the rotten dirty wreckage strewn waters of what still remains of the flood, and of Lake Angeline too, its smoking ruins had become the smoking and dreadful funeral pyre of no one knows how many, not one who lived long enough to tell a story that will stand grim, awful, unforgotten as that of other dreadful calamities. Abbieann was as dead as Pompeii itself, yet Most of her people not swept away by the flood lay fathoms deep in a tomb made in the twinkling of an eye by the collapse of their homes, and sealed forever under tons of explosion thrown wreckage, mud, avalanches of sand rock dirt, and a hurricane of all other debris.

And near the entombed city, the forest fires as from a world of volganoes poured its stinking smokes in long walls of curling wreaths and fantastic rolls, that mounted thousands of feet aloft. Such was the disaster which burst upon the hapless people of Bengall state, while almost at the same moment a sister State, Angelinia, was suffering from a kindred fate. These two states underwent the shock of natures assault and sank in grief before a horror stricken world.

Look at this once verdure clad hillside about fourty miles yonder, in the shade of whose sheltering trees, people had built even their summer resorts, or found their innocent pleasures.Now this shadowing hill looks like a fiery vent, and the whole world seems aflame.If we do not succeed in our work, what will Glandelinia do next, for I KNOWshe is responsible."

"It is hard to tell" said one of the scientists."Since the war started Calverinia is no strangers to destructive effects of the contest. Many other cities are threatened with destruction. A part of Calverine was practically destroyed over two years ago by a great hurricane of fire that swept whole blocks away.If we do not succeed why not beg help of God on bended knees.?"

This they did.

"DOESA any one know for positive what time the explosions reallly occured.!!!!!""" asked one of the scientist,

"Could not tell for sure." declared Starring."I know I was not there at that dreadful time. But Angeline Echee told me, too bad she is not with me just now, having left her on the boat that at about two minutes after one the explosives burst their bounds and bore the terrible destruction to the ill fated city. She told me the first ten minutes of the shocks were not hardly bad at all, only tumbling down the highest buildings, but neverthe es within the last ten minutes perpahs three quarters of the lower sections of the city was completely reduced into a heap of ruin, all that section being leveled to the ground, while the extreme eastern section a farther south, on the shore of Lake Angeline, sank into the very lake, with a destruction of three million people who were literally drowned in thi their beds. Rob other witnesses said that in the northern section within even a few seconds four million others were killed either in the wreck of the houses or singed by clouds of flame, and the ruins and streets of northern Abbieann were heaped with dead bodies, soon to be incenerated in the conl conflagrations that were to follow. Within ten minutes the northern section of the city had been or had disappeared in a whirlwind flame hurled upon the city from burning forests by the explosions, though for many hours the inflamable portions of the city continued to burn untill all was consumed that could be while later the lower sections in the west and south west was overwhelmed in the enormous flood that resulted four hours afterwards...

That part of the city was no more. The dikes of Lake Angeline was leveled by the concussion, and the openings let loose a discharge of waters, which rolled upon the city engulfing everything before it. This city as we see here was destroyed, not by forest fires, and not by showers of red hot rocks and lava as many believed, but by the concussions of d explosions, and by one all consuming blast of suffocating, heat and clouds of flame hurled from forest fires upon the northern end by the explosions.

Death came to the inhabitants instantly even before they could get out of their beds, and it was not a matter of hours or minutes. It was a matter of seconds, and they did not even burn to death. The buildings crashed into sudden ruin while they were asleep, and those who did have a chance to awaken and leap out of their beds, died by breathing flame, and their bodies were buried under wreckage or burned afterwards. It is not merely true that no person inside the limits of so vast a city escaped, but it is a sure and positive fact that no person who did escape from their beds as the houses began to crash crash into ruin lived long enough to either escape the buildings out into the streets, or lived long enough to take two steps tward escape of any kind, and those who may have succeeded in escaping into the streets perished there. This fact sir will go on record as the most astounding of all catastrophes."

"It is strange" said the Scientist. as he looked again and again at the ruins with the feeling of a man lost on a dead world like the moon-the coon. "The manner of the annihilation of this immense city or at least three quarters of it is more unique in the history of all worlds great disasters than any catastrophe known. What I wish to know why it is that the extreme eastern section which we have not gone to yet has been said to entirely escape. I don't believe it. Pompeii, and Lisbon, and earthquake horrors of other cities has no parallel, and cities not destroyed by floods or blasts are wiped out by the demonias Red Plague, and other cities are buried. But where the extreme southeastern part of Abbieann once stood, Lake Angeline covers now. That part of the city has gone out of sight forever. The half dead victims brought away by boats from ill fated shipping in the harbor of this city, talked of a hurricane of flame that had come pon them, and it is my opinion that the northern part of Abbieann almost recieved a visitation something like St Pierre on Martinquie but of a hundred times greater volume.

I can't understand this general, and it seems a dreadful miracle for a disaster of this time. The phrases of witnesses and though who escapsec escaped with their lives was no figure of speech, but a literal statement of what had happened. Yet when the first rescue parties reached the scene, hoping to recover and dispose of the many bodies to be lying in the streets, or rather on the ground where streets once were, for before they arived it was impossible in all places to trace the line between streets and building sites, they were surprised to see nothing of Abbieann, but fogs of smoke, large stretches of swiftly moving waters, and forest fires in the east. The only place then that could be approached was northeastern Abbieann and northern parth too which were on too high an elevation to be reached by the torrents. Many of the victims were killed so suddenly that the expressions on their faces did not have time to change to the lines of agony or of fear. That surely proves they did not die by burning, though scores of thousands of the bodies had been found charred, and half consumed, and they sure were not suffocated, for suffocation is slow and miserable. It can only mean that they were killed in the wreckage of their homes while asleepp, or those who did escape out into the streets meanse for them that the bath of burning fumes into which the northern parts of the city was plunged affected the victims like a terriblyvirulent posion when the first whiff of the heatened fire gases entered their lungs.»

"Your statement seems strange" said Starring."I have recieved many written statements and also reports that many of the victims were found amid the ruins in the streets who had died, with their hands to their noses and mouths. Yet it might be probable that that one motion of the arm was probably the only one that they made before death took them. Others were found who had fallen on their faces, and died with their noises noses and lips pressed into the outoith.

There was even no time for any one to run, perhaps they did not have a single moments time to even cry out, or to even breathe a prayer. It was as if northern Abbieann had been just dipped into hell and then set out to cool. Despite the ravaging explosions, and resultant floods the for s forest fire in the east went burning on... but that no longer made any difference... In the three quarters of the western section of the city all

and the heat and smoke was reduced sufficiently to encourage a second and closer examination of the nearest explosion crater itself, or the area immediately surrounding it. Even after a few days of apparent retreating, another change in the direction direction of the wind might follow, so that an approach to the crater surrounded by endangered woods was attended with thevutmost p ril peril. Nevertheless Starring accompanied this time by only two daring scientists risked their lives to visit the place of greatest interest, and greatest horror to Abbieann. It was about fourty miles from Abbieann a little east by north, and going on horseback it took about nearly a day to get there. But he reached there and looked down into the huge crater. Here he spent three hours taking some observations of the wreckage of ground and stone all around it. He never saw a volcanic crater as big as this one. The opening of the crater itself was is a vast qurr queerly shaped hole about five thousand yards wide, and nearly twice as long. This time there was nothing exciting to happen except that once in a while when a little breeze sprang p smoke came down from some of the fires as to threaten his vison and make it hard for breathing. One particularly thick cloud swept by so that he could not see his hand before his face. This finally caused him again to give up his study and observations, but he learned as he had suspected that this was no volcanic crater, it had no such formation, the debris was only of ground sand and stone, and no lavas of any kind. He also made the important discovery that about twelve miles northwest, was the crater he had examined first, and though smaller was nearly of the same formation, and that the blast had hurled the same debris, and also of a n w phenomenon. Materials seen in caverns was scattered over the ground.

Mud also had been thrown up in high coo columns, and the sands of a quicksand bog had been scattered over the territiry territory.

Starring however waited untill the smoke would be dispersed, and then again stood on the edge of the crater, and looked down on the appearance of what looked by a black bottomless gulf below. It was like a huge bottomless chasm or crevasses with perpendicular walls disappearing into the darkness below. They could not see bottom and wondered if it went down into a cavern or one of the explosion galleries. A part of the chasm opened out tward Abbieann but the enormous column of smoke cut off the view in that direction. There were hundreds of large cracks in the ground all about then each about a foot or sometimes three feet wide. There were crusts of mudbogs all about, but they saw no debris that would tell of a volcanic eruption. The whole east field of debris consisted of dirt, mud, huge piles of gigantic rock fragments and every footstep dislodged mud and stones, and their footing was most inxecure. insecure. There were also clouds of sulphurious smoke, though which the wind tore at intervals. The scene was the most terrifying of all, and gave an idea to Starring of the force of one of the explosions. And yet he knew he had not seen the craters of the most violent of the explosions.

The trip to this crater was over a long and rough passage, covered with all kinds of debris, tangled fore forests, and even bogs. Even in the forests were were there were hundreds of small holes and cracks all about the travelers and they had to step or k jump over many of them. And as they proceeded there were terrifying gorges full of hot burned forest debris on each side of them. While they remained a few days near the explosion crater, they went to what was left of Velto plantation, ten miles away and their position there too was dangerous. They followed an old surviving road to the point where the forest fire tornado had swept across it, and from there they followed down the track of the tornado.

The spectacle was truely appalling here. There were humble numberless smoking tree trunks on every side, and the ground debris was still hot in many places. All around were masses of yellow mud colored smoke. Starring knew now that this was a part of thd the passage of the forest fire horror. Fe far away he heard many fearful detonations and saw huge columns of black so smoke, alive with all kinds of flashes rise into thr the air to the heigh of a mile and three quarters. Starring soon abandoned the region for fear of he or his followers becoming overcome by the heat, and on the return had a wonderful view into the awful smoking cranier valley, which though only smouldering now was like a tremendous seething gorge of awful volcanic activity. They tried to take a good look at this valley but it was like looking down into a white hot smoking furnace, and they nearly lost each other in the dense smoke clouds. However they planted a record stake at the highest point they reached near the edge of this valley on which they incr inscribed their names. Later Starring first returned to the northern subburb of the fragment of Abbieann, and later in the evening some of the scientists came back from their splendid trip to reach the rim of the explosion crater. One of them said he and his companions had been enveloped in smoke clouds, and that they therefore did not reach the actual edge of the crater itself. One of them was almost prostrated by the heat, and another by the smoke, and the others became exhausted and suffered immensely from thirst. They had not reached the crater. On the return to Abbieann an enormous new column of black and white smoke rose from the forest to a height estimated at twenty miles in big puffs and immense rolls, finally spreading rapidly into a big mushroom shaped cloud, which under all the other clouds appeared to have a diameter of a hundred and fourty miles. It was fourty miles away, and seemed as near as five hundred feet.

The new spectacle indeed was most impressive, and the region was now shrouded in intense gloom, like that which usually accompanies a total eclipse of the sun. The cause of such a spread and increase of the forest fires was imexplicable. Thus it was that the efforts of starring so far, because of the continued threat of danger, seemed to offer no promish of success or conclusion...

"A thrall of the blackest despair is cast over this whole unhappy country" said Starring. This whole region of Calvarinia is one whole vast tomb. Of Abbieannias best people millions are slain, and the Angel of Death int enticed by Landelinia has spread his pall over this section of Calvarinia, a fiery sea is smiting her forests and the entire countryside is falling like stubble before the sweep of flame. Scores of big and beautiful cities are dead. A land is desolate. A world is grief stricken and angry. And I cannot yet make a single discovery. For the love of mike what was the cause of the awful power of evil that robbed of life over fifty million people in this great disaster, in cities, and neighboring towns and villiages by explosion fire and flood.

Calvarinia and the whole,, of Abbieannia. It cannot however be proved as yet whe her whether the fires had been responsible for the great explosion disaster as many said. However However near east of Abbieann the horizon line had been wearing its strange smoke cap for weeks before the great horror came, but there was nothing untill the last of May to indicate that there was even the slightest danger. On that day a stream of fire burst from the slopes of some distant hills and roared up the valley overwhelming towns and hamlets. A commission was appointed by the governer to investigate the outbreak, and it returned a reasoba reasonable report on the afternoon of the 29th of May. But yet no one prooves that the explosions came from the fire sweeping over anything explosive. Of course many eye eye witnesses did report that they saw a cloud of fire rushing down on Adeleheidi and across the Artonburgs Run, striking the town of Hall which had a population of seven thousand, and thence to Palos which had a population of 10,000 burning everything it in its pah path. But the explosions occured far from the fires.

Throughout the next day however for starring, the heat in the vinicity of the city of Adeleheid which he now was approaching was so intense, and the distant flames so unremitting that it was imposeiblevto approach the town during the early part of the day. As evening approach starring, and members of his men after a heroic battle with the heat, suffocation and smoke fumes, succeeded in making a dash for the town nearing the land close enough to enable him to see that the town was wiped out by fire and no one was there. Adeleheidi now was an absolute smoking waste, all the ruins being consumed. The surviving inhabitants of this city had been panic stricken, the morning the forest fire came up, when the sky suddenly blackened at first, and it became as dark as a thunderstorms approach. The people had been rescued by river boats, and taken off just as the fire came up, and yet the rescuers seemed almost surrounded by raging fires as they worked, they were nearly roasted to death in their efforts, and expected momentarily to be engulfed before they saved all. The scene before starring was that the seas of flames still continuedto pour up the sides of the distant hills,, slowly engulfing the whole north side within his view, while fresh and new fires were starting elsewhere....

What really had starring worried, was that though even now this is August, and it has been nearly three months sin ce the disaster occured, no full word had reached the ma main national Headquarters, or Emperor Vivian regarding full conditions in the awful disaster zone. Even in many places underground cable communications had been interrupted and that accounts for the fact that Emperor Vivian has not even heard from his brother, or any news whatever of the progress of the war and out the battles were turning out.. Therefore the situation throughout the nation was astounding.

That the whole region through which starring was now traveling down the river had or was falling a victim to the direful visitation of forest fires, that desolated so much country was evidenced by his i sight seeing tour. Enormous columns of smoke rose majestically many miles high and expanded into wonderful shapes, resembling e enormous cauliflowers, gigantic wheels, and beautiful flower forms, all streaked lower down wi h with vivid flashes of fire, awesing the beholder, and im ressing the mind with fear. Noises that made starring suspect blasting by ran rangers grew louder continually, and the thunderous noises were heard a long distance. A loud explosion from somewhere occured, and a great cloud ascended, and burst apart,. It seemedcas if the conflagration labored to burn the country up in no time, and greater noise following united in one continuous roar, all that time accompanied now with fog, and darkness, creating a feeling of fear and ans anxious suspense. He came to a a spot where the ejection of explosion debris covered the ground in some places two feet deep. The force of the explosion destroyed several districts in this region. All the people had fled, the smaller streams were dried up, and there was no one around to talk to or quw question. Great physicalchanges have taken place in the neighborhood of Adeleheidi. Several districts have not yet been heard from, and the scene of the nearest explosion area was still unapproachable. Starring knew the situation here, and how every hour had brought sadder and sadder news, and how doctors and nurses had been overworked. Even now the public mind was still unsettled fearing further disaster. Among the deaths in Adeleheid were many whole families. Starring heard that when the first relief parties ventured into the streets of Adeleheidi they found many corspes still lying unburied. The dead w r were to be interred in trenches. After the crash it was not expected even here that any survivors would be found, and hardly there had been no disappintment of the mournful reports that had been given out. All the earlier stories of the greatness of the disaster w r worked by the explosions have been verified. Not a building remained standing, and much of the ruins were consumed by fire. Even along the way from Adeleheidi during the slow trip the desolation baffles all description. So far piles of dead in the vinicity of big churches and Cathedrals told a likely story of the attempt to find safty and refugevin the great structures of worship. Men women and children panic stricken at the first crash of the cataclysm rushed from their falling houses and turned in their moment of depair even for open spaces and were overcome before they could even reach the streets. So far Starrings search among the ruins had been hindered by the fires that were still raging, and he for a time had been in great danger. In this city eve y form of life had been destroyed.

through a forest fire, and rescued eighteen fire refugees saved from a burning vessel. .The captian attempted to force his bay down further but was compelled to give up the attempt owing to the ints intensechear and smoke which n hung over the scene in a dense cloud.He did get close enough to see that the fire was branching off here.Numerous half burned bodies were observed by the river shore by starring, but noe were picked up.

Nothing new concerning the original disaster has even noeyet been learned because of all the communications that were and still were destoyed and not repaired. It is known that twenty eight b vessels were in the harbo o harbor of little Heidi h when destruction descended upon that city.These included fourteen foriegn vessels.All were destroyed simuntaneously being swift swept by the great explosion horror and the cloud of flank dflaming powder smoke and sank at anchor. One ship would have escaped had the explosion come only a few minutes later.The ships anchor had been lifted, and the engine already was going when the vessel was overwhelmed.The waters of the very flood resulted was tranferred or transformed into a steaming cauldron by the heat of the forest fires into which the sailors sprang crazed by their sufferings.

All on board the ships were said to have lost their lives.....

From St John have been recieved meagre reports of the disaster in that ttty city. First warning of dangerous forests fires had been give on May the Ic 10th. All that day disaster seemed to fill the air.Because of the smoke of the fires the skies were heavily overcast for two months deep strange thunder at a distance was almost incessant, while at night the region was lighted up by the red glare of the conflagration. From the fires came mutterings that sent panic to the hearts of all the inhabitants of that city.Nrarer Nearer came the conflagration and the smoke rose in huge columns and rolled up walls, and darkness and smoke fog prevaded the air... Two days after it was as dark as midnight.

The towns of Richmondi and Parklin Grove were destroyed. St john seemed to be threatened and fear was upon all. the The fires did not cease to threaten the town of St John untill near the end of May.The smoke continued to shroud the cityband the people had to keep wet cloths about their mouths, and the heat had been almost unbearable.pistinct reports like those of great cannons were continually heard from the direction of the forest fires.The sky continued to lower, untill darkness was absoute absolute.The heat and smoke fog made it almost impossible to live out in the open.Then came the distant crash of horror and St john seemed to have fallen into the earth.No one survivorssurvived.

Starring soon reached the hilly portion of the region where he could see with the help of his glasses were still covered with refugees, to the number of many thousands, who were being taken care of gradually.Some were preparing to move away for fear the fires would come there also.Starring learned provisions were being conveyed to them daily..Of many persons rescued from the fires the mahority were fearfully burned, and a hundred had died on their way to the hospital. The captian in looking on the scene said to starring who was standing alongside-

"We have believed from the information recieved here from the region of Abbieann that the disaster has surpassed all that imagination can ever concieve.All the country is laid to waste as you seewith your own eyes.When we reach Abbieann we can look about a bit and see if we can find traces of the city."

Statt starring soon reached the city of St John, and conducted a conducted a search there.He came back reporting to the captian that the town was a heap of charred ruins, under which the victims may still lie buried..Starring was able to take some of the evidence on the ship but he could not proceed far inside the city city on account of the stench of dead bodies. The forest fires near by still had a threatening aspect, for flashes of flame frequently were observed through the distant smoke clouds, and he was afraid to proceed much further. Here Starring learned from some dispatches that the Mayor of this city, and his whole family were dead.The citys post office was burned to ashes, and there was no trace of the citys banks. nd the .And the waves of fire were still reported to be moving nortward.Th y They extended now even to La Calso.As the ship proceeded on, they encountered five small boats loaded with refugees from El Torrio, who came up within sight and were in a pitable condition.They reported that seven other boats left the region of a fire at the same time but it is not known what had become of them .They reported that many persons were drowned while crossing the Mic-Hollester Run from the path of the fires, where some of the towns were overwhelmed.The fires continued, and was progressing northward, and the whole region was being a waste of desolation being denuded of vegetation.These also told the captian and starring that over two hundred deaths had occured owing to the numbers trapped in the fire.Definite news however was lacking.Yet many estatestates were destroyed, and the fire was visible for a long distance, ad huge smoke clouds were blown westward.Great distrise prevailed throughout the country, and at St Album where there were many injured persons.It was believed that about from five to six hundred persons had lost their lives at little St Vincent. This number was greatly increased afterwards. The majority of the corpses were still still unburied. Therefore great tension prevailed everywhere throughout Calverinia.

Chapter 28.

Sta

STARRING FINDS THAT WICKEY LANSIN HIS FIRST STOP NEAREST THE EXPLOSION SCENE, HAD BEEN A HEAP O OF SMOKING RUINS.. HE HEARS HOW THE STREETS WERE FILLED WITH CHARRED BODIES..... LARGE PORTIONS OF THE CITY WAS ENGULFED WITH FLOOD WATERS. HE SEES THAT THE CITY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL WAS ALSO DEVASTATED..... STILL STRIVING FOR RELIEF FOR THE SUFFERERS.

The outbreak of so many disasters in the state of Calverinia, and other places, had been as starring knew preceded by strange and sudden earthquakes particualrly o in the southern part of Calverinia, for a period of many months or nearly a year before the great Abbieann horror... Yet for weeks and months before this in all parts of southern and southeastern Calverinia record breaking forest fires had been raging throwing up dense clouds of smoke of over a surface of land for hundreds of miles followed at night by flames that lighted the sky and could bee seen at a distance of three hundred miles.. This was succeeded by windstorms of peculiar type hot and strong, which covered the sky over nearly the whole country as thick as with thunder clouds with ke smoke and shut out thegun from view. and kept the whole country for days and day s in continual twilight darkness.

On the fourt sunday of the month of May 1913, date not stated here, as stated a an enormous stream of wildly racing fire moving across the Aronburge run with incredible rapidity, reaching the main forests, according to one report, and speeding a distance of fourty miles in less than fifteen minutes, some say in three minutes. This fire then swept away forest plantations, towns, cattle and residents , and covered the whole section in a sea of flames. The flames were forced onward by gale in a great wave, and this had caused a great panic among the inhabatiants of many towns in its path many fleeing to open spaces to the lakes, or to the shores of big and wide rivers. Therefore at the time the fire was speeding east of Abbieann, the climax of all disasters was reached on the early morning of June the First, when the explosions occured destroying everything in its way.A loud explosion in the direction of Adele-Heidi occured simultaneously, and a dense rain of debris of all kinds fell which covered the country side.Then there camea fresh outbreak of floods, and no one yet knows the real loss of lives of or of property.During the trip the ship soon reached the city of Wickey Lansin.Here Starring and Angeline Richee went alone to investigate, and were told by the survivors they met how searching parties had found dead persons in the attitude of life.

About a hundred thousand lost their lives here.And there was not a building that had not been destroyed, and the ruins had burned for days.Heart rending scenes had followed the announcementds of the bodies recognized.The fires had continued for three weeks even though the greater part of it had been affected badly by the flood. Calverine, Pandora, Francis Atlanta, and other places had been full of refugees from all over the northern district of the disaster zone. The city was hardly even repaired and even now the survivors were too discouraged, too disheartened to rebuild their ruins for fear the enemy may start some other disaster and shakecdown everything again. Most of the surviving inhabitants were mwomen, and when Starring asked the reason, he recieved the answer " most of the men folk have gone to join the army."

The most urgent appeals had been sent to neighboring places but it took a long time before these appeals were answered.Heavy hearted Starring continued on and soon reached St Vincent De Paul city. Here he had a close up view of the gigantic forest fires once again.The scene before him was as if a long line of volcanoes many miles in extent were in full eruption.Columns of dense clouds rolled high into the sky going many miles high in fantastic rolls with immense sheets and tongues of flame.

The city of Altrone was reported safe as long as the conflagration continues northeastward, but a large area of forests north of St Vincent was in flames, and it was impossible to estimate the ammount of dd destruction.

The city of St Vincent as Starring observed was both shocked by the explosion and badly ravaged by the floods.A great area around her had been desolated.Famine even now continued to add its horrors to the situation.And day by day sin ce the disaster occured the inhabitants were continuing to flock into northern cities, and all are still panic stricken.pood from rations recieved was becoming scarce, and supply depots are under military guard. Atarring saw that nothing could avert the terrible suffering not even the arival of more provision ships. The situation was made far worse because Abbieann had ever served as the storehouse of the entire state.All kinds of reserve supplies had been kept there, and with the complete destf destruction of that city starvation sure became an immediate menance for all in the disaster area.

Ever since the disaster Pandora had been little more thab a great military post, so that it was now unable to give more than shelter to the refugees.The fury of the distant forest fires, the dread of more explosion disasters and floods, have served to keep those in Calverine and pandora in constant terror, though no actual damagechad been known to have been done in the former. Thec steamer with Starring and his followers again on board, carried them safe down the river and

explosion concussion, the scenes in Heidi Junction, and other places and cities which suffered the most, were terrible, but quadrupled when floods burst upon them from the north, penning the survivors in upper rooms or on the highest piles of the wreckage. Even in Mildred Greenburg, a hundred miles away from the explosion scene, 10,000 buildings were destroyed by the concussion and five hundred people killed. Travlers Travellers coming into the city before the flood reported that the railway had been much damaged, and progress was difficult for all the embankments had been b d badly cracked or undermined, and the rails spread in many places. The stories and of death and destitution were coming into Calverine from all sides, the worst stories being recieved from Heidi Junction, but when the news came of Abbieann and her fate, and then the dreadful flood, the nation was appalled.

In no land h wherever found, during all historical times no comvulsion of nature in reality comparable to the Calverinia catyclysm has occured, never to compare with the series of explosive and seismic disturbances which ended in June 1913 in the destruction of one qua ter of Calverinia by flood, when an unknown number of lives were lost. Never before in Calverinia had there been any violent commotion in any part of the Abbieann land, and the disaster thus described was the most appalling because of the suddeness of which it came. Indeed the awful suddeness of the overwhelming catastrophe throughout southern and Middle Calverinia gives it a fair overwhelming pre-eminence among the great catastrophes of the war, and all history too to compare with. The tremendous convuls convulsion of nature produced by the explosions, and that produced the ruin with such marvelous swiftness, proves that the enemy is dangerous beyond compare. The destruction of Abbieann and her neighbors came without prec premonition, as to make escape impossible for the millions of inhabitants of the city, and other cities and towns.

Of course, what made Starring laugh at the first reports of the disaster, is because he knows the earliest reports of great calamities are often greatly exaggerated, but in this instance it does not appear as yet even now, though its late in August that the first estimate of the believed loss of life was overdrawn nor the total destruction to property either, nor the fierceess of explosions an and shock. Therefore he kno s knows i it isicertain that nothing that appeals to human pity was lacking in this most apalling crisis. The immeasureable tragedy, had aroused the sure sympathy of the world, and effaced national boundaries for nothing that aflicts humanity thus so aswfully and grieviously and lamentably can be foriegn to any part of the world.

Starring said;

Danger always hovers over the cities that lie in the path of the enemys destructive hands. Thos who live in these cities must either face the perils or flee for safty. Yet local attatchment is so strong with most men that they will p brave great perils from so dangerous an enemy like Glandelinia rather than flee to a safer location. The surviving people were working hard to restore as far as possible the city of Heidi Junction a ter the first flood ravages it suffered and were still living in it a few month months after before it was finally overwhelmed by this great disaster, No comment c can color inmore sombre hues the frequent news dispatches portraying the awful scenes and incidents that accompanied the destro destruction of Abbieann, and that laid waste a large portion of Calverinia, The flood was also a serious event. All vegetation for hundreds of miles have been destroyed, that still now hundreds of thousands are said to be perishing from o want of water and food, and famine and plagues exist. towns and villiages every day now even are engulfed in flames from the forest fires. The destruction according to the news recieved was of most amazing completeness over a quarter of Calverinia. G reat suffering still ensues even though aid is now reaching many and most of them are abandoning the region for safer locations and going where they can recieve aid. It will be necessary to supply them with foce for a long time and assist them to have new homes. In the face of such an unusually urgent call we should now give wings to our efforts since the flood has abated. If aid can reach them all it is best. We are helping the starving people of the other past difficulties and disasters, and we have now to aid these."

When news can be recieved from the interior of Calverinia it would probably be learned how far extent the disaster might have been. Of course acording what Starring said to the Captian, it did appear to the whole world at first that whole ranges of volcanoes had blown up, and great eruptions came from the leveler surface of the country, because the disaster was so immense that it seemed impossible for it to come from unusual explosions. During the continuation of the trip the ship reached a p spot where in the distance according to people of a town by the river that in a valley a great avalanch of earth rocks and debris of all kinds came down a mountain side during the concussions of the explosions and overwhelmed over fifty nine villiages and one large town No one has been able to determine how many lives were actually lost by this slide but the total ran into the thousands. The concussion it is said sent 987,000,000 yards of rock and earth into the valley beneath. The aalanch travaled at the rate of one hundred miles an hour and was a hundred feet thick or deep its widthwas from ten to fifty miles. The flames from the eruptions as we may call them had been seen for a distance of more than a hundred and fifty miles.

The noise of the loudest of these explosions was heard at Angelinia Agathia, 9,100 miles , distant. It was felt in Abbieannia 10,678 miles distant, and at many other pla e places ,also throughout the whole states of Angelinia, Abyssinkile, Concentinia, Domdobia, and Angeline Vine. The loudest expl e explosions were said to have been heard over a sound zone covering one quarter of the earths surface. Even as Starring learned, sea waves were created by the ex explosion along the sea shores of east and Western Calverinia, which was said to have destroyed all the towns and villiages on these shores, an all vessels and shipping there, and over a hundred thousand lives, raised a tidal wave at Angeline Junction, a hundred and eighty five feet high, covering a thousand square miles of land with a terrificflood, submerged into the bigger river a section of Abbieann the size of New Youk York, submerged six river islands to a depth of fifty feet, sunk a whole country side, split thousands of miles of land into a million small and big fissures, and created the most ernormous fires and floods on record. Starring asked the Captian ;

"Is it likely as long as this war rages on, that are will be fur future disasters like this,?"

"It is almost certain there are sir."

"Some o in Calverinia?"

"Many in Calverinia."

"Some in other Abbieannian states?"

"Undoubtedly."

The Gemini Leader Hendro Dargar's prediction that intelligence would sooner or later be recieved of the extent of the disaster; its results and so forth was fully verified as Starring in his sight seeing observed. Calverinia had been shaken badly from end to end by the supposed earthquakes produced by the explosions. The Captian said the shock had been felt aboard his ship, but it was not untill he made an exped ition to try and reach Abbieann that any one in cities and towns surviving had any idea of the seriousness of the situation in the stricken region. Acf According to Cablegrams recieved at Pandora, the first to know of the disaster, and reports heard elsewhere the dame was damage was indeed most immeasureably terrific and the loss equally as terrible. Even the nearest point gh which could be reached, and which was Little Heidi there was enough evidence of the frightful convulsion that had swept the land and left death and destruction in its path. The land all around Little Heid Heidi as Starring observed when he reached the place had been converted by the explos ion shocks into a chaoticcondition.

Trees were uprooted, and in the city not a single house was left standing. The river banks are se squeezed together, and the streets are fourty feet neurer than before. Even the bed of the biggest river gave up all kinds of junk. The railroad bridges across the river was telescoped by the contraction of the banks as Starring and all those with him saw, and the river wharf which was little Heidis Heidi's pride now stands as a sad monument to the explosion concussions ruthless strength, a mis mishapen mass of badly tangled wreck and angles. Further news of the concussion then reached Calverine further north, by a river cruiser which was at Heidi Junction at the time and left for Calverine barely in time to escape the flood. The officers of the ship had said that Little Heidi City was completely destroyed. Starring was told that at Heidi Junction the shocks were felt for about sixteen minutes, and houses of weaker construction were cracked and destroyed. Hundreds of persons had been buried innthe ruins and str ck by the falling timbers and the stones. The loss of life was variously estimated at from four to six thousand in the city of Heidi Junction according to some reports published in Calverine, but some of the merchants engaged in business there said they had advices from the wrecked districts which placed the loss of life at from fifteen to thirty thousand. Since the first flood horror Heidi Junction had a population of one million five hundred thousand, and after only about seventy five thousand before thi s shock, which cout ravines in the fields and shook many of the houses to wreck. According to the stories in Calverine after

confirmed the reports of the total destruction of Abbieann and its environs and all shipping first by the rain of fire hurled by explosions, and then by flood, and said it was believed even up to this day that the whole population had been annihilated, with the exception of a few injured people rescued a few days later in the extreme southeastern section. Immediately adafter the receipt reciept of the above dispatch es, starring was surprised by recieving another dispatch, from the town of Calverine sent by probably the Mayor, announcing that after the news of the catastrophe he had tried to reach Abbieann, but found the whole countryside covered with flowing waters, and the sky enveloped in smoky fog, and could not get nowhere near. He wrote that at the time the greatest consternation prevailed in all localities in conse-q uences of supposed earthquakes and volcanic activity of the most violent kind burst ing from the ground itself. Loud noises were heard continuously for fifteen minutes early that morning which at first were believed to be severe and unusual volcanic action. We of course could get no real news for days because all telegraphic and tele-phone communication had been broken with all the disaster area. He was informed however two weeks after by some who came in a boat that the city of Abbieann had disappeared with all the people in it. Telegraphic communications with Angelinia Agathia was broken in every direction.

He was informed that the disaster had extended that far, and that many thousands of people had been killed in Angelinia Agathia also. Starring felt almost discouraged. He realized now he was on a desperate undertaking. What worried him most was the still continued anxiety throughout the nation, of people in cities and towns who had friends and relatives in every one of the stricken sections, who for weeks and weeks passed in an agony of suspense and even now gave up hope as they did not hear whether their relatives were dead or alive. On One of these was a dear friend of Starrings who had been in the army for the beginning of the war. This was general Roswell Buster Johnston. This general was born in Abbieann, and lived there untill he entered the army. His mother, and two sisters, and his wife and four children continued to live in Abbieann, where Roswell only twice in the war was able to visit them. From one such visit he had just recently returned. What ther their fate has been the general could only imagine. Wholly unfitted now for his military duties for a time he sat at his headquarters eagerly scanning the cable dispatches in the newspapers day in day out for weeks and weeks, trying to find a ray of hope from the doomed city. In the absense of dea details he found little encouragement.

"If the ruin was caused chid chiefly by a storm" said general Roswell "My family and all the others in the city would not have perished, and many would only have a thrill. My parents and even my wife and children and two sisters lived at almost the extreme southeastern section of the city beside the Arronburgs Run River, which is twenty miles north of Lake Selicia and Heidi Junction, which is known ad the as the Catholic City, and nicknamed Mt Zion for the unusually righteous conditions of every one in the i city. This section of the city lies about two hundred feet above the lowest level of the country. On the highest slopes of the northern town cluster seas of the most attractive buildings of the well to do residents of the city. If the greatest danger had been that of a windstorm which is a frequent visitation, all would have had a fair chance of escape as the buildings are windproof only a tornado being able to injure them, but I see that all of the dispatches describe the calamity as the shock from explosions like severest earthquakes, accompanied by the descent of a great mass of flaming debris, hot fumes and burning clouds hurled by the explosions which were mistaken for volcanic erupt o eruptions. The fact that all kinds of shipping lying anchored in the river parts of the city and on the suburbs were smothered and seared under the fiery showers thrown by the explosions leaves me little ground to hope that even those on the higher slopes could have saved their lives. Indeed as they were surely more nearer to the worst explosion their peril was tenfold greater. If the enemy is responsible I'll give no foe armies opposed to me quarter."

As Starring heard the present outburst of the horror around Abbieann, was at first believed to be apparently the cum culmination of a number of volcanic dis-turbances which have been unusually severe. So e some believed this to have happened, A giantic Giantic explosion of steam, gas and molten lave accompanied by a shower of red hot stones, and ashes erupted from the counts country side, which falling upon the city and shipping burned and buried them and that a large part of Abbieann was swallowed up by the earth opening up under it, and then the eruption caused the floods that followed. They said ae eruption alone that night vomited such vast clouds of dust which darkened the sky for a whole night and day, and spread over the whole country side the darkness for a whole morning. They also stated that for z an eruption it has been the most peculiar and serious on e and the me most destru ctive the world had ever seen. Some claimed the Volcano called Mt Calverine which is south of Heidi Junction ataboat a hundred miles, exploded like Krakatoa. The eruption was indeed a most fatal one in that countrys history even Krakatoa not equaling it. Investigations of that mountain showed proofs there had not been the slightest trace of activity.

Even now sir though it is August the whole nation is still in ignorance of the efect effect of the disaster upon other sections of the country, because of the ruined com-munications. Because of that further disasters of such nature are apprehended, and fears are entertained that the whole nation yet may be affected."

" This is the way I heard of the disaster Captian" said Starring. "It was that beginning from one after twelve till nearly fifteen minutes after , a storm of fire, flying debris, and a posionous cloud eveloped the city, and all country side around Abbieann. destroying everycity and town for scores of miles miles, and that only out of Adelaheid were there any survivors. Even at Adelaheid I heard that one hundred and sixteen ships were sunk or burned an or shattered with all on board, including fourteen foriegn steamers. I could not get good news however because all communication had been destroyed by disasters of the past, and therefore could get no communications for this either. But I recieved the information that many hundreds of thousands of people had been killed either by the concussion and falling buildings, or by the heat of the falling materials and singing c louds.."

"It was something like that" said the captian. "While I was in Pandora after giving my reports I waited for a time to learn results, and appeals were recieved by the city department from persons living in Calverine, who had relatives and interests in Abbieann that all river ships be immediately despatched to the region to render assistance. But no action could be taken even though sooner for us in the north than expected the full extent of the disaster was known, because the flood barred all approaches to Abbieann and a steamer could not live in the torrent not even a big battleship."

The captian ordered his ship to steam forth for the region of Abbieann down the Arronburgs Run River. The captian was Martinas Pietre. He wanted at first to telegraph to Pandora city, to the Mayor there, that he had a good bunch of investigators on board, coming to inspect the ruins of Abieann but Starring adci advised him not to as all must for the present be kept secret. Communications with the whole country and the flooded area was still as badly cut off as when the disaster started, and starring knew no one had been able to communicate with any part of the stricken regions, and therefore wondered how the people took care of themselves, or whether a general exodus of Calverinia was starting because of the horrors of the past. According to all information he had recived recieved from many sources since the beginning of his adventure, a great many people, in wholesale numbers rather, ha d perished from the plague, hunger and privation. Frequent battles of great severity were adding to the great losses.

The trip for starring and his friends was long and exciting. He soon reached one of the first cities blasted by the explosions, a city of which no name was found but which was bdl believed to be Little Heidi. This little city had been completely destroyed by the immense mass of flame hurled upon it by an explosion, and of this town about half of the entire population or about twenty five thousand out of fifty is supposed to have been killed, and injured, and tye the rest without homes, and seeking refugee in the wilderness, but je perilled by advancing forest fires.....

When Starring reached the river harbor of this city he saw the ruins or remains of all the shipping that had been destroyed by fire, or aground. Far in the distance a nearer view of ravaging forest fires could be seen and it was as dark as a rainy day with the smoke in the sky.. Here the commander of one of the ships partly destroyed had been ordered to return to Abbieann with all the speed possible, and to forward details of the disaster to the City Government there, which he speedily made efforts to obey, and here was his detail to Starring when questioned;

"Sir all I can say is I never yet found Abbieann. I first believed she had been swallowed up by an ocean. The city must be still under the flood. I had first secured another ship from a town not ravaged, gone to Pandora for provisions and started for Abbieann. I traveled for adays and never found the city. I believe the Mayor of t that city and four or five brave little child scout adventuerers perished with the population. The concussion of the explosion sunk one part of the city into the river. Soundings proved this to be true as many buildings are found under deep water. A forien A foriegn Ama Ambassador is said to have been at Abbieann. I don't believe sir Starring, you will be able to locate Abbieann. I fear you and your investigators are making a wild goose chance. Might as well make a trip to the moi moon."

By this news Starring, sent respectfully some under river and ground cables messages to Pandora for hopefulvreports of whether there was anything left of Abbieann. He and the captian remained at Little Heidi while his crew worked to restore some communication with a cable to recieve answer fif possible. The earler report recieved notified starring that all wires were still broken down, between all points from Pandora to the Abbieann Territory, but it was gradually added that in view of reports that the eruption of the landscapes had wiped out all the city by shock fire and flood seemed to be a fact, and all boats available for the city which had been dispatched to the assistance of the place at the first news of the disaster, came back with the report that there was no such a thing as any location of Abbieann to be found only a sea of raging waters. The second dispatch Starring recieved,

Chapter 29

Sta

STARRING HEARS GRAPHIC ACCOUNTS OF THIS GREATEST OF DISASTERS. WHAT HE THINKS OF THE TRAGEDY COMPLETED IN THE BRIEF SPACE OF FIFTEEN MINUTES. HE HEARS OF THE DIGNIT DIGNIT APPEALS FOR HELP.

" Starring said to Jennie purmer as he continued to investigate the ruins of Murchann-

"No such appalling disaster Jen, dis i distinguished by the suddeness of the tremendous blow, the number of the victims, the completeness of the desolation, the destruction of all communications, the wiping out of many cities and towns by fire, concussion and tremendous flood and landslides, has ever yet come to any part of the civilized world with such overwhelming and most harrowing force. Why even the destruction of Pompeii is nothing compared to the ruin of this town here, and probably only by the flood. Look what is left of the abandoned town the refugees having mostly all left. Wreck of houses never belonging to the town. And here as I was told nearly fifty thousand souls sent to destruction. Though all accounts agree that only a few minutes were required to overwhelm Abbieann and her neighborhood cities and towns with force and fiery cloud of explosion, consuming the entire population not of this city only but of a large section of the surrounding country, yet that is nothing compared to the days and nights of unspeakable and immeasureable horror that the survivors of these flooded towns may have spent while the waters trapping them like rats rose high and higher every day. The first reports of the disaster were almost too incredible to be believed. That was why I laughed at it. But let's go on. Here's a ship. The sooner we can reach Abbieann or what is left of it the better."

The ship which was hailed by him and which stopped at a dock of Murchann was a Calverinian cruiser, which had left the city of Pandora the day before, for ever now relief work still continued, and on it were a large number of refugees. When Starring questioned the captian of the ship he confirmed the report that Abbieann had been entirely destroyed that fatal night of June the First. Starring asked;

"Were they volcanic eruptions from the ground as is stated or had been stated?"

"Yes VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS INDEED sir, produced by explosive powders set in these the ground by our s i enemies. I saw the results of the disaster from a safe space and the entire section of Abbieann not touched by the flood was wrapped in flames. We endravored to save about fifty persons from the ruins, and of those mostly burned from so many vessels in the river harbor of the city. You must know my officers went ashore in small boats seeking for survivors, but were unable to penetrate the city. At the lower part of the city at that morning there was a tremendous sea of fiercely rushing water. We believe ourselves that not a single person in s Abbieann at the moment of the disaster escaped. If you desire to go to Abbieann sir, I'll gladly take you, but it won't be much of a scene. You'll find hardly nothing to make the place even in the part untouched by the flood. The flames consumed everything. The extent of the catastrophe sir cannot be imagined never will be. The captian who is a friend of mine on another shipwas seriously injured, and all of his crew, officers, engineers and passengers are dead. I passed the ship at sunup, and it was covered with debri , debris. We repeatedly had sent a boat in as near as possible to the doomed city, but not a sign of the lower city was seen, and not a living soul in the burning portion. Only flames were seen. One steamer was seen to explode and di disappear."

His ship had been near the scene of the explosion that fatal night but not near enough to be injured. The cruiser had first arived at the city of Dominica pum at three oclock in the afternoon of May #ith 31th. The captian had reported that he had been obliged to turn his ship out of her course, and flee to the eastward, during the late morning of Mq May 31th in consequence of terrific heat and smothering clouds of smoke from a forest fire which was raging in the location of gandbed Creek. He tried to head the ship for the city of St Luca, but averse currents of hot air and terrific windstorms hurling clouds of flame and smoke before it, prevented him from doing so. He made a long detour, and finally far out of his course, arived opposite Abbieann, a little before Twelve oclock near Midnight. While twenty miles off, the whole country for hundreds of miles seemed to blow itself to the stars, the explosion nearest Abbieann dest o destroying the city, and all the shipping there. The cruiser after resuming her trip and while on the way to Pandora encountered afterwards the edge of a tremendous flood.

This captian then startled the inhabatiants of Pandora city by a report thay that all the people of Abbieann were supposed to have perished, during a terrific eruptive like explosions near the city, and all the shipping wiped out with all hands. None of the ships had ever been recovered.

"He said to Evans-

"I sure appalled Pandora city those two days after I arived, when I reported of the cast catastrophe at Abbieann. If I had not been backed by my crew and some refugees I brought with me, and some evidenceof it too I and my crew would have been in the insane asylum untill the facts of the disaster was confirmed by news and other reports. I only saved fifty refugees from the effects of the disaster, and they were from Adelehoid city..... That was the first city to know it, The whole country yet was in ignorance of the effect of the disaster, as the news was not yet spread.

The ship had passed through a terrifically hot fog the morning before, which had been succeeded by unusually dark weather toard evening. Starring was suspicious of indications on shore where the forest fires had not yet traveled, and where the forests were said to be so thick that no one could have hurdly been able to even work their way between the trees.

"I think we are making a mistake to anchor here." he said to the captian. "I don't like the aspect of things here, and the shore looks dangerous."

"I don't think there is any danger" answered the captian. "The wind is on the west, and we are some some distance from the newly formed fires in the south."

"Yes, but wind changes direction unexpectedly" said Starring. "I'll bet we will sorry by an by. It's not safe I'm sure."

"Well let's forget it now" said the captian. "You suggested anchoring here, and we are here. If you wish though I'll send the ship out out."

"Never mind" said Starring. "But again what do you think of the catastrophe we have witnessed?"

"I have heard from wirnesses" said the captian" that there was for about twenty minutes or half an hour an awful noise of explosions, that clouded the air with flying debris and then right away which was mysterious a cyclone ofsmoke debris and fire, and the shock overthrew all the buildings in the city, killing everybody in their very beds. When people still out in the streets were struck they fell dead. The cyclone of explosion hurled fire tore the masts at of many ships, blew others up, and sunk all the rest. Some afterwards as they told me came waves of fire bigger than the smoke clouds of the fire."

"That cloud of the explosions" said Starring, was bigger it seemed than any observed from volcanic eruptions. The strange fire burned the city everywhere at once, and then followed the flood. I have heard some witnesses testify of their experiences, and they said they saw men rushing back and forth in the wreckage strewn streets amid the flames and the smoke, and then they would drop dead like flies. The explosions, and the smoke all occured within twenty minutes, some testifying it happened after twelve ocloci, oclock when I discovered by the s stopped clocks in towers that it occured after One oclock. The concussions overthrew most t of the biggest buildings first in three minutes, and then every house was finished by fire or flood, and nothing alive was lfet left. They said to be me that some men and women got to the shore from some of the sinking ships, but they were either burned there, or caught in the flood thay that followed. What I wished to learn was the mystery of that part of the city that sank beneath the Lake of Angelinia. Three seamen belonging to a vessel of which I, inew knew of related to me that when the wave of flood waters struck the bark, it threw it over on its beam ends, and tore away the deck house with them inside of it and hurled them down the obliterated river. The house rolled over and over in the flood nearly drowning the three men inside, inally they managed to clamber on top of the house house, which by this time had ceased rolling, and from this point wi switnessed the dir destruction of the southern part of the city by the flood.."""""

He was also taken to the hospital at pandora. where he afterwards died... The third one a little girl was also conscious for a short time under the care of the best doctors.. She could not relate much of her experiences. yet she told me that on the day of the terrible disaster, she heard a loud report in the direction of Lake Ce Solicia, and that something hit her on the head from the ceoling ceiling, and knocked her out..... And when she regained her senses, a number of hours later, she found she was horribly burned,, nd glancing around, saw that she was floating on a wreckage jam and that she was surrounded by a sea of water. she died a few hours after she was rescued."
As Starring observed from his high post of observation, the path of the explosion sweep close to Eastern Abbieann, which swept over also all parts of Northern Abbieann was indeed indeed marked out in the strangest nammer anything contray than he had expected.....

The vinicity of the River shore, where during good times hundreds of vessels had gone to anchor, seemed as if swept by a whirlwind of flame and hot winds which like a tor---- nado ripped, tore, and shattered, everything in its pes passage, and set all the houses, on fire, and yet left few traces of smouldering ruins behind. On the other hand the extreme eeastern section of the city, and adjoining parts of this section, were buried under a thick bed of explosion thrown rubbish , and where the force of the cyclone of explosion tossed fire and heatened wind was the greatest strong houses of b i brick and stone and concrete were leveled like pastboard. some or many of these had stood against stones for over a century, and thectremendous force of the nearest explosions had swept all before it...

Starring after this finally returned with his helpers to the boat... goat...
"Well what is it like?"?!!!!!"asked the captian.
"It is lke a glimpse of hell." said in epitomizeding the scene."If the mountain tops around us would have blown off their heads, and let a rain of molten fire comin come down upon us it could not do half what the explosions have here. It looks to me as if the very riverwaters rocks in sp sympathy, with the trembling earth, and Death was upon the face of the whole earth."
"But did you see much of what is left of the river harbor of Eastern Abbieann?" asked the captian.
"Plenty and I do not wish to see any more." answered Starring."Whatever it was was like a whirlwind of steam, hot rocks and boiling liquid that burst in fury from the mouths of a hundred volcanoes, and enveloped the the whole city of Abbieann, swept the River ports clear of any inanimate and living thing, and not a single ship escaped, and I believe if there were any survivors among the burned and scorched crews, they must have died on board the ship in agony."
"did you have a good look at the ships."?
"Yes, and every one of them are unrecognizable hulks, with dismantled and torn rinning rigging, and charred sheets,, and to my horror I had observed dead men lying hwhere they fellamong the black wreckage of their decks t showing no one approached or were abl to approach Abbieann even now except us since the awful disaster..."
"How many vessels were lying in the harbor did you observe?"
W"One hundred and eighteen, and it seems us if the explosions mysteriously wrapped these ships in masses and sheets of flame..The disaster is far too big to concieve.I", I am almost sorry I came here. I feel lke I'm lost on the dead moon."
"I cannot account for the explosions and the reports of it." said the chief scients' Scientist."I have looked over the whole scene of the explosion craters, and they are surrounded by a sea of smouldering and burned trees and seas of deep smoking ashes. For three hundred feet from the biggest crater, the fire had been swept backward by the explosion seemingly tward the vortex of a whirlpool of wind torn fires further on, and I believe the second blast hurled this upon northern Abbieann. I have traced the scene and from the shore of the river in that locality, a flood of burning trees, set fire to everything in its path like a fearful tidal wave sweeping tward the shore, and engla engulfed everything, save one little angle of trees that stood through all the pall of smoke and fire, because it was cut off from the fire by an intervening portion of the stream. whether this fire set off the explosions or not I'd like to know.It seems likely."
"I don't believe so." said Starring. "I have recorded facts that no fires burned there before the explosions but afterwards. That is also evident because the waters of the river harbors are thick with unburned wreckage of shore and hill and in the midst of it all sailors and passengers from the sunken ships and s terri terror stricken human beings had no chance for a struggle for life."
"Few there were that came out of this awful crash and baptism of fire, alive." said the captian.
"Yes and if they did how did they manage to keep afloat untill picked up by ships amid all the roaring flood." as? asked the scientist."
"That is a hard question to answer." said Starring."where could you find a heroic captian immediately after the catastrophe that would brave the terrors of the calamity and bodily enter the harbors of the ruined and flood swept city upon the work of rescue? Impossible?"
"I don't think so" said the captian."I heard some of the captians the next morning came with their ships and plowed their way through floating trunks of trees and masses of houses, and debris which filled the waters of the river harbor, and had made several attempts to land sailors in small boats, and rescue what surviving people they could find on the flaming shores."
"I think that seems incredible." said Starring."It would have been sucide to enter the disaster zone at the time. I was told there was one vessel in southern Abbieann that escaped destruction in the harbor, and that was the ship called the Mary ann, and it was the survivors among her crew that the details of the catastrophe in the harbor was learned. Rescue could be effected there, but not up here.That would be impossible at that time."
While Starring and all his followers were waiting for more favorable times so they could work on the inspection of the city better, he was to have a surprise which probably he would never desire to have again. The ship steamed up further tward the northeast so as to get to that portion of the city,, and then cast off anchor at that section known as the north end, having reached a that portion on the evening of the 28th of September.

In spite of the threatening appearance of the distant forest fires, Starring was determined to discover some kind of clues, and to make the most out of all contingency. The searching parties were divided into three columns , thirty men in each. The main one was led by Starring, the other by a ranger, and the third by the captian. Starring secured the limestone m materials, and all kinds of debris that looked very much different in appearance to building ruin. This was placed inside a sack and starring being strong shouldered it and sparted for the shore.
In the meantime the other party that is the second, led by the captian had proceeded to the outskirts of the city, about a half mile, to where Starring and his men were. Fortunately this was in full view of the great forest horror. The captian had secured just what he had been directed to find, when he saw a huge column of smoke and fire b lch upward from the edge of the forest surrounded crater, and along the edge of the forest a great stream of fire surged. directing his men to make all haste back to the lower section of the city, the captian turned aside to give quick warning to the party under evans, and the other as well.
It took fifteen minutes to arive where Starring and his gang was.
"For Gods sake boys, get to the lower section if you would save your lives.The fire has spread to one of the explosion craters, and I discovered some unexploded materials there.If we don't get away destruction will be upon us.."
At that instant there was a terrific crash apparently as it seemed in the sky and so loud that it seemed as if a million thunderbolts had clapped at once, and as it died away thereewas a terrific hiss of fire among the trees of the forests, and a vast column of smoke rolled upward darkering the sky. The fire came racing on tward that part of the city, and every one of the party started a race to see who could be the first. The men of the second party became panic stricken, but starring rushed up to them and led them also on. As rapidly as possible every one made their way over the debris to the lower section. Very often one or the other would stumble, but his comrades would wait untill he recovered, then wh all would go forward again.
Two miles was covered in this manner, and each minute the sky darkened, and the heat was beyond comprehension.
The smoke came rolling in forring the ck city end they could hardly breathe. finally the distance was covered, but heavy seas of fire were sweeping shoreward tward the city c side of the river. It was with great difficulty that any of the parties reached the safer side of the city but it was accomplished just in time. From behind the ruins every one watched the conflagration, which to starring was indeed a grand and yetm ost most alla appalling sight. There was rushing forward with great speed a perfect wallll wall of fire, and occasionally about it were columns of smoke. Several new fires also seemed to be instantly formed, and they seemed to be spreading in different directions... As many of the burning trees fell into the river great clouds of steam were raised, and they could easily hear the sinister hissing plainly amid the roar and hiss of the flames.
Being sure they were now beyond the danger zone Starring decided to make an observation. They left their hiding place went down to the river shore, being of course now very close to the column and sea of deb hdeath. Yet they went as near as they dared witho with ut coutr courting death and destruction,, and all about them the water it was what ze could ze boiling, and the steam that came up and tward the adventurers was so dense as to make it all but impossible to see through it. through it.... terrible as was the forest fire at this time, it was surely mild in comparison with that which was witnessed several hours later. Some of starrings more timid men were continually in a state of panic, and justly. Starring did not feel so good himself. even the captian was nervous and so were the brab brave girl and boy scouts, and some of the others others. It was deemed just now too dangerous a task to make for a direction to return to the ship which lay about a mile and a half up the river beyond north Bend.
The very earth seemed to have turned back into a molten fire on the opposite side. everywhere in the woods the fire surged, the trees snappedcand roared in the dir destruction, and when ever an explosion somewhere occured the earth seemed to have lost its foundatinj foundation. Even across the River the conflagration tried to pour a great storm of death. The culmination came at an early hour in the evening, when there occured an explosion so terrible that the still standint standing wall of some of the buildings in the ruined city were shaken down, and the sky itself seemed to turn all of fire, and the heat became unsupporiable.
Thick heavy clouds lit up by the glare beneath rose from other sections of the firest forests, and some of starrings men became at once panic stricken, and would have fled b d Starring restrained them, telling them it was more dangerous out in the open. Stones hurled by one of the explosions fell in the streets, and showers of blazing fragments of trees and blizzards of leaves. Manybof Starrings followers hurriedly shielded themselves and the taller ruins to keep off some of that blasting heat. The scene was worse than they had ever observed it before, and the entire aspect of the country on the opposite side had changed into a seething hell. Smoke filled the air thicker and thicker darkering the sky, and blizzards of burning leaves were flying through the air. When the heavens were filled withthe seething flames, as frequently happened, it could be seen that the main forests along the shore had now caught, and everything within sight was ablaze. It was even streaming like a wild hell sea of fire over to North pend and a branch line had already struck. There was a perfect calm in the air in the city but over across on the opposite shore the burning forest as lashed to a fury, indicating that a fire hurricane was sweeping on. Words were inadequate to describe the actual condition, and disaster to the ship was expected at any moment, and Starring knew the fe fire he had raced with to reach north pend had caught up at last. The fury of the fire hurricane was violent in the extreme.
Coll Colossal columns of trees were torn up by the roots while alf aflame and carried into th air or hurled to eath, the whole flaming forest was in a dreadful motion and the fury of the winds covered the sky with burning fragments of everything torn loose by the terrific gale. The wind indeed raged with fearful velocity, and the flaming clouds advanced with great rapidity, but no wind was blowing in the ruined city.
This gave evidence that the winds was raging only in the path of the big blaze. Even great columns of burning leaves and branches and sparks was hurled upward and

f forward, and an explosion to Starrings surprise hurled upward a storm of red hot rocks and boulders many feet in size, showing the tremendous heat of the fire in turning big stones red hot. The wind swept onward tward north Bend with the insane fury of a tornado. The spectacle was appalling beyond description.. Every one of starrings party was thrown into a greater panic, for fear that the fire hurricane would finally cross the river and strike their part of the city, while it even seemed that from overhead the fiery clouds rained down burning branches, clods of red hot earth, and even whole trees at timess . Then partly across the river came a swirling cloud of white hot ashes and burning brands.

Starring took the nerve to climb to the highest room he could find and finally returning said;

"The entire stretch of the river within our vi view is a running wild wind tossed sea of fire, and it is sweeping North pend and beyond, but it is fortunately not touching near our anchored ship. The whole forest is in awful convulsions from the wind, and the tail end of the fire hurricane is carrying all before us. We can get to her but we had better wait, and also continue our explorations only when the fires have passed the city. If we do wait this will be our last experience with the fire and we will have a better chance."

Then one of the men said-

"I see the wind is stopping, and the smoke is rising up. The worse I believe is over. But sir you might be mistaken. You know if it co crosses north Bend it will sooner or later give us a performance if the wind turns northeast or northwest."

"You are a Calamity Jane " said starring."You think of the worse things at the wrong time."

"But I'm ---"

"I don't want to hear anything more" growled starring.

The clay and granite and limestone taken from the ruins at such a risk was to be taken to the boat when they could get there.

Before returning to the boat, there was brief services in one of the streets of the city led by a priest who had accompanied Starring, a Mass for all the dead of the city of Abbieann. About the priest, stood officers, surviving sailors, and the rangers and the four boy child scouts, while starring served as Alter boy and so did Penrod. The gloom was made more intense by the knowledge held by each one present that his or her her own life was in great danger. Salute was often fired by explosions produced by the forest fire that had brought destruction upon so vast a column of forests.

While the Mass was being sung there was a succession of deep sullen detonations that sounded like the thundering of volcanic eruptions, and as the Mass was being concluded a cloud of smoke swept into the streets and again a darkness as of night followed only broken partly by the glare of flames.

This scene was fittingly dramatic another of those climclimacteric situations which in succession characterized the whi whole series of events in this stirring adventure . It was a tragic detail which only a good novelist could make out in using his literary art to depict for the world the destruction of Abbieann and half of Calverinia, as others did of other great historic calamities of the world.. It can be such details in which the human touch may unite with the awful sublimity of cruel and unrelenting nature that makes the whole story of the results of this greatest of war catastrophies one of most enthralling interest, and then the investinig committies under starring in their adventure under peril and difficulties to discover real clues first as to what the disaster really was, and then which and who were responsible..

Chapter 30.

THROUGH THE FIERY ORDEAL.

THE SEISMIC CHOAL, AND THE FOREST FIRES CONTINUE TO RAGE ONWARD. THE ABANDONING OF ABBIEANN BY THE NATION CONTEMPLATED. SEA. INGS SPECIAL INVESTIGATION OF THE BURNED CITY, AND ITS CONDITIONS.

Even while the explorations of the ruins of Abbieann by daring starring and his followers went on in spite spite of their recent dreadful experience on the ship, while the saddened and sympathic world was continually hurrying relief to those, who ha suffered but had not died,,, while the helpless people throughout Calverinia were trying to collect their thoughts, and face the stern fact that they had lost all that they held most dear, Nature goaded on by the enemy no doubt remained as unkind as the foe himself.

The forest fires continued to threaten the ruins of the city, hinders its exploration and hid everything away in its dreadful smoke mantle, and the warmpth was remarkably unusual and the scene of subdarkness and glare i of the fire almost supernatural.

Starring hoped that the ship now was at the North pend the fires would not endanger it so much, even though constant streamers of fire pushed up the hill slopes near the vini vinicity burning all that remained in their way. Exploring parties belonging to Evans band were driven in flight from th vinicity of the city, by onslaughts of the Red Plague daily. even when they were not terrified into flight, the work of investigating the ruins to find evidences of what the so called eruptions really were, and that of proving them was trying in thecextreme on strength of nerve and will, mind and muscle alike.. One of Starrings assistants who was a correspondent said to starring;

"I have sir just returned from the ruins of Abbieann at this extreme north end unable longer to withstnd withstand the terrible hardships and encounter the terrible sights that were with every minute of the fourty eight hours of my stay there.. when I entered Abbieann at your orders I was surprised that more of the evidence were not in sight, and only what could be seen was whole or half skeletons. not more than 10,000 skeletons were strewn along what has been left of the streets, the others being at least partly burned under the mangle of debris of the burned ruins. Every moment of my stay in Abbieann I feared that the forest fires would again come too near and belch forth its billows of dreadful fireheat and smoke. The Red Plague continues to rage to the south, and some hills resemble volcanoes vomiting lava, but the fires surge up the slopes, changing the condition of the forested region every hour.

I have imagined that all the while I have died and been in the reaches of the bottomless pit. The stench and danger of pestilence in this city causes it to be a greater horror than was caused by the catastrophe, but it is believed all of the bodies not buried too deep in the wreckage have been burned by the smouldering fires in the ruins, but none of those in the interior of the runs have been dug out. If any laborers ever do come sir it will require months maybe years to restore what is left or clear the wreckage, even if a very great force of men and prisoners are emeployed, and when the work of disposing of the dead starts they'll only find skeletons of women and children. In the harbor of the city sir your boats are in constant readiness to take away the workers if the forest fires becomes more threatening. A watch as you commanded is constantly maintained ready to give warning, and if a wave wave of the Red Plague turns in the direction of North Bend the place will be immediately deserted. Aside from those working in the ruins sir, there is not a human being, except the skulking Glandelinian battinskis in this part of the region. All who have not been killed but must have fled north."

"It has been more than a week since we arived here, expecting that the smouldering fires in the buildings would have exhausted themselves, and allowing the approach to the city become easier" said Starring."I had never expected the forest fires to be raging up here and at this rate. Yet we have recieved more of the harrowing details of the catastrophe than we expected. I have sent some of my members to dig in the debris of houses and stores in search for documents and valuables."

"I have made the discovery sir" said the correspondent," that the number of victims was so great in places that in the great heaps of compingled dead identifications of individuals was and is most difficult. The deadly odor of still decaying bodies makes the work of investigating in the ruins not only horribly offensive but dangerous to the searchers as well. and what sir do you think caused the disaster. Was it eruptions or the explosions?"

"It surely must have been explosions." answered Starring."

"But what was it that destroyed and set all these northern sections of buildings afire and blasted it so terribly making it resemble a hundred per cent larger St pierre city?"

"It is supposed that the explosions occured near the verge of one of the forest fires, and the terrific flash, the crash of the eruption, and the fires must have produced a great flame and atmospheric pressure. The formation of sulphuretted hydrogen gas produced by these these awful combinations, and the poisonous fumes of exploded materials doubl doubteless caused hundreds of thousands to die in their beds of sheer suffocation before the fire itself reach them or before they were buried under the ruins. This would explain the condition of the many bodies found to be covered with superficial swellings, and strange superficial burns caused by the great and strange cloud of fire which followed the first crash of the explosions. After this there came the tremendous showers of stones, debris of all kinds water, mud and so forth from the crumbled earth property. Many bodies not entirely covered in bed had the marks of wounds produced by this awful hail of rocks. All the dead in rooms almost torn loose from buildings were covered by a layer of this debris, ranging in depth from a few inches to a foot or more...."

"But ain't there a mystery in the explosion fire" asked the Correspondent.

"In what way?"asked Starring.....

"Well in one discovery I made." answered the correspondent...

"and what was the discovery, out with it." the general demanded.

"I came across a forest of trees, which was still standing showing that the wave of the forest fire stopped about two hundred and fifty yards from the suburb of Alcu. town. And yet the houses were all destroyed in that place."

"Nay I believe you dreamed that."

"No sir I didn't I could take you there and prove it."

"But that seems unusual" said Starring."I heard that that place had been untouched."

"No sir, but I don't mean they were burned. They were wrecked by the concussion of the explosion. but a few buildings sir were untouched. I looked into one of the buildings and discovered skeletons which proved that those who had been in them were killed. They may have been suffocated by the powder smoke, and the identification of each one of them by at articles found in their clothing was easily made out.Two of them were priests. Near the town the body of an old woman was found lying by a street car, to which a another car was attatched. The old woman was holding the hand of a small skeleton which no doubt had been her grandd child, as though about to get into the car when stricken down. A half skeleton, that of another little boy lay by her side.Inside the streetcar was the skeletons of the passengers, nigh pass.night passengers no doubt. I found in the streets of northern Abbieann sir, heaps of melted copper and iron, and also of silver. In the neighborhood of a telegraph office, I found the very instruments which mysteriously had been hurled a distance of a hundred yards.The metal of the instruments was somewhat melted but the instruments were recognizable.."

"What I am wondering" said Starring, "Is what our government will do with the ruins of Abbieann, and the hundreds of thousands of half skeletons lying within view or under the thick layers of debris."

"I do not know, but it will be the most serious problem which the aurthorities of our National Government will have to solve, even during the war, and after the outer world and our unsuffering states have given assurances that the survivors would recieve food through their benevolence.."

"The investigation committee who were to come to aid us" said Starring, never showed up yet..I believe they are utterly inadequate to the situation, or either they are afraid of the forest fires, the nature of the disaster, and the enemy. And it is evident that the stench a week or before had been so horrible that the danger of plague was great, added by the heat of the forest fires. I do not think we can accomplish anything much untill something turns out for the better.We are continually praying for rain. There was talk among the aurthorities of the National Government of abandoning the site of the city altogether, and placing armies of soldiers around it by the landside and a naval guard in the river and flood sections, to make sure it could not be approached by the snooping enemy.If this were done as planned, it might help to preserve this city as a sad momuiment for the nations good, a historic scene forever of the greatest disaster ever comprehended. and it was said as much quik quicklime as possible could then be scattered over the ruins, and if this were done, it can be realized that a year or two after this awful war is over the ruins of the town can then be entered with safty to visitors and tourists, who would come to see what a disaster like this really did.Another proposal was to have warships bombard the ruins with the purpose of battering the still standing walls down upon the bodies and giving them thus wholesale burial, which however frightful to mere thoughts, would not be unfitting after the death they met. That poor Abbieann might never be rebuilt became probable. Certainly there could be no new great city on the spot for many decades, even if the vars unusual devastation did cease as the entire surroundings and portions of Calverinia were more terribly devastated."

During a morning when it was a little less smoky and not quite so hot, attempts were made by Starring, and some of his followers to get a vew of the main explosion crater extremely north of Abbieann, and see what really was the outburst. It was a perilous task however, how perilous can best be understood, when it is related that the forest fires were closer than usual to this region, and that the fires had exploded something that one detonation shook even ruined Adelcheid, forty miles away.

Starring,and his fellow officers, and the child scouts with him were driven back several times by the fiefc fierce heat, and chocking smoke, but they reported that they had reached as far as the western rim of the ernormous crater and that it had all the appearance of the others. Sometimes dense smoke hid the view, but it was certain that this was the explosion that did most of the damage to Abbieann, and for that reason Abbieann was no longer a longer a city. All evidences seemed to confirm Starrings reports for near the crater the ground mysteriously gaped a thousand feet wide, and two miles long, an awful crevice indeed. This day however was despite the peril of the adventure a day of partial freedom from the threat of the dangerous forest fires, and tha then in the evening on September 25th near by a terrific column of tyick thick smoke burst forth, and as a result fear and terror were again among those who were exploring the city.

The renewed danger from the forest fire came suddenly between nine and ten oclock and great flashes of brilliant and sheens of light were seen from the forests, and the glare illuminated all the sky, accompanied by thick glowing red clouds, interspersed with glares and undulating rolls of flame. Tremendous uprushing showers and blizzards of sparks and great brac branches of blazing limbs limbs rush upward and fell among the unburned portions of the forest starting new blazes.

Everywhere it seemed rose huge rolling red clouds, and vivid flashes of light, and seven smaller new fires which appeared on the lopes slopes of a high and long ridge the day before multiplied in number and size. The steamer to get a better view passed North Bend for about two miles. Evidently a new and big fire had broken out to the north of the main fire. In following the usual steamboat course, from North Bend to Herdrudes Junction, they could see the long ridge enveloped in fire and large clouds of dense smoke. This seemed to mean a serious situation. As the ship approached nearer, the land was hidden by the densest smoke through which a deep red glow that extended to the waters edge could be seen. A shower of sparks and ashes and a sulphurious smell and dense smoke caused the captian to change the course of the sta steamer, and the boat went ten miles to avoid the heat and smoke. The captian still suffering from his burns, and who remained on deck during the passage of this barrage of smoke complained of violent faintness.After the ship ran out of the smoke and heat and changed the course, they retraced the direction anf again approached northern Abbieann,.The appearance of the country here was changed, to what it had been weeks before the catastrophe and Starring was flabbergasted. Old ravines of the region thickly forested, looked like open mouths of smoking hills, and the desolation and furnace scenery was indescriable, and on a near view of Abbieann, when a west wnd clear wind cleared away most of the smoke Starring found the view of the city more ghastly than he thought it before.

In the face of this increasing danger, Starring to further his hopes for success in his unusual undertaking for his cause decided to make a careful investigation of the situation in the river districts northwest of Abbieann. The ship therefore left for that direction on the following afternoon September 26th, to determine whether there was danger in permitting the continued examination of the ruins to continue, inso much as the distant forest fires was creating so much heat as to make life almost unvearable in the city even though it was nearly thirty miles from the "Hell"

As Starring was about to reboard the ship a large blaze of fire, brightening up the scene like a volcanic lava flow came up toward his right, accompanied by an enormous cloud of smoke smoke, and made it appear doubtful whether it would be possible to examine even the nir northern country because of the danger danger of being lost in the forests and of being in the path of the conflagration.

Therefore the trip for the time being was posponed, and the ship steamed on back to North Bend. In that direction the appearance of the Red Plague was not so terrific. The ground here was covered with a thick layer of explosion debris, and the limbs of the trees were weighted down with it. After the ship passed a little north of North Bend, the debris on shore seemed less thick, and gradually decreased as the vessel approach Kohala Point. Here the steamer anchored, and to Starrings surprise a small boat came out from the shore, bearing persons who were surprised to see the steamer and who begged for food.

Starring learned they were forest fire refugees, about six hundred in number, all old men women and children who had fled from their burning villiages and towns, being forced to leave all their property behind. The river at Kohola Point was filled with floating and charred debris of tree trunks and limbs and , the bridge there had been comp completely destroyed by the fire. The river water was boiling hot, and full of dead fishes, which the fleeing people had secured as food. At Kol Kohola Point many persons even little children swam out to the Mary Jane and asked to be taken across to the other and safer side, and this was complied with when the captian got Starrings permission. Provisions were distributed to them.

Some forest fire scientists went ashore and examined the situation closely. They ordered that all the refugees should cross on the ship to the other side, and they were only too willing to do so.

Upon reaching the extreme northeastern section of Abbieann, the highest point of the city, Starring and all the members of the ship this time, except those to remain and guard it landed. There was a strong odor of burned flesh in this part of the city and access to the city here was difficult. The town was surrounded by dense forests not et touched by fire, and smoke sometimes came in in fogs so thick that it was impossible to see less than six feet. Fire brands were also falling near the unburned portions, and Starring became alarmed."Breathing was exquitedifficult, and the heat was terrific.

However the next day Starring traveled across a good portion of the northern end of the city. Starring was surprised indeed to realize he and his followers were the first persons to visit this region since the catastrophe. He came upon St Marie Street about fifteen mines north of southern Abbieann. The distance measures twice that by road. The streets through which the party traveled, was dangerous because bands of hidden Glandelinian snipers terrorized his band, but all had gone armed. For the Glandelinians had made numerous assaults and had no fear of the adventuerers.. A number of them had been killed in several places. Starring and his adventurers also met hundreds of refugees hastening through the region for shelter, fearing the fore fire would overwhelm the entire country and are hurrying to safty, everyone even expecting a repetion of the outburst of last week. In sections of the extreme northern parts of the city Starring saw more evidences of the terrible ruin, and here the wave of explosion fire was so sharply defined that a house on the edge of the blast was torn apart on one side, and not a section was ruined on the other side.

Starring walked then on foot for half a mile through the ruins of Abbieann, and saw not less than 22,000 skeletons o in bed in half wrecked houses with bedroom and other sections exposed to view. One building was torn u open, and which showed to be an op op orphan asylum. The victims in the beds in the dormor domotory plainy showed the effects of the explosion shock, and also that the bedding showed that the vkc victims had been burned mysteriously as if surrounded by strange gas flames. Here fragments of other buildings were found sticking in the walls of half crushed wooden houses, all scenes left as if a tornado of wind had passed through. The cyclonic fury of the heated air blasts caused by the combination of explosion and near forest fire and explosion formed gases was shown by the uprooting of trees, many of which were turned upside down. Buildings looked like Omaha, or Murphysburo a t after the Ae American tornadoes. A whole line of street electric light, and telephoie poles extending for miles were standing bottom upward. The same scene was observed with wooden houses for whole districts. Standing on their roofs and in line, and yet remaining on their own sides of the street. At one place four houses were seen standing on top of one another and perfectly straight too.

Starring had witnessed the cyclones that devasta devasted Calverinian coast cities and no where did he observe effects of the wind greater than he found in Abbieann. In many pae parts he observed where many wooden houses had actually acted the beautiful known pop-corn dance. The concussion of the explosions was extraordinary.

During his exploration of h this section, he was surprised by the renewed fury of the distance forest fires, and he ordered his followers, and the two girl and boy scouts to keep close together, to be able to make a run for the ship if necessary.

To make the scene more thrilling and astonishing over a hundred most violent detonations all in a few minutes were heard southward and east and they were accompanied by tremendous flashes which lit up the entire region and looked like more violent eruptions. The uproar of these explosions after a pause redoubled in violence, and a second catastrophe was feared. Smoke began to shroud the ruins again, and this fact increased the panic among some of the aventurerers.

"Hold keep calm everybody" shouted Starring."Don't act like fools."

"But there'll be another big explosion." cried one of the men."Can't you hear that terrible thunder.My heavens. let's get out of here." and just as he spoke a shower od of dust and flying stones fell about them, and the next moment there was a ten fold crash..It seemed as if a volcano was active, but it was evident that the fires had struck some rangers cants in the forests filled with explosives for blasting, and that was the reason for the detonations. To ally the panic Starring started to sing, and he finally calmed them, but Angeline Richee in looking east said it was safer to remain in this section of the city than going near the river just then, for to do so would be as dangerous as to venture too near a dangerously erupting volcano.

One explosion was so terrific that the smoke and debris shooting up was visible for the entire distance from Adelheid, to the ruined city. There was now a tremendous scene, and Starring and his party returned with all possible speed to the inner portion of the city to avoid the terrific heat, but saw near by about fifty refugees coming through fleeing f for dear life. The wind dying down for a time, Starring and several of his followers came closer to the shore with the object of bring the sur refugees across. Indeed the sight of the forest fire was now a most terrible one. At Starringe warning gestures the steamer Mary Jane p immediately put out down the river a ways, with some of her landing boats following her, the ship blowing its whistle continuously.

A part of the party ran along the river shore, and a boat came ashore to pick them up. Immense quantities of fire were roaring on tward the shore at this section, and the clouds of smoke were scores of miles in extent. Those on the shore lost sight of the Mary Jane in the gloom and haze, but her whistle could be heard. Flames rose in great clouds from the horizon all this time, and another explosion occured somewhere more terrific than before and a black cloud as fierce as that seen from an exploding volcano and fill of fire and flashes arose from the edge of the fire, accompanied by tremendous rumblings and a tremor of the earth, that tossed the river in waves lashing back and forth from shore to shore.

This column of smoke was caught by a current of air and carried southward, and finally it formed like an umbrella the base of which rested in a sea of flame, and a mantle of darkness was swept southwestward across a portion of the city, enveloping it. Then so heavy was the smoke that filled the air that respiration for the adventuerers became a labor, and a fear of suffocation came upon them all. They continued to be alarmed for more than five hours and it was not untill the wind suddenly changed its direction and the cloud of smoke be blew eastward that confidence was restored.

Yet all night the whole horizon line had the appearance of a great crevice of the glowing Infernal Regions at which great hellish forces were working to burn up the world. Flames shot skyward at times in sheets that lighted up the entire view of the city, and continued with increasing brightness. The atmosphere was full of smoke, and the heat was most terrific.

These flames could be seen streaming along at times at the eastern edge, and another explosion occured and roared terribly. Sometimes it seemed to Starring and his followers that life in this portion of the city was unbearable, and the suffering of the four child scouts was extreme, and their clothing was wet from sweating. It was during such scenes as this that Starring and his followers searchers in working among the ruins up here fought their way among the debris in their effort to find some other clues as to the wreckage thrown by the explosions. Starring, whose whose work and service in the army from the very first daycof his arival in the ranks up to now, and which won him priase from all was now most strenuous in his desperate efforts to find clues as to the real nature of the explosion.. At the same time of course he was hoping to discover whether it really had been the cause of eruptions or real explosions.....

It can be writeenvw written with feeling that appears now almost like a greattt premonition of disaster, that Starring and his followers had come to ~~ettttain~~ entertain a strange repugnance for his duty. for the first time in his life. In this feeling his followers and the four child scouts fared.. Starring ad Angeline Richee he,ehe, had actually discussed seriously, a possible exchange of positions in the ruined city, as Angeline Richee thought certain of the southern extremeity of the city than did the others.

"he had better get out of this." Angeline called to starring."We had better be getting out, and getting out as fast as we can."

"Oh you are just get ing nervously a little scared." Starring replied."There is no need of any one going away from here now."

"It is much better th to be safe than to be sorry." continued Angeline Richee."If the fires a cut o off from at least we will be trapped in the city..""

Yet as soon as the air was clear enough, Starring a tended by one of the rangers, penetrated to a half torn down building which looked to be a former court. In the ruins of the structure between what was formely a Judges bench and the apartment used as a Jury Lep Debatement room were uncovered what was believed to be a rubbish not belonging to the buildings of the city.It was soft lumps of limestones and materials belonging to caverns, and Starring carefully noted the location, and then consulted with the captian of the steamer who had accompanied him. Two metallic like stones were also dug up.

Another section at Starringe indicated direction the other officers and some of the rangers made a similar effort to locate some clues as to the real nature of the blast. Though neither substance were susceptible of positive identification, the position in which each was found left little doubt as to their actual identity.

This was indeed indeed a most daring undertakin to say the least,, and the narrow escape of these brave fellows was unusual.....

It was wrecked just as any other section not covered or swept off by the flood. The streets are as completely buried out of sight by the fall of so many of the tall houses as were those of Pompeii. Along the river water front Starring observed there were a few walls standing, and the ruins of a river freight station was found. Curiously enough he saw the clock mentioned that survivied the disaster. It was the clock of a big church tower which still stood. The face and hands of the clock were not destroyed though its works inside were injured, and these hands indeed furnishes for Starring a real proof of what he had been informed. The hands of the clock had stopped at precis ously ten minutes to one, which vasc to his surprise, showing that it was at that moment the first shock commenced, that finally overwhelmed the city at this part and destroyed the lives of all within it and its environs.

The work of exploring the ruins of this section of Abbieann for some of the treasure supposed to be buried beneath them was begun by Starring, but no such traces could be found. The vaults of the ruined banks of Abbieann were buried beneath the ruins of the building, and no means could be found to get to them under all the rubbish. All the securities cash, notes and so forth of many banks buried beneath the ruins may ammount to billions of dollars. While exploring the ruins of Abbieann, steamers loaded with half crazed women and children from imperiled districts in the neighborhood of the forest fires were constantly passing within his view,,, and were hailed by those remaining on board his own shippp.

Starring said when the search for the treasure was futile,

"The forest fire itself did not give the slighrest warning of the destruction that was to come. What I wonder is whether some enormous imes mines on the ground had exploded, by means of battery charges set by the enemy ,or is it so what many believed that if it was not of eruptions then the fires may have struck some enormous muti munition stores and set it off. But I can relate an experience of my own which can lay to some clue of this.

I was a witness or almost a pae partaker of the Lake Selicia horror..... I was out scouting with a number of officers and soldiers at the time, with a great little girl scout called Alace Gracedelinia accompanying me, when the ground trembled so as to throw our horses off their feet and we were dismounted in a way that would do credic credict to a circus circus stunt that would have made us a fortune had it been done in a c show. It did not tremble as an earthquake does, but as though a terrible struggle was going on somewhere near the lake. As we rose to our feet, the whole levee or big wall of dikes keeping in the waters of the lake seemed to shudder, and a moaning sound seemed to issue from the water. Then there was a rending crash, followi followed by a grinding noise. It was perfectly deafening though so far away as we were from it, and the flash of light that accompanied it was perfectly blinding. Then there was a noise like that of a terrible hurricane, and where a fraction of a second before there had been a perfect calm I and those with me sebmed to be drawn into some sort of a vortex. The myse mysterious force leveled a number of trees close by to my left, as if a tornado had struck them from behind, leaving bare a large a space of ground, a hundred yards square, and more then two thousand yards long... transfixed I stood not knowing ha what direction to flee, as Gracedelinia almost screamed, and and the others threw themselves flat.

I looked tward the Lake Selician Dike, and above and around it formed a great black cloud which reached high in the air as if a volcanic eruption was breaking out. It literally seemed to fall upon the city of Schloeder town, and to envelope Sperryville simultaneously. It formed and spread out and moved with a rapiditythat made it impossible for anything to escapefrom it, and I shouted;

" Volcano is erupting at Lake Selicia."

"Go on " said a companion officer"It's no eruption. It's a tornado."

But from the direction of that cloud came explosions that sounded worse than any of our greatest cannonades in a batle put into a few shots singly, and a simultaneous roar came elsewhere that sounded as though all the navies of the world were in a tremendous artillery conflict. Flashes played in and out of the cloud in broad sheets tongues and forks, the result also being that for a moment or two intense darkness spread over us, followed by a strange light that seemed to be of magnifying power.

That the cities of Sperryville and Schloedertown were doomed I knew, but we were at that time prevented from seeing the dearf destruction by a spur of the hill that shut off the view from the cities. It is impossible to tell how long and they stood there so long inert without trying to escape, but probably it was only a few moments, but so vivid were my impressions that it now seems as though I stood as a spectator for many minutes. When I recovered presence of my senses I heard a new treemendous roar and saw a torrent of water fiercer than even the Niagara falls pouring from the gaps in the dike, then with a new roling thundering sound, the whole dike gradually crumbled and melted away into a torrent of water the full length, and believe me we sure tried to see whose horse could reach the highest spur of the hill fu first.

I knew there was so fl no flaming flash in the first wave of cloud that was sent down upon the cities. It was a heavy black cloud, like fire damp, then came the flashes. It was the most tremendous explosion I had ever seen, had ever been a witness to. As we drew out or up to the top of that rise of ground the lake seemed in the throes of a terrible convulsion. New gaps seemed to be opening in other levees of the lake, and water as flowing in broad streams in every direction and a terrific flood was resulting. The two cities were ruinedwhile we were still in sight of it, the torrent carrying all before it giving the inhabiants no time to even escape. Andmany of have lived in those cities and who had escaped are homeless, and without and loved ones left. This was the first destructive disaster in my career that I witnessed with my own eye eyes.Three children survived the a day of this destruction itself, only to die later after after fearful fearful agony. One of them was an orphan, whose name I did not learn. he as rescued in the attic of a floating house, two days after the explosion, and when the flood was at its worse.. although fa fearfully burned from heat to foot, she was,,,,, still alive, and she died in A hop hospital in Pandora a few days later after she was bro brought there.. The second child a little boy whose a name only was known at Clatter,

aroused them, and they all must have met a sudden and awful death that smote them while they were still in their beds. But Starring in his ex lorations did come across so many piles of corpses that it was difficult to describe any in particular detail. Sticking at from some of the rubbish he counted fourty eight bodies, and theywere only women and children, mingling in one awful mass of arms and legs protruding from the rubbish as the hapless beings probably fell in the last struggles of death. Indeed most notable was the strange and utter silence, and the awful overpowering stench from the unknown number of dead. The fiery clouds which so completely destroyed the north side of Abbieann must have been composed of the flames or of masses of fiery wreckage torn from forest fires by the " eruptions", and the blasts of the explosions themselves must have been composed of some kind of deadly gases which instantly killed any one who inhaled them, and of other gas es burning furiously, for nearly all the victims seen in houses not entirely thrown down had their hands covering their mouths, or were dead in bed just as they were when sleeping. All bodies not buried in wreckage were carbonized or roasted. Even great trees with roots upward and also scorched by fire were strewn in the city in every direction. Huge ruins of solid buildings, and still hot and smoking wreckage piles were also observed.

Starring believed the reports now that the completeness of the catastrophe is evident when it was stated that as was known for the present time now no one save the mere handful of survivors picked p from the wrecked ships in the river harbor that fatal midnight hor hour, escaped. And even then, they too were unable to tell what had act ally happened, for they were so crazed from the experiece they passed through that they could not hardly say a word.. Starring believed it is certain however that the disaster came most suddenly.

Starring himself remembered that at the time of the great disaster he himself had bee been in the city of Pandora, and the people of that city had awakened to hear for over twenty minutes loud detonations, when which had been so loud that the reverberations echbed from Calverine far north of pandora on the north, to Crowley city, on the southern boundary of Angelinia state. The fr fearful crashing sound cease at about twenty minutes to one, and in the morning the city of pandora had great clouds overhead. The inhabitants were alarmed, but the Mayor of Pandora, did everything possible to allay the panic. He partly succeeded, but scarcely had the fearos of the people been allayed, when there came the news that in an instant Abbieann, its people, its houses had been plotted out of existance.

After a search of four hours in the ruins,, Starring found no trace of anything sus picous that he was looking for. And from everything he saw he felt more confident than ever that even 10,000,000 was not too great an estimate of the loss of life. Everyone in the city except the men population must have perished, and surbub suburban towns and cities added hundreds of thousands to the number of victims.

What he was dumfounded about was how was the Calverinian and other government going to care for all the flood and forest fire refugees, whose number was kn increasing every day. The entire eastern section t of Calverinia as far up as Abbieann has been or is being devastated. All plantations for scores of miles, and small villiages have been destroyed by the forest fires, and all the refugees have either taken to the hills hoping to be away from the danger of the advancing conflagration, but who are still menanced by the seas of fire.

As they could not be relieved, taken to places of safty, fed and clothed the situation was becoming very alarming. Work must be done quickly or the disaster will become ten hundred fold worse. Hundreds of thousands it seems must perish as it is before help can reach them. River ships alone cannot suffice. Abbieannia can do nothing as all communications is cut off. It seems the whole world mst help.

Starring indeed had not looked for what he observed in eastern Abbieann according to reports heard that the city was left intact. As said before the or what is supposed to be called streets and all the neighborhood around what a few months before was the largest and most prosperous city in all Abbieann were found encumbered with heaps upon heaps of ruins covering dead bodies beneath. herever buildings stood still with all the interior exposed to view, all the dead sere seen in the beds, or lying outside stark naked, their clothing having been burned off from their bodies by a hot strange singe of flame, while they themselves were partly roasted. In the vast mahority of instance, not fire but shock or fumes seem to have been the sole cause of death.

Even in one exposed interior of a house Starring saw great number of bodies burst asunder by some kind of terrific heat, and either lie in bed or on the floor or amid the wreckage disembowled. In many instances however he saw that the faces of the victims were quite calm as if killed before they were even awakened, as if they were stricken with death instantly just where they lay without a moments warning or awakenin or if awakened without time to imagine for an instant the deadly peril they they were in. Only a few every now and then were found, that had stamped upon their faces an in expression of indescriable terror.

The entire city and the neighborhood, still reeked with a horrible odor of burned flesh. No one had come to see the ruins untill he arived, and that accounts why bodies could be found as thick as seen on a battlefield. He came across one place where he saw an entire family of women and children in ten houses, all laying amid the wreckage and the bodies in a horrible state of decomposition or already mere skelentons. skeletons. .

Starring believed, for there is no one living apparently, to tell the exact facts. that the explosions may have occured in an area of burning forests, and that there was suddenly shot from that region a great sheet of flaming materials of the forests by the explosions accompanied by a great whirlwind of flame and heat, precisiously as is reported at the headways of such fires, and that the explosions of such force threw all this upon the north end of the city. The entire quarters of Eastern Abbieann are completely leveled with the ground, forming nothing but heaps upon heaps of ruins covered thickly over with explosex sion explosion o debris or mingled with it and every other sort of wreckage commingled...

What horrible revelations of the havoc wrought to human life which these grim mounds are yet to reveal when it is unearthed, can hardly be revealed and Starring shuddered when he even thought a moment of this. In this eastern quarter of what is left of the city not even a trance trace of the streets that existed there also could be seen.

The great city warehouses and immense factories and mills, along the river frontt, are stacked in on the side fashiong facing the direction of the incoming flood waters unroofted, and gutted throughout their entire length, their contents either piled in heaps or along the streets, or floating in the water.. small tugs and hundreds of river sailboats and steamers, rowboats and launches have jammed themselves into buildings, or floated way down the streets, where they were landed by the incoming flood waters, and left by the receding floods. On the north side of the city of Dorothy Gale thousands of houses not wholly damaged are packed and jammed in great confusing masses against one another as if they were an immense junk pile thrown away. I have seen great piles of human bodies, dead animals, rotting vegetation, household furniture, and fragments of the houses themselves piled in confused heaps right in the main streets of the city. In the river itself h m human bodies had been floating around like cordwood."

"I seen one section of the flood sweep Abbieann that terrible morning" said one of the Rangers. Asctime passed on however, the terrible truth was pressed home throughout the nation on the minds of the people that the mortality by the flood and explosion in the Abbieann region had possibly reached eight million, or nearly the entire population, and what the loss from the disaster was throughout the rest of the zone of horror could n never be estimated.... As I said throughout the whole flood area, the exact flood dead innumbers will never be known, not even in Abbieann, and as no list of the dead was never accurately made out, as no one could make any list out, and there was no one there to do sit, and it and more so the terrible flood waters, may have carried down the rivers and into the sea also, and washed on distant and lonely shores many of the bodies that never were recovered. The unknown dead of the Abbieann horror sir, will for forever surpass far the number of those who are believed to have perished in that awful flood throughout other portions of the country, when the tempest of flood waters raged and the waters devastated so many thousands of to ns towns and villiages and cities, as the papers say."

"Well ha whatever ha pened" said Starring looking again on the ruins of Abbieann with a feeling of great remorse remorse," "Whatever happened one of the greatest catastrophes ever known to mankind, was this flood that devastated so much of Calverinia and northern Angelinia state, following immediately after one of the biggest explosion crashes ever known to happen. Though the ammount of proper y destroyed may runs into the tens of thrillions of dollars when it is ever finally checked checked up this was never theless the slighrest loss. That which makes our flood horror so exceptional is the terrible fact that it swept away half as many lives as did many of the battles we have seen in this war so far, or destroyed so many lives as were killed wounded and captured in the recent battle of Headrick junction or Cedernine Creek, and transformed a most rich and prosper prosperous country and valley for more than ten to thirty miles to the thirty thousand mile h to a vast hell and charnal house. By Heavens Captian if it can be rightly proved, without any bogus about it that Glandelinia did this, I cannot even concieve what the resy result will be . Abbieannia, is mobilizating it is true, but when the real facts of the disaster comes out, a hell of a new kind will sweep swep up upon Glandelinia."

"Yes, and Abbieann was supposed to be located on the main line of the Mic-Hollester and Pandora Railroad, and was at the time a city of more than eight million inhabitants twenty eight thousand of whom were foriegners, mostly Itilans. It was the most important commercial city of Calverinia, annihilated, and such as will give the popular t tle by which the disaster will be known. Even the Mic-Hollester Run Valley has long been famous for the beauty of its scenery and its dense forests.

Where the flood waters came from is a mystery. Far north of Abbieann there is a lake reservior of very immense size owned and used by the National government for the winter and summer resort of the Imperial families and Royalty. In altitude this lake is about six hundred feet below the Abbieann Level, and it is about sixteen miles long and six miles broad in its greatest width. In many places it is nearly a thousand feet deep, and it holds a larger volume of water than any dam in this whole country. The dam that re restiained restrained the waters is nearly six miles long, two hundred feet in height, one hundred and ninty feet thick at the base, and as tyi thick at the top which is used as a railway. It has may immense spill and sluceways, and had stood for a century and never broke. This dam was never believed to be a standing menance to any section of the Abbieann district, even in time ofsevere freshets, and was fully equal to all ordinary emergencies. And the dam has been proven structurally strong beyond conception with the evidence that strangely the a awful vibrations of the explosion effected it not in the least and is still in the same condition. It also has more than a sufficient means of discharging a surplas volume of water to i irrigate the farms during our long summer dry spells, and never was it feared that such a reservoir situated in a region even more notorious for its freshets would ever yeild to the ernormous pressire prs pressure and send down its resisl ristless irrestible waters like an a valanch to devastate the valley. The fact that such a dam withstood the concussion as flabbergasting . But where in the world did all the water come from. Supposing this dam had done it, it would not have made one third that much flood,. forests of trees and rocks, where were hurled high into the air by the shock of the irrestible flood which rushed down the country side and the valley like a hurricane speed. From where ever it started, it is said it took about three or four hours to reach Abbieann, and with the procession of the deluge, forests of trees, logs, debris of towns and villiages swept away by hundreds, rocks, railroad iron, and indescriable masses of drift were more and more compacted for battering battering power and what the advance torrent of the fierce floodspared, the sea of debris in the wake of the flood made up of mountains of battering rams, destroyed.

Even one quarter of Mildred greenburg looked like an immense Galveston because of this, and so did Angelinia Agathia, Dorothy Gale and other big cities. It issaid that the distance from Abbieann to Dorothy Gale,. something over eighteen hundred miles

were buried beneath the ruins of buildings and wreckage torn from upper towns and cities that rushed from the northeast, demolishing thousands of homes, and carrying the unfortunate inmates to their deaths. To all readers know of the horrors of Galveston hurricane of 1900, well the people of Dorothy Gale went through a horror similar to that with all the accompanying terrors of that disaster, hurricane winds too produced by beats of distant forest fires, and of dangers from fire, and all this not in a day but for more than twenty days and nights together. Facing famine, death from drowning, thirst from lack of pure water, and all other horrors. The forest fire during the height of the flood raged close to the torrent, and a terrific hot wind, which attained a velocity of nearly a hundred miles an hour, not only tore some of the houses to pieces, and blew the debris in all directions of piled it in hills ranging from ten to twenty feet high, but tore most of the blazing embers of the distant burning forests and set scattered them over the floating building and wreckage and other houses starting big fires here and there that spread rapidly. One big long ridge of reckage was carried down from other cities and towns, intermingled with hundreds of men women and children of every descriptions, and all this was hurled into the northern streets of Dorothy Gale. and piled together in one confused mass.

The principal work of destruction was completed in sixteen short hours in the worst damaged parts of the city, and yet in all that brief time the accumulation of many a life time were swept away, thousands of lives went out, and the dreadful day following found a population, stricken and paralyzed and helpless still before the continued ravages of the worst flood on record. Hour hour, and each day, the situation changed for the worst, and the mid became dazed midst the grewsome scenes. The continued fury of the flood, of seeing houses going to pieces. The bodies of human beings, the cara carcasses of animals of all kinds, were strewn on every hand, and there had been so many bodies that at first it did look as if the whole population of the of the city was being annihilated. The flood was filled with them coming down from the north. Starring who witnessed the flood in Dorothy Gale, himself, saw the corpses swept into the ona chaning tides of the flood, and brought down the streets as thick as straws, and knew they were more from other towns than Dorothy Gale. He said of his experiences at Dorothy Gale;

"I saw many faces, even of little children prod protruding above the water, there the foot of a child, here the long silking dresses of a young dress, there and here and nearly everywhere a tinty hand or foot, and just beneath the glassy surface of the water full outlines of bodies might be seen. Such scenes drove men and women to absolute desperation. When I not fied notified Violet and her sisters above the location location of the floods down dw down there they would not hardly believe it. During the flood, and afterwards a great deal of looting was done by Glandelinian vandals. Many stores had been closed, their owners being compelled to leave to look after their families, and hol homes. The winds of distant fi forest fires and the fire hurricanes forced in the the windows and left the goods prey to the vue vultures.. Ghouls stripped the dead bodies of all kinds of jwe jewelry and articles of value to use for their wicked countrys cause. So extensive was the flood that no troops outside could render aid, and the city after the flood was placed under martial law by the surviving men citizens themselves, while the National Guard by wireless was asked for aid. One commander sent seventy thousand men, the remnant of a flood torn army to do police duty, but they could bot not get past the flood to the city. Three divisions were sent from the half flooded mobilization camps of Angelinia Agathia, but these too were barred by the flood..

Hundreds of desperate Glandelinian vandals in disguise roamed the half floce lo floode flooded streets crazed with liquor which many had drunk because nothing else could be obtained with which to stop their thirst while they went at their ghoulish work. Number less bottles and boxes and cases of intoxicating beverages were scattered about an and easy to obtain.

Robbery and rioting from Glandelinian vandals continued for many days and nights and at night as the city was in darkness, the effort of the city authorities to control the lawless element was not at all successful. Big bonfires were built at many various places from heaps of rubbish to enable armed citizens to see better there real watchfulness was needed. I heard that more than six hundred looters and vandals in the city were slain in bloody combats with the citizens. The most rigid enforcement of martia city martial law was not able at all to supress the vandalism entirely. Thirty three Glandelinian vanlda vandals were surprised by a gang of a hundred men but fought it out successfully against overwhelming odds and after killing sixty of the hundred men escaped with their loot. I myself was going to take the train on the following morning of the beginning of the flood, and was at the main station when the worst of the flood came up. There were thousands of people in the big deopt depot, and we all remained there for nearly fourteen days .

The back b part of the building fell in during the height of the flood, and I with many others were forced to seek shelter in the left wing. The streets then were literally filled with dead and dying people. A big orpa orphan asylum near the station was a most terrible scene. I saw there over fifteen hundred dead children, and all the sisters are believed to be dead. We took the gravest chances to breasting the flood by means of a strong river steamer, and as we went through we saw seas of water, floating wreckage bodies and other horrors. I saw later during the recession of the flood one thousand foot drif with countless numbers of bodies being drawn by four tugs to be buried in the waters.

Indeed the situation at that beautiful city beggars description, I cannot tell all I saw there. But fortunately the whole city was not so terribly wrecked. But nevertheless fully seventy per cent of the business portion of the city was wrecked, and the same percentage of damage is to be found in the residence district. Along the river thurfs great str steamers, not river but even ocean going ships, and big river warcraft and many other kinds of shi pping shipping have been bodily thrown by the flood on the big river piers or hurled into the city streets, and li there great masses of iron and wood, that even the resultant conflagrations could not destroy.....

They observed that the total desolation beyond the crater, and the mighty mass thrown around by the explosion which covered the earth were almost incredible, even beyond believing. Jennie Farmer said;

"I can't hardly believe my eye sight. It seems like a night mare to me. Why beyond here, and down the slopes of the hills beyond, across the valley of the Mic-Hollester Run, chocking up a part of the river, and stretching beyond it to those foot hills and the nearest forests(pointing) five or six miles further away, has swept a vast billowy sheet of earth, mud and debris of all kinds, broken trees, sliding hillsides and broken forests, obliterating obliterating every foot of the erstwhile smiling landscape. Why even a volcanic erp eruption of the Krakatoa or the Mt Pelee type put together in one eruption could not accomplish half of this. It sure must have been some terrific mine that did this."

Here and there they observed huge disordered heaps of rocky t debris thickly intermingle intermingled with forest trees, the rocky debris, in the distance resembling nothing so much as the giant concrete, black substructu substructure of an enormous breakwater shattered by the sea waves. It was also curious for them to see on the further side of the sharp line of demarkation, between a brown sea of mud and gray clay and the shattered green forests on which it had engroached, or again the lakes formed in every tributary glen of the Mic-Hollester Run by the massive dams so suddenly raised against the passage of their stream waters. One enormous lake was more conspicous among the rest... It was there that one of the main tributaries of the Mic-Hollester pon had been arrested at its issue from a wide pass by a monster barrier ad of debris thrown right across its course. And neither living thing, nor any sign of life of any kind could be discerned over the whole course and expanse. And indeed save for the distant noise of the forest fire east of them, all was silen silent, dismal, and solitary.

Beneath it however Starring knew, lay more than a score of hamlets and some small and big towns, and mestimated corpses of men women and children, who no doubt had been overtaken by swift and painful deaths.

Although the city of Riverview was not severely injured, nearly all its able bodied inhabitants lost their very lives in a manner which showed the extraordinary force force with which the explosion had. When the " supposed eruption" occured here, and debris of all kinds began to rise and fall, the young and old fled panic stricken from their houses in panic, some scurrying across fields making for the opposite hills and down paths well known by all. A minute later came thicker darkness than even made by the hour of midnight. Blinded by this, and dazed by the falling debris, and other horrors of the scene, their steps, and also their senses failed them. And before another ten seconds had passed every soul was caught by a swift aval avalanche of debris which rushing down a hillside, and dislodged by the convussion overwhelmed them in a fate more horrible than if they all had been buried alive in a bed of quicksand. none escaped except those who had been frightened to leave the city. Starring had heard of this. He realized that this one as well as some other supposed " eruptions" had convulsed Central Calverinia and the whole of Bengall State onthat on that fatal midnight hour or just a few minutes of the beginning of June The First.

The wave of main disturbance produced by the explosions traversed fourty two provinces of Calverinia, over which the earths crust was shaken most violently for fifteen minutes, in nearly over three hundred shocks of a seconds duration, while the same shocks were somewhat slighter at a distance of two thousand miles, but enough to do some ruin and cause anic and con connection, and was felt under the distant seas a like distance, making themselves felt on the neighboring contenent of Abbieannia.

Starring knew that the shocks had been felt in Pandora Abbieannia, though 11,180 miles from the center of disturbance, and yet it produced a concussion at that distance never noticed before, which broke windows, made people jump out of their beds, thinking it was thundering, and which according to their wording lasted over twenty minutes. Owing however to the character of the move movement, and concussion and the distance, which was comparatively slight, the damage was confinedto the wrecking of some roofs and chime chimneys and millions of windows, in glass. The worst affected was Bengall State, and Central Calverinia. To commence however at Pandora Calverinia ,which is two hundred and fourty miles away from the scene of the disaster on June the Foist, one minute after twelve, the inhabitants were awakened and alarmed by a sudden jolting of their houses, which contuned over two hundred times, and many sought refuge outside their doors. There was each time a nou noise like the firing of artillery, no underground noise which accompanies earthquake, but sounds at a distance. The people even claimed there were so shocks exactly like an earthquake but a jolting sensation, and many became dizzy and some were seized with nausea.

These indications, together with the sudden jolting, and the stranger movements of the seismographs denoted a strange dis disturbance,,, at a considerable distance from this second biggest Calverinian city, but the first surmise that it was located underground with the exploding of Mt Joan, was incorrect. The scene of the catastrophe was indicated with only itidings from its outskirts, as all direct news was cut off by the interrupting of railroad and many other communications by the shock and flood.

Starring did not know how far he would have to proceed to go to anyother explosion hole but he believed he was about more than fourty miles away from Abbieann, and only on the outside edge of the destruction area, beyond the city of Abbia Abbieann .

Here although the action or shocks caused by the explosions had been unusually severe to destroy all the landcape and towns within the district, to displace all the forests of trees nothing unusual except the appearance of the explosion hole was observed.

At one point owing to the lateral spreading of some embankment there had been a slight sinkage of the line of ground, and Starring and his followers had to proceed with caution for fear of walking into an explosion crater before they saw it. Crossing the entrance to a portion of the beautiful Lake Angeline they came to the farm fields or what had been farm fields, and passed over a country of hills.. Further along their

Further along their line of travel signs of more violent effects of the explosion became more numerous. Huge farm houses had been strange strangely turned around or overturned and damaged, roofs were off, sinkage in the meadows and other ground

bec me more sirhtly, and alt.o.gh their ... ...

should be what with ply a small trail. Ever since they landed in the city and from North end they had not returned to the boat, and all that time an incessant smoke fog obscured the city and sky, and at times total darkness prevailed. All the time Starrings followers were nerved. Sometimes the day would be a little lighter, but the smoke fl fog continued, with an occasional fall of burning embers and ash driven through the the air by the windd, and continuous rumblings were heard from the direction of the fire... The feeling of anxiety continued, but Starring was loathe to always go back and forth from and to the ship, when there was some chance of gathering up all kinds of debris in the city to see whether there had been a volcanic eruption or not, as the same debris was in the city thrown by the explosions. To approach the explosion craters was dangerous.

While they were waiting at about three oclock in the afternoon, for the air to become more clearer, Starring noticed a singular phenomenon in the northeastern sky, the first time since he had been here. Great clouds like giant gigna gigantic white ostrich plumes, and also like monster and human shapes, and horrid globlar thunderheads, walls, bridges, and volcanic rolls, and numbus formations rose high in the heavens. They had strangely luminous linings, which were mistaken for flames, though they were only caused by the glare of the flames below. The fire no doubt was spreading in a new direction.

Starrings followers were thrown into consternation. A little later the wind began to shift from the southwest to the north, changing the shapes of the clouds to the reverse, and a long rolling wave of smoke cloud thick and heavy as of a thunderstorm spread over the sky from the north anf at the same time the heat became more intense and a wind hot and smothering began to blow. Starring could see more panic stricken people fleeing in the open beyond the city. Some made for the mountains far to the north, and others sought to escape by getting across the stream. The scene indeed was one of the wildest confusion. Whole families assembled on the jetties near the river, and and along the river beach, nearly all falling on their knees, and screaming forth appeals for boats from the ship to take them to the opposite shore. The boats did so. The air was so filled with smoke that it was barely possible to breathe, and at times it seemed as if suffocation must be the fate of all who could not be taken on board the ship or brought to the opposite side. For many hours strange and mysterious explosions were so frequent and heavy that it seemed as if the whole earth would be shaken from its axis. Thousands were thronging the shores beyond north end, and many went into the hills beyond to run the risk of starvation, perils from the foe and wild animals preferring that to the fate that would be theirs if the fires from the forests overtook them. Others no doubt went to the other further away towns, there to depend upon the chairty of strangers. Every boat used to take refugees across at Starrings orders was crowded with those ready to flee. Io clustered on the opposite shore were other refugees, and hundreds finding it impossible to be taken aboard the boats quick enough swam out risking their lives in the hot water in order to avoid the danger that filled them with more terrible dread.

One refugee who took this mode of escape was a little boy. When the greater threatt of the fire came and fear struck to the heart of every one of the refugees thronging the fire side of the shore, the little boy rushed to the edge of the shore, and then after glancing around for a few moments, before any one could restrain him plunged into the water. He succeeded in removing his shoes , and then kicked off his pants. Being then little weighted with his clothes, he swam out to the steamer Mary Jane, which was nearly a mile off the shore in north end. The little lad reached the ship safely but was much exhausted. He was then sent to the safer side of the shore. Indeed from all parts of the country not cut off by the forest fires, refugees were coming to the shore in dense crowds The mountain roads were filled with panic stricken and starving fire fugitives, and even when arriving there their terrors did not decrease, and they were as anxious to press on to some safer place, as they were to get to the shore. Starring heard that all the roads were dotted with dead, and many were reported to be dying, having fallen from weakness on the way.

Starring offered rwards rewards to some of his men and rangers if they would go out and assist those those who had been reported to have fallen by the way, but they were too full of fear to be tempted by any offer. The panic was greatest that evening when the glare of the flames rose . like a dazzling sheen, and the skies were filled with rolling and whirling clouds that seemed fiery red. Many even believed that the flames were about to overwhelm them from the very heavens, and the terror that ensued was uncontrollable.

So appalling was the se spectacle and so sublime that the refugees afed some lost life lost souls striving to escape from the edge of the hellish pit. Soldiers were even seen mixing with the panic stricken people on shore all frightened witless, and all struggling to get to a place of safty, to be the first to get in the boats, and to go anywhere they knew not where. All acted as if they believed they were already in the infernal regions. Many cursed in their frenz , no doubt thinking it was some prayers they were uttering. Many others were seen to fall on their knees along the shore, and pleaded for protection from above. No one was able to refrain from tears. One of the ships boats picked up fifty persons mostly women and children who were struggling in the water and took them across to the opposite shore. Scores and scores of others were taken to the boat first, and then transferred to the safer shore some distance beyond the river. The scene was like rescueing lost souls from hell. The small boats of the big ship were out constantly, saving many who otherwise would have drowned.

And amid all this scene this was a work of much danger, as the river was rought, and almost chocked in places with floating debris.

The refugees some of them had supplies with them which were plenty for the time, but great suffering was caused by lack of se water.

All natural water and supplies had been polluted by the heat of the forest fires and the refugees had to take the chances of the river water as it only was the only kind obtainable.

It was evident to Starring that this whole section of Calverinia would have to been be abandoned by the population, in response to the clamorous terror of the inhabatants, and they the manifest threat of continued danger from the fires. When asked by the captian who was anxious for the poor refugees, Starring instructed him from his own side of the shore to keep up all possible arrangements for the embarkation by boat of the refugees on the opposite shore, and also to make known if the situation seemed to him to necessiate partial or total evacuation of the opposite shore the means at his disposal or those he may need. While this was to be done Starring was to

remain on the other side to continue his investigations in the ruined city.. All of the neighboring towns far to the northwest on the opposite side of the stream, from Rockglen, to St Peter offered their hospitality, to the refugees. The town of Probe been near Guadeloupe creek, was the furthest but the most favorite refuge for the fleeing people. Starring likewise considered the advisability of transferring the forest fire refugees to the town of Beauty creek, many miles north of North end where the forests was not so thick, and the danger if certain much less never theless. The exodus he knew was continuous, but the main authorities of the state advised an action also as to order the depopulation of that section of Calverinia untill heavy rains came to make the dangers of the forest fires a thing of the past.

The people in their fright were convinced that volcanoes may be in bad eruptions somewhere and that these had made the forest fire scourges, and therefore utter and unreasonable fear possessed all souls. Even the northern towns was believed to be unsafe. While all this rescue work was going on starring and his party on the other side in the city came up further north. With the greatest difficulty, they succeeded in reaching this section. The effects of the nearest explosions here were simply tremendous. The highest buildings known had been hurled flat to the earth. The bombardment of explosion thrown debris, was not sufficient to account for this, and neither the air blasts either for this and all other evidences pointed to the also passage of a furious blasting blast of fire and gases, traveling at enormous speed from the direction of the explosions and with incalculable force. The deposit of boulders, and stones and debris debris of all kind as enormous.

The effect of the explosion at this section was more violent than that which effaced the other sections of Abbieann, and swept away its people from the earth. And here the adventureres were close to the fires. Vast columns of smoke and heated gases and flame still poured upward as from a world of active volcanic craters, and new forest fires were breaking out on mountain sides and summits, and some hills looked as if they were hurling pward whirling windw whirlwinds, which rushed intermittently upward upward now from one point, and now from another, and racing with one another. Boiling clouds rose at times in huge thunderheads. Starring was surprised even though for months the fires had continued to menance the existance of the whole Calverinian forested country. Already a sea of forests had been destroyed. Without cessation the forest fires had raged onward, and now from the parent up one new fires were forming on the north side, and up the hills new conflagrations were traveling.

It had been known that there had been further loss of life, and what was more distressing, a large number of persons mostly women and children, had been imprisoned by the fires in a sort of clearing, and being surrounded by the seething hell, it had been impossible for assistance to be rendered to them under any condition by any human beings, and it was believed these unfortunates who were at grande river jhad all perished. The fire that seethed through this region, burned across all the trails and roads, filled the river channels with floating and smouldering debris, and reached the extremety of the outher half of north end on the east side, having spread through a sea of forest making a fire sea of it, and turning stones and boulders and all kinds of rocks so hot as to be almost incandescent.

By this terrific conflagration were the women and children at the clearing at River grande surrounded. It was hoped that the clearing would be an extensive one. Starrings members left on the ships hearing of this made desperate efforts to reach them, but it was impossible to get any nearer to the fire scene than two miles. To go any any closer meant certain death from the heat. The Captian could see from a height that gradually and steadily the tidal waves of flames spread, and it was surely feared a wave of fire would soon sweep away the doomed victims. The towns they had fled from, though unknown by name had been destroyed, as was other places and many inhabitants of these villiages were believed to have been lost, but it was impossible to tell the number.

Starring knew that throughout all of Calverinia the conditions were impossible to describe. Often thousands of gunlike reports every minute from the direction of the forest fires were heard, followed at irregular intervals by louder crashes, and after each report the hills seemed to tremble. Believing that the whole territory of Abbieann was doomed the refugees continually appearing on the shore continued in a state of pitiful panic. Just as fast as possible they were leaving for the other side on boats. They apparently did not care where they went, and all that they asked was a means of leaving the place they had come to regard as an country full of infernoes. Six hundred refugees and probably a thousand or more went to Guadeloupe on foot in a sad state of poverty, many almost naked. And among the homeless ones were many too old or too young to care for themselves. Many children were orphans, whose parents were victims to the rage of the fierce forest fires.

Starring in still further investigating came unexp unexpectedly to a small crater near the outskirts of the city, a crater that was about five hundred feet across. On the west it overlooked the culminating point of the forest, which seemed completely crumpled and mined at their bases as a result of the explosions, and might easily collaspe. collaspe. The region had an incandescent aspect. from smouldering forest fires. In order to make known his due presence at the point where he stood, Starring waved a flashlight signal, which was replied by a corresponding signal from one of the Rangers who signalled to Starring in this manner in order to show Starring where he was.

Starring felt a number of strange commotions, and his shoes were damaged by the heat of the ground. Trees all about in this location were smouldering or burning like torches, smoke was dense, and an iron bridge crossing a creek which was completely dried up, and the sandy bottom hot, was melted into all kinds of strange shapes. Only the viaduct still stood, and the heat where they stood was intense, and the whole aspect aspect of the scene most terrifying. Blazing embers fell around him, and he picked up a large blazing branch at the unburned portion, which however he was unable to retain. The whole spot was charged with a smothering heat, which became so violent that Starring was finally obliged to retreat.

And his retreat from this region was more difficult than his arival. A wind sprang up hurling a blinding rain of ashes upon him and his during followers

follower s, and one of the rangers was nearly killed b a large burning tree which fell near him. They succeeded in reaching the embarked ar a on their return, after having been four hours and a half on the edge of the forest fire area nst of them under the most dangerous circumstances.

Starrin also had made a careful inspection of the entire region north of North Bend and he declared that the entire north end of the shore in that location had sank partly into the river because of the concussion of the explosions. He suggested that a trocha be established in this region to keep the refugees out of the dangerous district. Winds sometimes very strong was still blowing red hot ashes over the entire northern part of the city, and this extended for a distance of fourty miles. He had found other explosion made crevasses in the ground in that locality, adding to the terror of the scene.

He sure had a lot to write about to Violet, and her sisters when he would make his return. Starring could see that thousands of poor refugees, prayed, stormed and pleaded in vain to be allowed to board the boats, and he forming a line of men on his side of the shore decided to from the ruins if possible to construct some sort of a pojtoon pontoon bridge across the strea , for he wished to check the wide spread alarm and subdue the panic. He specially commissioned this work, and the strain to which these poor helpless refugees were constantly exposed was driving many to despair and even insanity.

Within two days seven thousand of them, destitute and hungry had been brought across to the other side, and as an extra precaution starring ordered every one of the refugees to keep their clothing what they had on wet at all times for fear of attraxting attracting the flames from sparks. He feared that if the panic stricken were driven to extremes, they would all jump into the river and drown or parboil themselves.

Fresh terrors continuously shook the nervious refugees of the sorely tried country side. Even the panic of those in the early morning had not subsided, and the multitude of the semi crazed citizens were still rushing up and down the river shore, in a useless outlook for vessels to bear them away from this scene of devastation and death, when a bright glow appeared over the summit of some of the ridges in the northeast, while a new conflagration appeared in the east near North Bend.

Suddenly a new conflagration appeared within their very view. An enormous stretch of pine forest was split in twain by a mighty fire wall, and withan indescriable and mighty sky rocket like hissing and roaring, an enormous whirlwind of flames and smoke and forest fire gases, rose high into the sky.

The effect therefore of this new evidence, that this section of Calverinia was being rap rapidly rendered unfit for human habitation upon the people weak with constant strain and mentally unbla unbalanced for the time being, was extraordinary. It also had some effect effect pon starring too. It was cutting off his further passage to the north ward, and passage to the southward and southwest was impassable. It was evident that he and his followers were prisoners in the ruins of Abbieann. Among the refugees many appeared to be driven insane by the scene of the new fire, and one man while inpthis in this condition threw himself into the boiling waters of the Esther Creek, and the unfortunate creature was parboiled to death before he could be rescued. Other miserable beings threw themselves into the Mic-Hollester Au River, while still others wandered about in utter distraction, muttering and moaning in a heart breaking monotone.....

The new conflagration, which threw up clouds of smoke 10,000 feet high, and where the flames appeared to leap three hundred, appeared to advance up the mountain sides in a long angular line, appearing to stretch nine hundred feet wide at once.

It formed and spread on the southern slopes of theady these ridges, and it was feared this would completely overwhelming the di disparing inhabitants, who for some days had been cut off by forest fires from any hope of aid.

The conclusions of the Aven adventurers mission to Abbieann increased as the pressure brought to bear on Starring, in order to induce him for mercys sake to take decisive steps to aid the refugees in their evacuation of the forest fire zone. He gave instructions to the Captian of the Mary Jane ordering facilities to be placed at the disposal of persons desiring to leave the opposite shore, and seek refuge among the ruins of the city, a now special privilege, and yet these were insufficient to satisfy the advocaes of evacuation, who insisted that Starring should forcibly remove every old man ,and all the women and the children, who refused to go, from a danger likely to end in terrible disaster at any moment.

Yet after this for more than sixteen hours the slopes of these ridges appeared like enormous volcanies volcanoes in violent eruption, and the situation grew constantly more threatening, increasing the panic, and the numbers of the terrified refugees. The boats of the Mary Jane was compelled to incessantly make trips back and forth to bring the refugees out of danger. Once an explosion occured somewhere during a rescue and a boat bad of refugees were showered with flaming brands, mud and sparks and hot sand, and the concussion almost captized the boat. Outside in the main stretch of forest the conflagration and the wind produced by it was in a terrible fury, and the fear of a tidal wave of flames was in the minds of all.

The exodus continued from the opposite shore, and it was feared that if the conflagration conflagration sp sweeps this section it would come without giving warning of the cdevastation that it was preparing to work. The hills looked like volcanoes all but semlonent, and explosions from different direc f directions were frequent. Once an explosion of terrible force occured, and flames and flaming debris shot skyward, and rolling smoke floated out in enormous clouds. The outburst was accompanied by the greatest fire display ever seen since the trouble began.

Developements in the conditions of the forests indicated fire hurricanes to come greater and more destructive than ever yet, and another explosion occured driving even the refugees in the outskirts of the city into the interior. It was only by good fortune that Starring and his followers were not killed. Believeing that the forest fires were not touching the woods near the biggest crater of all plainly straight north of the city, he planned an expedition for the purpose of getting photographs, and descripns descriptions of the conditions within and about the crater. and the nature of the forests there, and a photograph also of the forest fire near thatblocality.

Forming the expedition, was a war correspondent and a photographer, for the very Angelinia Arathia Times, and several of the Rangers, and Angeline Riches, the two boys

and Jennie Turner. After a wearying march which took most of the day in the face of fierce heat and and terrific winds, and occassionally blinding fogs of smoke, and through smouldering fires, the region of Runder Mannally gun was reached by eight oclock in the evening. The correspondents and the rest of the party was also accompanied by a kindly disposed priest, who gave such information as was in his possession. He insisted on a pause being made for refreshments and a badly needed rest, and in a clearing of the forests a camp was pitched and a supper prepared. It was this generous courtsey of the prest, and starrings desire to delay till the following morning, that saved the expedition from destruction.

The original plan had at first been, that the visit and investigation and photographing at the crater should be made as quick as possible, which a quick return to northern Abbieann to avoid all danger. While the evening meal was being prepared, the priest who knew the region , pointed out the work of ruins that had been accomplished by the far reaching force of the tremendous " eruption. Starring engaged the priest in a short conversation.

"Father, do you know this region well?"

"Yes general I do. I was born and raised in this locality."

"As you are a truthful man, as I hoped you are, I want you to be frank with me Father."

"In what way?"

"Answering my questions truthfully."

"I will as far as I am able."

"Father what is the real nature of this disaster?"

"The real nature sir, is a mystery."

"What do you think it is, an eruption, or an explosion?"

"All appearances sir proves it is a series of " eruptions caused by dangerous mines placed in the ground. Though no one finds evidence so far sir, I'm fully convinced the disaster ois of enemy r origin."

"What makes you say that Father?"

"Because these explosions were not accidental, and no one had ever formed any ammunition ammunition depots at this location."

"What did you do Father when the disaster occured.?"

"I remained at my post, though I was certain this locality would be swept from existance as was Abbieann. You know sir I-----"

It was just at this moment that the threatened disaster came. Some of Starrings men followers despite his crys ran in a panic. Some did not wait to see what was happening, but hurried off in the direction of Abbieann. Others remained around Starring seeking his advice. He directed them to the center of the clearing, telling all they could not escape at that late hour by fleeing, and that while crowded in the center of the clearing they should pray for preversation from the danger that threatened.

This was done, all crowded in the center, and fell upon their knees, but by fay far the numbers already mentioned ran without daring to look behind. If they had stayed they would have been safe. They were never seen again. While crowded in the center Starring and his followers saw a wall of red blood colored fire, and smoke rise high into the air, and rolling forward with express train speed. They watched the hot flames consuming whole block long stretches of trees in a breath, and they watched also the priest, and starring,and even the four child scouts, calm and brave, giving encouragement to those whom they regarded as their follower followers.

Such a display of flames as was seen has not often been written in fire stoses stores of witnessed in stores,buildings, or forests, or even witnessed in any blaze of city fires as was here. It was terrific and awe inspiring. From the advance of the flames greater danger was apprehended than from the direct effect of the heat or the fire hurricane that was expected.

The fire partly encirled the clearing, then reversed, and the party had a chance to make a break before it retraced. When the start was made on the return trip to Abbieann, the deserting followers were gone. Some others were even left to find their way across the burned areas as best as they could. For Starring, and the remainder of his followers is wa it was a weary, smothering, hot and a long journey. It looked like a sight seeing tour through the infernal regions. The distance was increased by the lack of knowledge of the path, because of the thick curtain of the smo oke the the smoke, the buffeting, pug punching blows of wind, the heat, and the darkness and the strange black forms of every object caused by the glare in the sky. It was a night of terrors. Behind the conflagration was changing course, now following them and one high hill looked like a volcano belching fire, ashes, smoke and sparks. the The detonations of exploding pine tar trees were of sufficient strength to make the ground tremble. It seemed to the weary travelers as if the very flaming mountain tops swayed above their heads.

To aid to the horror of the situation, the travelrers encountered every now and then a sort of ambush formed by skulking glandelinians, who in spite of the danger they too faced were s i striving to frustrate the investigators in their work. They had to fight their way through in the face of heavy gun fire, ass added by the other horrors, the enemy even used hand grenades, and scattered hordes of glandelinian soldiery, of which thousands may be roaming in the region, were seen amid the glare of the fire, and the undulating flashes of flames amid the smoke clouds overhead, gliding and leaping over the rocks, darting from behind trees, and then behind trees, firingcontinually at every moving object of starrings band from every point of con cealment, killing and injuring some of starrings followers without a single loss to themselves. On all sides were these snipping glandelinians, praying, blaspheming and cursing in turn as they fired. Starrings band finally became panic stricken, many exhausted, fell by the way and were una unable to continue and had to be carried.

Starring finally got into better country where the enemy had to show himself and he finally gave it up and retreated, as starrings band then got the best of them and caused the foe a severe loss.

As they reached the open country, another big clearing, great volumes of smoke as white as steam were issuing from a valley, and with that great danger hanging over the country side, it was conceivable that they must get back to the shelter of the ruins, which they finally reached. So it was to those that went to take photographs of this crater now were forced to seek homes in thecruins as far from the

forest fire as possible. From Abbiesann the sight of flaming hills looked as if they were covered with incandescent matter. Starring in an interview with the captian of the "Mary Jane predicted that the forest fires would continue to frustrate his efforts for a week or more before it would pass north of Abbiesann. With that threat of danger hanging over the site of Abbiesann it was becoming inconceivable that starring and all his followers, hundreds yet in number, should remain there, in the face of the fate that had befallen the city. The scientists remained, to study the terrifying phenomena and the conditions that followed the passage of the dreadful fire in the hope that something might be added to the sum of knowledge, sufficient to justify thr the risk, and be of great value in averting such awful calamities made by the enemy in the future.

The priests even remained with starring, to perform their official duties. The glandslinings remained to pro proud among the ruins, when they could no do so in safty to ship starring and his hands.

For many weeks the summer sun did not look down upon even this ruined city of silence and solitude, shadowed by the dense clouds of smoke from the forest fires, the towering burning summits of high hills, the walls of smoke from valleys and plains, that fire that had poured forward in a fiery sea that destroyed such huge forests, adding to the horror of the other disasters, forming into a combined catalgom that if it had been a true one would be told in long detail, and in many novels, magazines and story books as long as the world shall last.

"This condituion condition " said starring to the captian " is brought on by the aid of such a dry summer we are having. You know Captian, we have not had a drop of rain anywhere, throughout calverinia and other states since early April. This seems as if Nature was aiding the enemy to do his dirty work. If this fire goes on the country will be devoid of all its forests. The drafting of the men citizens of towns and villages a is not helping any. If a whole army of soldiers cannot stop these flames how can the drafted men do it. Nothing but rain will help."

"Yes but it seems a dry summer follows a stormy snowy winter." said the Captian. "I never saw so much a snow as we had last winter. Now there is no rain. We cannot help ourselves. We have to resort to the Almighty."

"Well" said starring, after a few moments silence" I'm going to stick in these ruins of the city now untill the forest fires are burned out or have passed us. There isno use in trying to go near to any of the explosion craters, for it seems every time we make a decision to do so, the forest fires come and frustrate our purpose. It is better for us to explore more of these ruins, look for reports on the disaster, find witnesses if possible, and then when favorable circumstances allow, then we,ll go to the craters. what say you captian."

"That's a go" he answered, and thet shook hands on it.

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Chapter 32

STARRING OBSERVES AWFUL SCENES IN PARTS OF HEIDI JUNCTION WHICH HE REACHES NEXT..... WHOLE COUNTRY SIDE APPEARED TO BLOW UP.... SHIPS SAID TO HAVE BEEN SWALLOWED BY AN ENORMOUS WAVE. HARROWING TALES BY EYE WITNESSES OF THE DESTROYED CITY, RUINED BY EXPLOSION SHOCK, FIRE AND FLOOD..

As the captian also told Starring, when the Abbiesannian Government Relief Expedition was th first to penetrate the laser sections of the devastated districts, and had sent back messengers asking for more men and provisions, these gave detailed description descriptions of the terrible scenes, and said they were never able to find where the city of Abbiesann had stood... The captian remained at the spot untill it would be more favorable for a landing at the ruined city of Adeleishid or Adeleheid. Then after waiting three days, they made a forced landing near the city... hoping the heat of the debris left by the conflagration had cooled enough to allow an investigation. After a terrible experience in crossing fil gie fields of hot smouldering ashes, and blasing blazing fragments of trees, and rubbish, the more daring ones of the party, the little girls remaining on the ships, succeeded in reaching what had been the streetd of the city...

In starrings party this time, were detatchments of his Calverinians, and a number of rangers, and Penrod and Radcliffe. The two girl scouts were invited to come but this time they declined fearing it was too hot for them.. The few survivors who had been rescued were at Painer, and easy Know, suburban villiages, to which they had fled when the ex forest fire struck the explosion torn city.. More than a thousand of them had died of starvation and exposure to the fierce heat, s n since the destf destruction of Abbiesann.. The heat from the smoking ruins of Adeleheid was suffocating, and the stench from the charred bodies which filled the smouldering streets was almost unbear able. Only a few walls of buildings were standing. A house clock was found intact with its hands stopped at One minute after twelve, the exact hour a of the first earth tearing explosion.....

The offices of the Adelsieh Adeleheid River and land underground cable company was partly standing but its left wing had disappeared. Not a drop of water could be obtained, and the still remaining darkness caused by the clouds of smoke from the forest fires raging elsewhere but close by shrouded the city, and continuous flashes of flame added to the horror of the scene.. All the town was razed, and the smouldering ruins glared fearfully, and sent a pall of smoke high in the sky. Starring or any of his followers could not trace any of the streets, or by ways, and all he observed on ever every side was huge heaps of smokin ruins and smouldering ashes.. At the landing place of the city starring observed some burned and ruined walls, which he believed indicated the spot where a large factory had stood, and also slight traces of much larger places could be seen. One of the guides pointed to the spot w where hundreds of bodies had been found by the rescue workers lying in all attitudes, showing indeed that the victims had b met death as if overwhelmed by a sheet of fire. And the guide said that every vestige of clothing had been b rned away from them, and also also grim piles of bodies had been stacked everywhere, showing that death suddenly had stricken them while the crowds were vainly seeking escape from the strange and monsterous fiery deluge hurled upon the city by some of the nearest of the supposed, eruptions.....The guide indicated another spot,,, where a group of nineteen hundred children were found in a mass of wreckage. Every one were locked in one anothers arms. This may have been the wreck of an orphan asylum. The banks of the city also were totally destroyed, and the money boxes fortunately were found intact. They contained in all over four hundred million dollars if it is be to be counted in American money, and also including other securites, which was sent on to Pandora for safe keeping.

Many of the parties with starring were overcome by the terrible heat and stench of the burned bodies, and the surgeons accompanying them were kept busy. Starring decided to report that there was no trace of anything of which he was looking for. The country around the city for as far as eye could see was covered with the smouldering flaring wreckage of the fire swept forests, and along the rivers banks only a few small trees half burned, all bent riverward by the force of the explosion blast, were only left standing. Starring wished to view the explosion crater near Adeleheid but was told it was dangerous because of the fires. The whole town indeed was a mass of smoking ruins under which many of the victims as he believed still li lay buried. Starring was told it was impossible to advance to the north of the city owing to the heat of the fire which was most intense. The nearest prtion of the unusual conflagration still presented a menancing appearance. Starring wrote on a piece of paper;

"I have inspected the city of Adelsheid first. I could not approach Adeleheidi as the heat is so intense a person cannot land on shore. I was able in the former to find the securit securities in the ruined banks safe, buried under the ruins of the banks, but could find no trace of any other important buildings, or even of the rubbish thrown into the city as would indicate lava. The town is strwn strewn with burned corpses left hastily there by the survivors who fled when the forest fire

struck the ruined city, the cremation of which the conflagration did of good work. nothing is left of the villiages on the north section close to the city. The list of dead cannot be estimated."

However if he wanted to Starring could not have given a description of the horror of the scene to save his life. Never since the world began, has human eye witnessed the real horrors of the greatest disasters and gruesome scenes of real calamities without a shudder and yet this was worse. As the guide said to starring;

"Before the forest fire struck the city, there were many hundreds of immense flaring funeral fires on which the bodies of the dead were hastily thrown thrown , and these sent up their flames to mock the still flaring forests fires work of destruction beyond. It was estimated sir that over twenty thousand bodies of the dead had already been burned before the conflagration hit the city. Calverinian soldiers and surviving men citizens formed the cremation parties. They told me the work on which they had been engaged was the most terrible they had ever known, and the many bodies w many of which were already charred and scared by burns, and crushed by falling debris were soaked with coal tar and gasoline to make them burn the faster. These awful funeral pyres were enormous heapsof wood and branches of trees, and one of these made as much flame and smoke as a house on fire. Upon upon these the bodies were hurled and what was left of them consumed. This was a precautionary measure to prevent the outbreak of disease and palgues. They were only about half through with only a quarter of the number of bodies when the forest fire came on the town and the workers and the remaining inhabitants had barely time to escape with their lives, and a terrific glae suddenly arising scattered the embers of the funeral fires and started conflagrations in the city. The forest fire surrounded the city, and then it was totally doomed."""""

How long starring remained in his efforts to explore the ruins of Adeleheid he himself did notknow, but nevertheless the work of exploring the wreckage of the annihilated cityhas continued yet. Yet what was left by the fire,s there was enough already revealed to him to indicate that the very worst anticipations as to the resuls results of the explosions can be realized. All the streets and all the neighborhoods around, what had been before the disaster the best and most prosperous cities of its size are now covered with heaps of ruins in all directions concealed no one knows how many dead bodies still below. As the guide said, all the dead that he had seen were stark naked, their clothing having been burned from their bodies like so much tinder while they themselves were burned to death. In the vast majority of instances the greatest numbers died under the fallen ruins, but also fire also seemed to have been the sole cause of death to many. Even as the guide had said, great numbers of the bodies had been burst asunder by the terrific heat and lie disemboweled. Yet in many instances the faces of the victims had been quite calm, for so many of them had been stricken down instantly in their beds while asleep without a moments warning, or with hardly any time to know of the deadly peril they were in. Others however who might have been awakened by the first uproar and tried to escape have on their faces an expression of indescriable terror. The entire city and the neighborhood while Starring was there reek with a horrible oror odor of burned flesh. The total number of dead Starring declared could be estimated at about fourty thousanfd thousand, but as the disaster tol took place within fifteen minutes, and in that quarter of an hour the vast mahority of all these people were killed, it could not be fully estimated unless the number of survivors of the town could be known. It can be supposed so far however for Abbieann itself that there was nobody living apparently to tell the exact facts that there was suddenly shot upon the city by a most terrific explosion a terrific sheet of flame and hot clouds of debris, accompanied by a terrible gaseous whirl wind of other explosions to say, and horrible flashes in all directions, over the land andacross the sky, precisely such as are now reported as been seen by others.

Starring now believed this for in Adeleheid he came upon heap upon heaps of terrible smouldering ruins, covered thickly over where fires did not touch by the debris thrown by the explosion, earth rocks, gravel, dirt, and mud and all kinds of vegetation intermingled. What horrible revelations of the havoc wrought to human life which these grim mounds might yet reveal can hardly be imagined. In all quarters of the city not a trace of even the streets that had existed can be seen.

Along the river front there were a few walls standing, and the ruins of the Wharf Companies could be seen. One of the most curious sights in Adeleheid was the faces and hands of many clocks of all sizes and even watches, which were not destroyed, and and they all furnished an important record in the story of this terrible catastrophe.

The hands of all these c.cl clocks and watches found had stopped at exactly one minute after twelve, showing that it was at that moment that the city was overwheomed overwhelmed by the explosion, and all those thousands of persons who did not escape on time were destroyed. Starring then visited the camps where the refugees were, and finally heard this thrilling and painful story from the captian of a passenger steamer a story of horror and pain, sorrow and terror. It is as follows, the captian being Francis St Pierre;

"The steamer Evening Bell of which I am captian, left Calverine on May 6th, and after a very long trip down the river was off Abbieann at six oclock in the morning of May the 31th. I noticed that not any too far away to the east a great forest fire was raging, and the whole horizon line there was walled up in the greatest sheet of rolling smoke I had ever imagined of seeing. I told my mate it put me in mind of being on a river, running alonside the bottomless pit of hell with its smokes rising high into eternity. Having business in one of the southwestern wharfs of Abbieann I allowed the ship to creep slowly in tward the docks, finding there among others a score of other big ships, river ru r tugs, barges, pleasure craftand the like. I went to anchorage between seven or eight am A.M and got my passengers loaded on for the nr northward bound trip for Calverine at about eleven P.M. At night.

We remained waiting our turn to pull out as a number of ships were with us, and therefore we did not get a start untill about Twelve oclock. We had hardly pulled our anchor when it seemed as if the country north of Abbieannia or Abbieann had opened out and was hurled into the air by a most terrible explosion. The shock hurled me down the stairs into the cabin. The great boom sounded as if all the navies of the world had blown themselves to pieces at once, and staggering to my feet, I rushed on deck and there came another such crash but much closer this time, the city appeared to disappear in a cloud of dust, there was the continuous awful roar of falling bu ldings and simultaneously a strange wall of fiery smoke and embers swept over the crumbling city and country side. The shock of the crash to the ship was terrible, and it nearly captsized her.

The steamer Evening Bell was struck broadside by the strange burning mass, and hearing the roar of a score of such explosions at once, and seeing the great wall of heavy smoke approaching the steamer accompanied by rolling and shooting flashes of fmale flame, all the the passengers on deck in panic and screaming wildly sought shelter wherever it was possible, jumping into the cabincabins, the forecastle, and even into the hold. The flashes became terrific as if the whole country near Abbieann was being blown into the air, and the noise was earsplitting.

I was thrown by the second shock into the chart room, but the burning embers were borne by so swift a movement of the air that they were suddenly swept in through the door and port holes, suffocating and scorching me most badly. These embers burned me terribly about the face and hands, but after the uproar ceased I managed to reach the deck. I could not see anything of the city, it seemed to have sunk into the bowels of the earth, for it was obscured in a thick whitesh gray cloud. As soon as it was possib le, when I reached the c decks, I musted the few survivors of the crew, who seemed able to move, ordered them to slip the anchor, leaped for the bridge, and rang the engineer for full speed astern. The second and third engineers and the two firemen were on watch below, and so had escaped ininjury. They did their part in their attempt to escape but some how or other the men on deck could not work the steering gear because it was jammed by the debris from the eruptions.

We accordingly went ahead and astern untill the gear was fees free, but in this running backwards and forwards, it was two hours after the first shock before we were clear of the wharfs. One of the most terrifying conditions I observed was thzt that the atmosphere being heavily charged with dust from the fallen bul buildings of the city, and the smoke of the explosions it wastotally dark like a closed room. The moon and stars were completely obscured and the air was only illuminated from the flames of the burning buildings of the city, and the shipping. It seemed small to declare declare that the scene was most terrifying in the extreme. As we backed out we passed closed to the burning ships, every one of which were a mass of flames. The steam was rushing from the engine rooms of a number of ships, and the screams and shrieks of those on board and the panics I observed were terrible to hear and see. The cries for help were all in vain, for we could do nothing but save my own ship. When I last saw these vessels a number were settling down. That was about two oclock in the moring. morning. When the evening Bell was safe out of the River harbor of Abbieann and its horrors and desolation, I made swiftly for Pandora. Ariving here and when the ship was finally safe, I therefore mustered the survivors of my crew as well as I was able and searched for the dead and injured.

Many women and children I found in the saloon, where they had vainly sought for safty but the cabins were full of burning embers had been blown in through the port holes. Through these the fire of the explosions had swept as through funnels, and burned the victims were they lay or stood or cringed, leaving on some a circlar circular imprint of scorched and burned flesh. T and others brought a score on deck who were thus burned. Six of them were dead, the others vived survived although they were in a dreadful state of torture from their severe burns.. Their screams of agony were heart rending.

Out of a total of fifteen hundred passengers on board the Evening Bell a hundred and fifty are dead, and the rest are in the Pandora Hospitals. And out of a total of fifty six of my crew on board, including myself, and the two mates, twenty are dead, and fifteen in the hospital. My first and second mates,, my chief engineer, and others were killed also. The ship was covered from stem to stern with tons of earth debris. It was two days after that I was able to brging completely to clear and search the ship for any damage done by this explosion rain, and to see if there were any corpses in the out of the way places.. When I searched I found some men women and children in the forecastle. Their bodies were horribly burned, and they had died in agony. And on the arival of the ship at Pandora it presented an appalling appearance. Dead and calcined bodies lay about the deco deck which was also crowded with injured

helpless and suffering passengers.At the sight of our ship immense crowds came thronging the river docks of the city.Prompt assistance was rendered to the injured by the aurthorities here, and the poor tortured survivors including my men were tak n to the hospitals and the news spread abroad that my ship had been caught in a volcanic erupi eruption.At first I thought it was that myself. The dead were buried and I had omitted to mention that out of twenty nine orphan children I had also on board, six only survived. To make it worst for me most of the others had thrown themveles themselves overbourd to escape a dreadful death, but I believe they might have met a far worse one for it is the actual fact that the water was which was around the ship was literally at boiling heat, because that section of the river was flowing down from the part of the country where the hottest of the forest fires were raging on both sides,, of the stream.

Indeed I will have to say that to many the escape of my big steamer was a miracle, the woodwork on the cabins, and the bridge itself, and everything that could burn on deck were constantly igniting, during the escape from the explosion zone, and it was with great difficulty that we few survivors managed to keepthe flames down.The ropes, awnings and tarpulins were completelty burned up.

I witnessed as far as darkness would permit the entire destruction of the city of Abbieann. The flames of the explosions envelopedthe northern part of the city,,, with such rapidity that it was impossible that any person could be saved even if they had been awake and got out of the houses in time.. Other sections of the city seemed to turn into white clouds and a terrible roar told me buildings crashed before the concussion of the explosions. The darkness of midnight was suddenly increased to that of erebus, but I could d distinguish by the light of the burning city, some people who got out on time at the first shocks running about distractedly in the streets closer to the docks.. The nearest of the burning buildings stood out from the surrounding darkness like black shadows. All this time the strange eruptions were roaring and the whole country side seemed to be shaking like the severest earthquakes., and in the intervals between these terrifying sounds, I could hear the tumultious cries of despair and agony from the hundreds of thousands who were perisheing.

And these horrid cries added to the terror of the scene, but it is impossible for any one to describe its unspeakable horror or the dreadful sensations it happened to produce on me and my survivors..It was like witnessing the end of the world, and you were about to go on the left side of heaven. And I can add that after the first shock was over, the survivors of the crew rendered willing help to navigate the ship to the docks of Pandora.I do not know even to this day whether it is true that all the inhibatants of Abbieann perished or not, but there is no trace hardly of the city, and where it was at the lower sections a great lake is there now..It was about daylight fourteen days after the ravages of thewflood that I made another trip to the location.We had run through a forest fire ahead for the site of Abbieann, and at six fifteen oclock were at what we could then call our anchorage of the place called Heidi Magnolia's Landing.. We avigated some of the flood, for I could not tell which was or had been a river.When the agent with more men mostly investigators came aboard they told us that the flood had been acting ugly since its beggining and that the city of Abbieann was a thing of the past.

There were about eighteen other steamers and coasting craft moving up and down nab navigating the shoreard a shoreward part of the flood as near as they dared one of them being a River war Cruiser.Then there were six other large vessels and two revenue boats. The Abbieannian investigation boat put into the w berth next to ours and let drop her anchor.We however could see nothing of Abbieann and even soundings found no buildings under the water.But to go back to our horrible experience and telling of the first crash. There was first a terrific shaking of the air, as if some one had jostled me.I was looking tward what appeared to be a sudden and most terrifying eruption, and every soul then awake on board looked too. .I can describe however what we had observed of course, neither the awful thunder that followed but my thoughts were that if the end of the world would not exactly appear like that then what would it be like.It was just as if all the country side north of Abbieann had been blown up by a volcanic eruption ten times worse than the explosion of Krakatoa.The concussion made it appear to me that the ship ji jumped up from the water and then down again, and immediately amid the crash as if of all the cannon of the world being c discharged at one shot. a most immense pillar of flushing flame hurled straight up into the air, then it opened out wider than the huge black cloud itself, and came roaring down out of the sky upon the city and us. Some of us with my second officer Hendro Heid rushed to the forecastle to heave the anchor, I shouting orders frantically, and the chief engineer tried to get down below.As we reached the ships head, there was a crazy, wild earsplitting thunder of crashes that shook the ship like a frightful convulsion, and the fiery cloud was upon us. Fragments of stones and earth, flaming branches and wreckage, scalding water and real splashes or flashes of flame dropped and clattered like hailfire all over the ship just as we got underway.There was another roar with redoubled fury, and with it all the water in the river harbor seemed to suddenly gather up and rush among the shipping.Every craft heeled over suddenly to the strange tidal wave, and seemed to careen and sink.When the wave struck us it flooded us fore and aft, sweeping away the masts, smokestacks and all the boats and all the raffle on the deck and many persons who did not get away on time.I got into the cabin by that

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that time, and was nearly killed thereby by the heatened flashes coming through the portholes, and being hurled about the cabin by the rocking of the ship before the force of the wave..I remained there for a few minutes before rushing back on deck and now and then I saw a charred and shrieking sailor of a passenger rolling down the hatchway, and died as he went, so that quite a pile of corpses formed.I clambered to the deck, and began turning a hand to saving the injured who were lying all about though even then more debris were failing.As I was about this work, I went forward. I saw one sailor whose face was scorched beyond recognition.I o so saw no more of this man after that, though I had known him by his clothes, but I was told by one of the survivors that he had jumped overboard, and got on a raft that had been hurriedly put together. All this time the sea was r sea like expanse of suddenly forming waters was rolling like the heaviest kind of sea swell during a cyclone, more distant eruptions were still roaring, and the air was full of strange shocks. When I looked at Abbieann while de p desperately pulling away for safty our ship, the sight was terrifying.One whole section of the city seemed to have disappeared under the waters,, the other part of the town was either gone of disappeared into intense blackness and in its place was a long wall of gray black smoking or rising clouds of dust.All about us all the ships were sunk or aflame and between us and them and the shore dead bodies floated singly or in groups.We escaped, but we do not know what happened to all those on the other vessels.I was taken care of also in the hospital of Pandora."

The guide himself told starring, and those with heem that an examination of the bodies of Adeleheid City indicated that one of the fiery storms hurled by the explosion nearest, and which which had burst over the town must have been composed of some strange posionous gases or chemeicals, for all the victims had their hands over their mouths and noses, or were in attitudes showing that they made desperate efforts to escape suffocation, and the like. Also all of the bodies not within the ruins were roasted. And the latest reports from the regions north of Adeleheid were to the effect that the land was in a strange position and that all of the country west of Abbieann had sunk,.. The refugees from Adeleheid had arived at Calverine, and one Calverinian cable steamer in trying to repair one of the river cables reported to have found the cable sunk in sixty feet of water, where only formerly it was only five feet below the surface..Also starring was fully informed of the horrible situation at Wickey Lansin, where it was believed fully more than thirty five or fourty thousand lost their lives as a result of the concussion of the explosions, and that all the reports were proove proven to be true.A good part of the city of Wickey Lansin however was flooded.

Some time before some one had told st Starring that the whole of Abbieann had disappeared within ten minutes into the bottom of the earth,, that all the inhabitants were instantly and horrily killed, and every place was desolated, and that the volcano near Abbieann called the Bottomless , had suddenly first du dischaged discharged a torrent of fiery lava which rolled down its base engulfing everything before it and then blown itself up bury the city of Abbieann under its debris. There was no such volcano any where near Abbieann.

The guide then told this story about the destruction of Adelele Adeleheid city.

"The fear first began with the near approach of a dangerous forest fire, which headed northwestward tward the city he said."He said."I don't live here, but I was visiting a friend at the time. On that morning of May 31th the inhibatants of the city awoke to find heavier clouds than usual covering the sky and shrouding the whole country side. Far away somewhere to the east horrid detonations were heard, being as they said echoed from Calverine far northward, to Francis Atlant southwest.The Strange c cannonading ceased before night, and a heavy strong smelling fog came upon the city hidding objects even as far as across the streets.Then the inhabitanti were alarmed, but the mayor did everything possible to allay thepanic, believing the forest fire would not touch the city. Who thought of an explosion coming.?

I was on a river steamer that reached Adeleheid at about four minutes to twelve with sixty other passengers.We were watching the terrific glare of the forest fires in the far distance, when with a most frightful roar, and terrific fire works lke like discharge, something similiar to a cyclone of flashes, debris and water and torrents of rocks swept down upon the city and river, sweeping all before it, and destroying a large fleet of small vessels at anchor.off the docks .There the accounts of the catastrophe so far obtainable for me ceased.For twenty minutes all was smoke. I couldn't see a thing.Not untill morning could we learned what had happened, and then heard that fourty thousand corpses were in the wreckage of this city.I and the sailors brought sixty eight half charred half dead human beings on board the ship but eighteen of them died before noon, and only one of the whole number were even expected to recover.That awful morning the whole sky from horizon to horizon was hidden hidden behind a huge veil of violent and leaden colored haze..... Ernormous quanities of the wreckage of large and small shipping, and houses strew the surface of the river, which to my surprise seemed to be increasing in depth rapidly and beginning beginning to overflow the shore.Huge trees trees , and too often bodies were coming down the river.I feared a flood And then decided to leave for the hills but the Captian told me not to fear we were too high to risk a real torrent .

Mr. Louis Stanning

That morning, boats, and larger shipping were edging off from the devastated city with women and children frantic to get away, and some begged for even a passage on the steamer.The whole country side around and north of the city was covered with broken trees of the forests, and furious seas of fire from the straight south, and southeast, were roaring on tward what remained of the city. The city here stretched nearly sixteen miles along the river water front.The smoking forest fires made a horrible background for the ruins which were burning in many places, and a frightful odor of burned flesh filled the air.

With greatl difficulty, I and a mmber in a boat effected a landing.Not ne of not one of the weaker houses were left intact, and heaps of earth, stones, gravel and all kinds of vegetation intermingled with clay and dried mud were seen on every side, and even then as now the streets could not be traced..Here and there amid the ruins were heaps of corpses, with all of their faces dowanward downward.In one corner of a ruined house, a hundred and fourty two bodies of men women and children were to my horror mingl d in one awful mass,,, arms and legs protruding, as the hapless beings fell amid the crashing houses in the last struggles of deathscagony.

Great trees with roots upward and scorched by fire and plastered with mud and gravel were strewn in every directionHuge blocks of granite stones were scattered abould, and from under some of them the arms of a woman man or child could be seen protruding. And most nit notiable wasthe utter silence and the awful overpowering stench from the many thousands of dead. And also sir the careful inspection showed that the fiety cloud of the nearest explls' explosionwhat had overwhelmed the city must have been composed of psionous gases, which instantly suffocated every one who inhaled them, and of otherygases burning furiously, for nearly all of the victims as I and others had observed, had their hands coveringtheir mouths, or were in other various attitudes, showing they had desperately sought relief from suffocation.And all the bodies appeared to have been roasted from the heat in the cloud itself.....

I found a horse and buggy and a man in a dead group in front of a ruined church, Every farm and plantation around Adelsheid had been destroyed.Stones and debris of all kinds fell further south than Adelsie Adelsheid and at Jemtorn.Many persons here were wounded, and about five hundred were killed. Calverine which is in a great distance from Abbieann and also Pandora was in darkness for a time bef because of the smoke of forest fires. Boats and canoes and other ships crowded with refugees were said to have arived at Pandora, and their occupants had been recieved most kindly..I was also on a ship heading for Adelsheid which had on board, a number of Governmental delegates,, a mmber of soldiers,, a detatchment of regular infantry, and fourteen priests bent to do what they could for the survivors.The vessel also carried a quanity of fire wood, petroleum, and quicklime, for use in the cremation of the bodies of the victims of the terrible explosion horror.Also on board were a large quanity of disinfectants, and stocks of clothing and provisions for the refugees.The refugee women and children of this city, Adelheid had assembled on the hills some distance from the city, and it was reported over a thousand of them had died, because of injuries, or overcome by the terrific ha heat caused by the fierceness of the forest fires raging in the distance.As we approached Adelsheid the country for miles around was covered with slowly moving water and with wreckage of houses, but when we arived near the city we came to higher ground all rolling forested hills and so steamed out of the flood zone. Then while nearing Adel hid Adelsheid the ship came up with a number of tugs, towing barges f covered with refugees.

Every one was crying. The heat from the distant forest fires, was almost suffocating, and we feared we e would not reach the city on time as the conflagration was heading for the city.Only a few good houses were still standing, or all of the stronger ones.When we got there we saw on all sides portions of corpses, which ee were gathered up by the soldiers, and burned on one of the big open squares.Not a drop of water was procurable on the shore unless we chance drinking the dirty muddy river water, and the darkness caused by the clouds of smoke from the forest fire shrouded the town, and the terrible noise of the flames added to the horror of the scene. The buildings on the quays, and all qeaker buildings on the northward side of the city were razed to the ground. There was no trace of the streets. At the place we landed we came upon some ruined walls indicating the spot where one of the big cathedrals had lately stood, and here in this locality hundreds of corpses were found lying in all kinds of attitudes, showing that the victims had died from singing and suffocation.

Every body I came across did not have a piece of clothing on them, and in many cases their abdomens had burst open by the intense heat. Curiously enough the features of the dead were generally calm and peaceful, though mostly on the faces of children children terrible fright and agony were depicted. Indeed I observed grim piles of bodies stacked everywhere sowing that death had stricken many of them, while the crowds who had escaped from the buildings after the first shock had vainly tried to seek refuge from the fiery deluge. Before the conflagration hit the city we boarded in trips back and forth nearly five thousand refugees and took them from the vinixity vinicity of Adelsieh Adelsheid, and brought them to Pandora. Yet at that time the dearth of provisons was beginning to be felt throughout the region.Numerous families were completely ruined, and all shelterless, while the means at the disposal disposal

of the aurthorities were much too far beyond means to cope with the situation.To make it worse communications were cut off from all the surrounding cities and towns by river, railroad, wires and so forth, except by vessels daring the perils of the flood, which were seized upon by the inhibatants to flee from the hell they were in. The stories I heard from the survivors at Adelsheid added to the awful details of the particularly harrowing account of the Abbieannian Passenger steamer called the St Ann. Their chief engineer Reese Whilliams, who was then at the hospital at Pandora said to me that the vessel loaded with women and children arived at Abbieann near midnight prepatory to land.Two minutes after twelve bells was struck, there was a damable crash and roar, and frightful eruptions near and close, far or scattered but scores at once was heard almost simultaneously, raging for fit fifteen minutes, causing concussions that threw down the buildings in the city, followed by four such frightful explosions as no mind can concieve.. Clouds of fire, smoke dust and debris mud and water, and vegetation of all sorts, toppling and roaring swept with lightning speed over the city and river. The St Ann was nearly sunk, and caught fire at once.

The concussion shook the air, and the boat was tossed by big waves. The Engineer said that he could never forget the horrid, fiery chocking cloud of horror which enveloped him from the sky.He said he rushed below, that he was not badly burned, not so bad as most of them.Most of the children being down below escaped.When the unusual explosions came the engineer was going to his post to cast anchor.When he came up he found the ship all afire aft, and fought it forward untill morning, when some other ships which were said to have arived a little later came to the rescue. At the time the captian ordered me to up anchor.I got to the windlass, I noticed the captian was badly burned.He had inhaled flames, and wanted to jump into the water of the river, but we prevented him.The first mate was so frightfully burned that he died, having inhaled flame.From my own ship a good number were saved but they were in a frightful state, except the captian . Although on deck and unprotected, he was little burned. He said there was an awful noise of explosion, and then at once a cyclome of smoke fire and all kinds of debris, but such was the awful posionous chocking nature of the smoke that it burned worse than fire.

When it struck people they fell dead. The cyclone of gas tore the mast at of the s hips, blew others up, and sunk many of them.Soon afterwards came a wave of fire bigger than the smoke cloud."

Mr. Ferdinand

Chapter 33

ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF THE TERRIBLE CALAMITY.
STARRING OBSERVES SCENES THAT BAFFLE ALL DESCRIPTION.

STARRING realized now he was witnessing the aftermath of one of the greatest disast disasters that had ever happened.The disaster even at Adelsheid was almost as complete as at Abbieann,even this city had x ceased to exist, and that half the population had perished..All the survivors were homeless and facing starvation and perils from forest fires, and were still in urgent need of all kinds of provisions, and that the visit of vessels that coud come could come for the work of supply and rescue was imperatively required.

Even the Government had requested that for the purpose of rescueing the people who still are in such deadly peril and threatened with starvation, any one man may send as soon as possibl e the means of transportating all refugees found from the stricken zones, and convey them from the path of forest fires. The Secretary of war has also been directed, as well as the Navy to take such measures for the relief of these stricken people as lie within the executive discretion, and they earnestlycommended this case of unexampled disaster to the generous consideration of all the people of Abbieannia. Starring new that the profound impression made upon the people of Abbieannia by the terrible calamity was manifested by the action of the emperor when he succeeded in raising great contributions as well as the nation also in mobolizations by the wholesale and so forth, to crush Glandelinia. Others had been sent to report the extensive character of the catastrophe.

Flags in cities and other parts of the country, and in fortifications, and within christian armies, and all other places as well as in all priviate residences were flying every day at half mast because of the disaster throughout Calverinia, and the loss of Abbieann. Members of sixteen hundred families in Calverine were lost in the Abbieann disaster.

Starring made a statement in regard to the unusual explosions around Abbieann which he declared was very much similar in effects as the St, Pierre dia disaster when a volcano there exploded from its side but of a hundred times a greater violence than Krakatoa, and was probably caused by some unknown high explosives of some high of an most immeasureable quanity.Starring said to the captian, as he had spent some time in the study of explosions, and is considered an authority on the subject;

This is what he said;

"All the evidence gleamed from the newspaper accounts and from a magazines and other writing, and story books is all contradictory, and inconclusive. The blasts were of the explosive type similiar to those which made our big floods before, but different in the nature of the destruction, and thesize of the flood.In the case of this great disaster the explod explosion was great enough to powder most of the debris.To this the still white hot flashes of the immense quanities of powders can be ascribed the destructive fire in the city of Abbieann with a ten billion dollar loss, and among the shipping in the river harbors and docks. The report of a terrific rain of fire, was simply this white hot flashes of still unburned powder.Gases probably were present and did burn, but any fire from this source would have ascended, owing to the lighter weight of the gas .The sudden hurling of clouds of water and mud in another explanation worthy on thevpresent evidence of the depth the explosions dug. The explosions are peculiar for they had enough force fo powder most of the debris ejected."

Starring still heard other evidences of experiences from persons in the great disaster.This was from a passenger on a ship. He had left Francis Atlanta for Abbieann at midnight on the 20th of May and arived at the latter at about eleven oclock of May the 30th.For the captian and his crew the greatest difficulty was experienced in getting near the city, the air being thick with smoke of distant forest fires, and the night darkness intense.The ship had to group its way to thr anchorage.

Appalling sounds were issuing from some distant places, and clouds of of smoke for a moment e enveloped the steamers deck where the passengers and the others were gathered gazing at the glow of the fires, some being engaged in trying to take night photographs of the scene. Hearing a most tremendous report as if a million bombs going off simultaneously, and seeing a roll of smokewrisi smoke rise high into the sky, the passenger dived into the room, dragging with him another man, and shutting the door tightly.Shortly after the first immense crashes had ceased, he heard a voice which he recognized as that of one of the Captians crew.Opening the door with great caution, he drew him in.The nose of this man was burned by the intense heat. And this passenger was the only one on board out of a number of one hundred and eighty nine that escaped uninjured.The heat being unbearable, he ermerged a few moments and the scene that baffled his eyes or greeted his eyes baffled all description.

All around on the deck were dead and dying, covered with mud, ro krocks and gravel, There they lay little children, as well as men and women, and indeed the appa appeals of the children for water was heartrending, and even when water was giving to them they could not swallow a dropp for their throats were filled with the burned powder, or burned with the heated air. On the aft section the ship was burning,, and he finallu jumped overboard, and stranger still found the water.,

of the river intensely hot. He declared he was sweptat on ce by a wave in the river, which washed him against an upturned river motor boat to which he desperately clung. Finally he was h joined by a man so dreadfully burned and terribly disfigured that he could not be recognized..Afterwards I found he was the captian of the ship, and he was in dreadful agony, and begged piteously to be put on board the ship.Securing some wreckage which contained some bedding and a tool chest, hewith the help of ten others who joined him on on the wreck, constructed a rude raft, and placed the captian on it. Then seeing two upturned rowboats, he askec asked one of the men men to swim and fetch it..He did so picked up two of his country men, and returned to the raft.Seeing a ship which had escaped the effects of the eruptions, he paddled the raft tward it waving a white flag.Theybwere rescued and taken to Francis Anna.Three of these died before reaching the port.A number of others have since died.

None on board the s hip were ever known to recover.The one who had saved himself said the scene on the burning ship was awful beyond description.The groans and cries of the dying, forv which nothingcould be done at all was horrible beyond all comprehension.He described even f a woman as being burned to death with a living baby girl in her arms, and that it seemed as if the whole world was afire.

The infmal inflamable material in the forepart of the ship that would have ignited that part of the vessel, had been thrown overboard by him and some others.One other ship disappeared as if blown up by a submarine explosion.Whatever he hadcheard made Starring now realize that the Bengall state catastrophe was even more terrible than at first reported.Refugees streaming past even now declared that their homes were wiped out by forest fires, that streams of water are turning boiling hot, and that large areas are still submerged.Other districts are also xr crowded with refugees. Almost half night darkness still continues.

After more investigations further on, starring wr wrote this note,-

"To general Robertsonia Viviani.----.

All river villiages near Abbieann including the city of Adelsheid and Adelsheid, were destroyed simultaneously with the bigger city.The entire region is covered with explosion debris, and great forest fires is making our work painfully slow. Smaller streams have dried up, ad and still thousands of persons are flocking to the hills not knowing where to go persued by fires.I do not believe untill connuni cations are restored that our country can relief relieve the stupendous distress, famine is said to be raging, and plagues also, and there is more urgent need of ofor the services of the Abbieann Red Cross. The terrible supposed eruptions, is not yet discovered. The central and eastern parts of Adelsheid struck recently by the forest fires are still burning.Every body among the refuggees is mourning the loss of relatives and friends. Business in other cities not touched by the disaster is at acomplete standstill.Abbieann was the financial and provisioning city of Calverinia.Elsewhere the forest fires are still raging more violent and disasterous explosions may follow. What I have seen tends now to confirm and emphasize the horrors of the terrible blow that has fallen upon Abbieann and all of southern and central Calverinia. Indeed no such appalling disaster, distinguished by the suddeness of the bloow blow, the number of victms cit victims, the immeasrureable property loss, and the great flood and forest fires, the completeness of the desolation, the reported force and effects of the explosions, has ever come home to the civilized world with so overwhelming and harrowing a force.The convusion convulsion of nature in Krakatoa was not greater than the slightest of these terrific explosions, and nothing can compare.. Our Government requests our aid in transporting what refugees we can from the stricken region, where famine stares all in the face day by day.Every state Government has appealed for aid.Abbieann is surely wiped out completely, and the inhibatants of the surrounding towns have also all perished.In the city of St Vincent which 1811 I'll reach next they saw thousands have perished, and the land has been laid to wate. waste .Plantations have been wiped out by the explosions, and floods, countless stock have been killed, hundreds of millions dollars worth of crops destroyed, and the means of subsistence have been wrested from the people .

From present indications the forested country around the explosion and flood zone have been turned into a smouldering smoking desert of hell by the remains of burned trees, and so far as I have discovered fifty thousand homeless have been counted by me, and no one is able to xa care or provide for the, them. It is a most fortunate circumstance that we do not have to wait to find ways and means for extending help on occassions like this.All our people are not only willing, but they have been doing all in their power to aid.The machinery for collecting and distributing aid had been as I read in papers sent in motion at the first news of the disaster, and we know by experience how effective is the work trusted to be accomplished.The impulse to give has stirred the heart of every ae one and we hope as soon as communication is restored something can be done in bringing a speedy relief to all.."

Chapter 34

10,000 persons killed in the city of St Vincent De Paul.

GREAT ALARM AS TO THE FATE OF THE COUNTRY SIDE. AWFUL SUDDENESS OF THE CALAMITY AT ST VINCENT DE PAUL. GRAPHIC STORIES TOLD TO STARRING BY WITNESSES OF THE NEAREST OF THE DEADLY EXPLOSIONS.

After the inspection of the city of Adelsheid was over Starring boarded the ship once more with his forces and the four ci child scouts, and by night the whole force started next for the city of St Vincent De Paul where conditions had been reported to be worse outside of Abbieann...The great explosion took good effect on this city as he heard and a shower of stone, and clay had even fallen thirty miles away from the city itself, and dust was two inches deep. Seven thousand dead had been the first report, but now it had been estimated that the total number of dead had reached near ten thousand. And most of the victims were said to be women and children as half or over half of the men population were either out in the army or had been drafted by the government to aid rangers and the others to fight the terrible forest fires.. Hundreds of most most beautiful estates in the vinicity had been ruined. Throughout the whole region north of the disaster zone great alarm had even now been felt regarding the fate of such a beautiful town as St Vincent De Paul, and also Abbieann. At that time a gigantic forest fire was beaing furiously down upon this city, which was surrounded by forests and which had not been touched by the floods, and the northern region of the country had been utterly destroyed.It is feared that even the estimate of 10,000 dead is exactly too small . From the news of the stupendous disaster the whole nation still was greatly exi excited .

Starring was willing to go slow with this part of the trip after leaving the ruins of Adelcheid, for he felt he must rest up after withstanding the terrible hardships and his encounters with the horrible sights that he had witnessed every minute of the two days of his stayb there.. Starring had been surprised when he reached St Vincent De Paul city, that no more dead were in sight.But he was told that thousands of bodies had been strewn along the streets only a week after the disaster, and others being at least partly buried under the wreckage of the buildings, but now all of the bodies found on the surface at least had been buried a week after the disaster, but none of those in the ruins had yet been dug out as it was impossible. It would require months, unless a greater force of men is employed,, otherwise all of the dead could not be properly disposed of.Every moment of his stay in Adelcheid Starring and followers feared greatly that the forest conflagration would come up as stated and surround the city wi y with its billows of death dea,ling fire.The fire continued to rage elsewhere, great clouds of flames sometimes almost roffing the sky above making a most awe inspiring scene. Starring discovered that the reports that all of the surviving inhibatants of St Vincent De Paul had been brought away saftly from the danger zone was not true... No one had escaped here. Like at Abbieann. A great wave of debris hurled by the explosion swept across one prtion of tye the city, destroying the lives of all in that section in an instant.The others were said to have fled down the river shore, and were rescued by some ships, but this had not been, confirmed.. Other villiages near St Vincent, were destroyed by the explosion, and a flood of debris was hurled o all over the city.

Great indignatiojn indignation against the Glandelinians grew, and grew as the panic among the survivors subsided, and so many men victims of the di saster who survived entered the army to fight that few of the survivors had any males among them.It is well remembered that while other disasters had occured elsewhere throughout the autum and winter and sa l eas early summer, Glandelinia was committing vile massacres of children esle elsewhere.Everyoweek as far as the abatement of the flood would allow some provisions had been brought here and there for the refugees, but famine continued elsewhere.Starring could observe where ever he came upon refugees that they were all on half rations, and when it can be also rememebered that danger ous pestilences is also an immediate menance, it can be understood why there should be plenty of food to give to those who may be attacked strength to fight the disease. What gave Starring some hope however was, that the nature of the flood ,its results and the difficulty of any persons getting to the disaster zone, for one good instance prevented any such an added horror as vandalism, and anyhow so complete was the devastation that there would not have been anything for the Glandelinians to loot to boot.Of course a there are the most severe capital penalties methed out to all who are caught stealing in the wreckage.

As Starring was ariving into the vinicity of the city of St Vincent De Paul he met with a Government Tug, sent from Fancis Atla, which arived at the same time, bringing with it five members of the Gemini, a ton of supplies for the survivors, consisting of wholesome foods. The tug had been compelled to go twenty miles out of her course because the tug encountered a column of the tyickest thickest smoke and seething flames flames on both sides of the stream which she could not pass.In the river also were a number of ships and boats inconstant readiness to take away the workers, if the forest firec bears down upon the town as is warned, and a deligent watch is

constantly maintain ed ready to give eet ze warning, and if the conflagration turns in the direction of St Vincent De Paul the place will be immediately deserted. Besides t those working in the ruins, Starring could observe not a single human being within the city. All who have not been killed have no doubt felt to some remote country. On board this tug, was a man who witnessed the distaster from the start, and who gave this account of the event p preceding the disaster at St Vincent and Abbieann and also of the catastrophe itself, as backed by other eye witnesses, who were on the River Coal ~~Battge~~ barge, called the "queen" Before the catastrophe a strong body belonging to the scientific commission, presided over by Dargar Horner assemed assem bled in Abbieann on May the 21th, the fr few days before the calamity for the purpose of studying the effects of the raging fore t forest fires.It was for a time agreed by the members of this commission that the relative direction of the movement of the conflagration, and the valleys debouching out on the river regions, were such that the scientists could affirm that the security of the region was complete as long as the wind retained a southwesterly or a westerly direction, and this announcement was made to ally the fears of the ffi frightened citizens.

The moon rose clear over St Vincent at about six lock oclock in the evening of May the 31th.The great forest fire was raging to the southward, and the wind was blowing northeastward. A few minutes before twelve oclock a great white column what appeared to be smoke and dust, suddenly belched forth from some section o not far from North Bend, and which appeared to suddenly open up a rent in the ground for a li long distance.The outbreak caused the utmost consternation and panic among those of the inhabitants of the city who were still not in their beds, who fled tward the river parts uttering frightful screams.There was a terrific noise that would have drowned out the loudest thunder ever heard and a moment later a gignatic mass of thick impenetrable black smoke torn by terrific red flashes poured upward and forward and fell with frightful rapdity upon the city. In a very short time before the shocks the whole city was a mass of ruins.From the concussions the waters of the river were violently agitated and everywhere was heard the sound of falling houses, and vessels were seen to overturn and sink or burst into flames.Also the cries of the doomed beings on shore, and afloat lasted only a few moments, when the stillness of death fell upon the city and the whole region.

Only six vessels of all the shipping in the harbor of thi this city had withstood the terrific apparent convussion of nature.Many of the survivors who were saved by the surviving ships crews, declared they had sprang overboard, and despite injuries recieved by falling debris, and rocks and fiery clouds, succeeded by diving and swimming for two or three hours in sustaining themselves, untill they were picked p by the crews of the surviving ships.

Nothing then had remained of the city of St Vincent except vast heaps of smoking ruins, indeed resembling a vast furnace of the infernal regions.But here and there in the open spaces large numbers of partly burned, and asphyxiated bodies could be seen lying on the ground or amid the ruins. It had taken thousands of workers to dig out and bury what dead they had been able to find.The smell of the burni ng flesh had been observed three miles away. However now as it was luck for Starring access to St Vincent was much easier, and by this time the ruins of the city had ceased to smoke.It had been learned by him that the strange rain of fire ceased at a distance of one hundred yards from the city of Wickey Lansin. Starrings talk with survivors of the disaster at St Vincent, confirmed to him all the previous statements as to the awful suddeness of the catastrophe. It is thought that an ernormous quanity of some unknown explosives might have been liverated, with gas liquid also, producing by force and noise great atmp atmospheric pressure, which overwhelmed everything before it, and tye the concussions which leveled every building.The strange fumes absorbed by th the bodies of the victims caused them to burst, and the fire coming aftr afterwards carbonized them...

This no doubt was followed by a terrific rain of all kinds of rocks and debris which enveloped the city, and one survivor said he had been out late that night and said at the moment of the explosion he had the impression of being violently drawn tward the explosion by a strange powerful currentbof air.Then the whole country opened into eruptions, according to the description of the man, and flung tornadoes of fire and debris at every city and town within range.

On account of the great disaster, and because of its effects Starring had heard that throughout Abbieannia and the other states all business had suspended, and this was alarming news to him.The people in all cities had towns had day after day month after month assembled in the churches, at all hours, Cathederals and the like, where often special services were and are being held for the dead of all the war disasters ,and in particular for the dead of the city of Abbieann. A famine also in many parts was raging, and many sections of the disaster zone was now becoming entirely depopulated, as people who can were moving off northward.Starring on boking things over observed that prov provisions were needed in the vinicity of St Vincent immediately for nearly three hunred thousand poeplepeople, and a ship load of line or lime for sanitary purposes, for the stench there from the dead bodies was overpowering.Starring however said about general Hendro Dargar the Great Gemini;;;;;;

"I have heard that general Dargar has asked the aurthorities of every city by telegram to render and continue assistance that can be possible.Great praise is given the great Gemini leader.He and all his followers have worked desperately and

and inf indefatigably to succor the survivors that are so hard to reach because of the nature of the disaster, and the destroyed communications.He in person has bandaged the limbs of the wounded, and has worked without sleep and food, and they say he is now completely exhausted.For Fourty persons rescued from the ruins by him, are in a hospital at Calverine.In addition to the species already secured, and $100,000,0. were rescued from the half ruined bank of St Vincent. The whole nation was said to be quiet. and Strange to relate, in view of the great number of inhabitants of St Vincent who were swept to death by the midnight explosions, Starring learned that very few corpses had been found by those who had been engaged in the worl of burying and cremating the dead bodies.This may be due to the fact the that the most populaous populious quarters of the city are buried under the wreckage of all their tall houses , and with the conflagrations raging in the ruins, the bodies underneath underneath might have been entirely consumed. Starring also heard of many strange and most incomprehensible incidents which had been recounted in St Vincent.The charred remains of a little girl, with her clothing still on, and unburned, and in perfect condition had been found there.

The crisp bodies of young children have also been found, but also the clothing they were were uninjured though their bodies were charcoaled..The path of the strange torrent hurled by the near explosion which swept over the city of St Vincent, Starring discovered marked out in the strangest manner. The vinicity of the northern limits where the vessels were destroyed was swept by a whirlwind of flame and smoke, which ripped, tore and shattered everything in its passage but left few traces of debris behidn.On the other hand, the centre and adjoining southern parts of the city, were only shaken down by the concussion of the explosions and also recieved a rain of debris hurled skyward by the explosions, and then fires broke out which consumed everything that could burn.

Every one Starring talked to of importance, told him that ever since the catastrophr catastrophe occured the work of succoring the refugees continued incessantly and still was going on.. One ship filled with refugees rescued, had to pass through clouds of smoke and flaming embers close to a forest fire, at the risk of catching fire, in order to s bring the refugees to a safer place, and then to repeat the harrowing experience in order to reach the other terrir terror stricken people waiting for aid.

But this ship succeeded b in bring to the nearest places of refugee 5,078 people mainly former residents of what survived in villiages around St Vinvent. This was on a g n Sunday night, a week before Starring came.Since then the steamer as the result of other most daring trips through" HELL" had succeeded in bringing many other persons to safty places.On the very day before Starring arived she rescued nearly a thousand persons, and piloted some half injured ships, who took on board other forest fire u fugitives..The other ship the Mary Ann having done everything possible in the efforts being made to succor other fire fugitives left the region on such a mission just an hour before Starrings arival. Tugs had distributed to the sufferers still remaining large quanities of buscuits, milk, brandy, and cheese. Starring was emotionally interested in the stories of survivors, and in the efforts for weeks and weeks being made to succor the refugees of both disasters,. A woman named Marie St Claire, who was a hospital nurse in a hospital in St Vincent, and who was among those taken to a refugee camp untill she could be convoyed to a j hospital, in describing her experiences, said that on the night of the terrible disaster, she had just finished her prayers and gone to bed, and was hardly asleepp, when she heard a loud report, fe t felt her bed j jump wildly, the furniture she observe dance, and noticed the rocking and swaying of the house, wherein she fainted.When she regained her senses, a few hours later, she was under some wreckage horribly burned, and glacing around she saw no one else alive. This lady though she survived tobtell the tale said she would never be able to forget it as long as she lived..

A little girl whose name was Mary Shannon, the nine year old daughter of the Mayor of St Vincent, who with her mont mother, two brothers aged five and six,, and one sister also aged six, was asleep in their beds when the explosion came .This little girl is in a hospital in Pandora, and is not expected to live.Her Aunt Clara Shannon, who was in the refugee camp at which Starring visited told him the following story of her experience;

"I was just preparing for bed, when the butler called out to me;

"Look at that awful cloud shooting up inthe air."

"I immediateldy immediately went to the window, and as I saw a vast mass of black and white cloud come rushing forward as it seemed to envelope us all, with a strange noise, there came a tremendous report, which caused all the windows of my room to fly out and the whole house to shake fearfully.Part of the house crashed, and I rushed to my clothes closet in panic, suddenly experiencing a feeling of suffocation, which was followed by intense heat.The other section of the house broke into flames.As I was not hurt, I assisted my nephews and neices to escape. They were carried out of the house, just as it crashed to totall ruin.When we got to the street the two little boys died. His mother also died, the two sisters however surviving but terribly burned. Im I fortunately did not sustain serious injuries."

Starring found there were after all many survivors out of the city of St Vincent and all these refugees of the explosion disastor even now continued to be greatly broken by the terrible experience through which they had passed.Starring saw the Mayor who had survived and he was in a pitiable condition, and he cannot take his mind from

the scenes.He was the last to leave the ruins of his burning home.And he spo spoke in the highest terms of those who did such noble rescue work in the face of dire perils . The captian of another ship reported to Starring that at about fourty two miles southwest of Abbieann, after the explosion horror on the late morning of June the First, the river rose and increased in width a dand its current sped with c great fury, breaking as if on rocks.This continued for hours, then the river broke its bounds.The schooner labored very heavily, but sustaining slight damage, though beyond control during the phenomenom. It was believed the action of the flood elsewhere did this. Shocked by the news of the disaster at Bengall State and elsewhere, which had destroyed his residences at Adeleheid, wharehouses and stores, An aged merchant of Calverinia, sat silent and amazed on a pier near the refugee camp, and when questioned by Starring at first only looked at him vacantly. Sitting beside him was his eight year old daughter. Near him stood his wife,. Fortunately he had not been in Adeleheid at the time of the disaster, neither had his wife or child.They had been in Pandora, having left Adeleheid because his daughter had wished to see what the great Pandora city was likre like. As he refused to speak his wife said;

"We had also a home in Adeleheid, and another in St Vincent, on the stream called the Morne Rouge, near the mountains" she said. "These whomes of ours were filled with valuable curios and men mementoes of various trip cal islands which even the biggest sum of money could not e replace.All these and my husbands places of business are swept away.The loss to us will reach $10,000,000. We had many friends among all the people here including the Mayor himself and his wie wife and children.We usually remained in Adeleheid city all the summer.My little daughters desire to seethe bigger city of Pandora proved our salvation."

Her husband was so terribly overcome by the news of his loss that he could not find voice to talk. Starring also learned that dispatches from the Local regions were giving more attention to the living and the injured than the dead,, and had become more urgent in their calls for food supplies for the millions of refugees. As it said before because of the cutting off of Vivian Wickey by the seige, and the wars horrid progress Abbieann was the storehouse and main supply station for the whole of Calverinia, and all of its supplies have been destroyed by fire, or swept away in the ernormous flood that had followed. In addition a large tract of country as big as the whole of North America has been laid waste by flood and forest fires, and battle and massacre horrors thus depriving the surviving inhabitan ts of vegetable and meat supplies, for the cattle and all other kind of farm animals and fowls are reported dead or dying of starvation.....

Nearly two months have elasped since the great disaster began,/ and no one knows when all of the refugees can be reached with supplies, and this new disaster has rende rendered moredestitute those who were homeless because of other disasters, and it was harder to reach them, for they had not been fully succored either as disaster after disaster had come so quick one after the other./

All other cities and towns as Starring knows have surplus food that could have been sent to the disaster zone in a day or two if all communications had not been destroyed, and thus aff rd relief enough untill the arival of the larger supply ships sent from bigger cities and ports. As it occured at night, at all points within the disaster explosion zone, and mostly all the inhabitants of the towns and cities, were evidently in bed sound asleep no one had a chance to escape. The ejecta thrown upward by the explosions came down like cloud bursts, and the cities were caught like rats in a trap.. If every one had been out in the streets there may have been some show, they could have fled under cover, or to the rivers.. In many towns the river shipping at the docks did not ga have a ghost of a show to get away.Yet every one who knew the cities and towns and its people can easily imagine the scenes of wild horror that must have been inacted when the excitable people aroused by the first c ash realized that escape was impossible.Ipps.

Chapter 35

STARRING HEARS MORE NARRATIVES OF MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAD THEIR OWN TERRIBLE EXPERIENCES. SCENES IN THE STRICKEN REGIONS.

Additional horror day after day had been excited since the disaster happened, by every account furnished of the terrific explosions and concussions and floods caused by them, which was published by all newspaper concerns and correspondents, throughout the region, and here is another which Starring himself heard from the experience of a war correspondent himself;;;;;

"Yes sir I had hard times to go through the devastated regions in which I explored in order to get pictures if I could, for all communications between the triple disaster zone, and all the country is destroyed, and so many hills here and there are so covered with forest fires of the most severe kind that they appear like a great number of volcanoes in terrible eruption. The nearest of the fires was twenty five miles east of Adeleheidl, and yet the flames from that could be visible more than a hundred miles miles and the smoke four hundred. When I first heard of the disaster Inwent out and believe me after two months of the travel I believe I had passed through hell. Never again. But I'll tell you my whole story sir. Knowing that I wished to go on the special trip the City Government of Francis Atlanta paid my passage on a refugee boat. It left the city at seven oclock in the morning. I wished at that time sir not to go to view the results of this Abbieann disaster, for it had not happened then but some of the later ones before that. I must tell you sir I arived at Abbieann in time to participate in a part of the horror and only a miracle saved me. Terrible flames from the distant forest fires raging onward along the eastern woods were visible during the entire jounrey journey. At midnight it was seen that a big ridge of hills were all afire about fourty miles away. The ship ran into a dense gray cloud, and the people on deck were almost suffocated and went below to get relief.

The atmosphere became so dense with smoke that we could not see a thing ahead of us. We were then encountering an unusually degree of heat, which finally forced the captian to order the steamer to be put about, and steam northward untill we could be clear of the dense smoke and get away from the unbearable heat. At four oclock the steamer put back tward the original course again, and encountered a thicker cloud of smoke rolling northww northwestward, and was again compelled to put off.

It arived about ten miles south of Adeleheid at about six oclock in the morninfg morning of May the 26h. It was seen that the forest fires were dangerously close and there was a tremendous roar of explosions occassionally in the distance which I believe camecfrom the dynimite used by the fighters to breach the forest in the path of the flames. Great flashes of fire played incessantly over the smoke filled sky. and there was a fog from it all day. The forest fire was first observed so close on the week before my arival. Huge volumes of flames shot u ward, and the people in all that district were fleeing. There had been a continuous uproar all that time. The northern forest district from west of Heidi Junction to Evan SVille has been completely destroyed by the fire. It was impossile to proceed beyond that point on account of the hot debris left by the fires. The whole region was on fire. A huge hill was observed to be lit rally burning up. On the 27th and the 28th, the whole country side was covered with wreaths of dense smoke, and everything was ruined by the heat and the smoke. Many persons were brought to Adeleheid in boats from towns menanced by the forest fires. All of the refugees were nearly dying of thirst, and all of these people had been thirty seven or fourty hours without a drop of water. All of the cattle were dead because of the heat and he lack of the water. And on account of the scarcity of water and the destruction of communications, it was impossible at prresent to go into the in interior and investigate the extent of the forest fire disaster, and tward where it was heading. It was impossible to sau say just how many people might have perished in the flames if any did, but the number will probably run into the scores. We left Adeleheid at nine oclock in the morning of May the 29th with orfe orders to tow a relief boat full of refugees to or near Abbieann. A quarter of a mile further on near North Bend we recieved a message by shore from a boat that because of tne forest fires about to cross the stream, the passage would be impossible. impossible. Nevertheless we proceed ded on our voyage. When opposite North Bend there was a greand view of view of the forest fire now only ten miles away. The whole sky was covered thickly with rolls and cauliflower like columns of smoke and there was an incessant flashing of flames through them... Great quanities of sparks and light embers were blown in clouds in the air, and were fallig falling tward the river obscuring everything. It was impossible to get close to the town of Costello. We attempted to proceed to St Vincent through a great cloud of smoke overhanging the river and the country side,,, but found it impossible. It meant suffocation to try it. We returned and entered the bolt again miles down the river u but there ,it was the same,,, result. On the horizon there was nothing to be seen but rising smoke clouds and leaping flames, and overhead the sky was dark...

On the horizon there was nothingto be seen but rollingclouds and leaping flames and other forest fire scenes. We were forced to put back because of the fierce heat and str steamed down the river to find a branch stream that might conduct us past the fire and give us an opportunity to reach Abbieann. Opposite Turpo Town we encountered a hot gale of wind carrying clouds of smoke and debres debris. To the north the entire territory of the danger zone was clearly visible. Besides the large forest fire numerous smaller ones were aglo and smoking or blazig, and the rear portion of the main one where it had passed and left only the smouldering embers a great stretch of white and gray cloud rose thousands of feet high. Much of the smoke was going westward and it was quite dark. When we were close to Turpo town we passed to the windward along the center of the river tward St Vincent, and saw no sign of life. It is believed that every person within the forest fire zone had left. The refugees at the towns were in danger.

It took us a long time to get within range of Abbieann, and we got there just on time sir, to see the terrific disaster. First we heard a m s most extraordianry noise, morosextraordinary, than those ever heard when a tornado approa h approaches. It seemed like when a flock of blengiglomenean creatures were wining winging tward us as fast as they can fly. Just previously the air had been very calm , although the moon and stars were obscured by smoke clouds. At the same moment when he heard the sound he fel felt a strange vortex of air likened to a swift passage of some heavy body. Then there was a most terrific roar,, a noise similiar to the firing of some huge cannon but a hundred million times louder to my way of believing it, and I saw a huge black cloud rising high in the air with the under part arching downward and rolling and rapidly traveling tward Abbieann and all over a as far as eye can see . The boat I was on was twelve miles from the city, As the cloud traveled I heard other numerous explosions far or near, as if whole fleets of volcanoes were firing a tremenous Kratu Katkaoa eruption at each other. A spur of some hill, and a stretch of dark forest prevented me from seeing what happened at Abbieann, but I distinctly heard the roar of falling buildings. I ran to awaken the captian, who however had been aroused, for all on board came running on deck, but all at once something blackand stifling enveloped all of us, followed by a shower of something scorching and hot ear rinning flared into flame, mo many of us writhed on deck o in mortal agony and I only saved myself in the neck of time when I rushed below. I heard that Abbieann was wiped out, and I believe the cloud had been sorespecies of fire damp produced by the awful magnitude of the explosion , which had been wide enough to envelope the city and the country all around.."

After this interview Starring and his followers left St Vincent city, being more distressed by the probable fate of the city having not hardly believed it before. As the boat traveled onward, the whole crew, and all on board including Starrings followers were on the alert, and every eye was directed tward the forest fires. Everybody on board was afraid that the forest fire was going to cross the river through the section which the ship must pass, and destroy everything before it. For several days di during the onward trip, the forest fire had been traveling on, and immense quanities of forests had been destroyed by this time. Many inhabitants from other villages villiages were still fleeing before it, some had asked to be taken on board, and Starring himself said there was no room. Starring even while in the cabin could see the forest fire from the rear windows, and although the nearest portion was said tobe to be fully five miles away, he could hear the roar of the flames and seei the fire rushing upward with terrific stretches and speed, and the immense clouds rolling upward tward the heavens as if the whole world was burning and tye the end of the world had already come... While traveling on they passed a town covered with smoke and fog and which had also been hanging we overhead for several days like the blackest kind of a roof of a dark cavery cavern which darkness only broken by a torchlight.. The smell of burning pine and leaves was vew very strong though somewhat sw e sweet and while on deck many of the crew and others were obliged to wear handkerchiefs over their faces to protect them from the strong fumes. The captian assured Starring that there was no danger, and if there is he would not attempt to run pass the danger zone.

Starring feared that many more perished in the triple disaster than he even heard about. If the disaster overwhelmed such a big city as Abbieann, and spread as far as it is predicted, then it might as well be as great as if the whole of the United States had been wup wiped out in the same fashion. Starring said to the Captian;

"Then I was informed of the disaster at Abbieann I was in my tent with Angeline Jennings helping e her work out a do code letter she had secured from the enemy camp. As I had just finished, a courier came riding up and handed me a message. It was written by some one who I did not know and therefore laughed and told the courier that he might as well let the fellow have his joke. But when I recieved a note on the disaster from Gertrude Angeline, ans as I knew her, I felt funny." At first when they believed it violet and her sisters were almost prostrated over the news of the terrible disaster at Abbieanns many of their best friends resided in that city. On learning of the explosions and the results theytwere wild. At first they believed Gertrude Angrile and Angeline and her venturesome friends had been killed, as Violet said, she and her sisters knew they were in a part of the city at

the time where they would be exposed to the worst of the blev . ertrude Angeline 2was known as one of the most brillian car careers in the army for a girl scout, and held many prominent positions of trust with the greatest of the christian armies, and the Emperor himself, and was favored greatly by the Vivian Girls.per nearly two years shechad kept the enemy in a state of terror.The explosioncame undoubyedly from the plains north of Abbieann. The cloud of the blast rose in a vast amphitheteur over and upon the city, and extended in a magnificent swee| from Point Caltor on the south, to Adeleheid on the northwest.The force of the explosion could have b ried the city entirely with rubbish from one end to the other, and why it did not do so seems strange."

Indeed it seems most of all that Adeleheid city and the northwestern section of Abbieann had been desto destroyed by an immense mass of fire and debris which fe,, fell on the city after the explosion hurled the c debris skyward. It seems strange captian that the people of these cities could not have been on their guard when they have read and heard the news of the disasters bfo before. Any one could regard the enemy as most dangerous. They should have regarded the gramblingepf the distant disasters eqrlier before much as the people of those afflicted cities and towns probable and surely did when they experienced these disasters.. The enemy seem to have done here however what he did elsewhere but t i this time more suddenly. It seems as so many statements make that these explosions literally blew up or tore up the whole country side, completely destroying the city of Abbieann and many others, and altering the appearance of this portion of the country, making many believe at first it was some great and unusual eruption. I he have read that fifty miles away hundreds of people were killed by the falling debris, and the resulting floods killed more than the explosions did.

Such et e n ernormouss ernormous clouds of smoke and debris and dust were thrown upward, that it did look like eruptions. In the amount of material ejected by these strange explosions, the slightest makes even the so told story of the eruption of Kraj Krakatoa seem vee very infer n inferior, and the city of Abbieann with its population was annihilated. Besides captiab, though o some light is thrown on the character of the terrible disaster, by which the city of Abbieann is blotted out of existance, the exact nature of the outbreak is a matter of spectulation. Few eye witnesses of the disaster, who were on ships at the time of its orruace or occurance have been found alive, and the stories they tell are far from being consistent and circumstantial. It is positive however the e p expl explosions were no strange c volcanic eruptions from under ground, and that the town in whole was not destroyed by a tremendous shower of huge stones boiling lava and volcanic ashes and dust as many said, but that instant death came to all who were caught under the falling ruins of their homes which crashed before the concussion of the explosions, and those who were in the northern part of the city that was enveloped by the could were stifled by the posionous gases which accompanied the shocks and concussions. The most remarkable feature of the explosion that a was reported was th sheet of flame which is said to have poured over the northern part of the city hugging the earth apparently and setting fire to everything within its reach.

The manner in which the vomitings of the explosions were deflected in the direction of the city of Abbieann and other places p presents one of the most difficult problems connecti connected with the explosion which no scientific experts can even explain though they were called upon to investigate. It was said that the explosions sounded as if all the mountains around had not only blown their heads off in eruptions but that the explosions were more extended than that, and that it seemed as if all the entire mountains had been torn to pieces and scattered outward, as well as upward and in all directions. And why did the explosions hurl the fragments with desolating force in a direction close to the earth..?

On the occassion just referred to there was another strange phenomenon to the explosion. An ernormous volume of dust hurled by the blasts was shot high into thr the air, it attained d a attained a height it is estimated of fully thirty miles maybe fourty, where it was tard taken up by the counter currents, and wafted across more than a hundred miles of land in a direction far contrary to that of the prevading land winds, and then deposited in the shape of strange impalpable powder as dark and as fine as lampblack in the streets of Calverine, and the surrounding country.

The sameep phenomenon was noted during the late explosions when a great shower of earth debris made its way westward from the explosion zone to the city of Francis Atlanta, although a westerly wind was blowing steadily all the while.

Ever since the disaster the scientific corps of the Abbieann Weather Bureau at Sacramento,Abbieannia State had been engaged in stud studying the direction of and force of these upper air currents, and the strange phenomena connected with the eruptions of the explosions, and if they succeed it will materially assist them in ariving at sound conclusions. Experienced geologists and meteorologists accompanied the relief boats on the expedition to the disaster zone for the purpose of studying these and the other phenomena ofvthe explosions on the ground, and valuable scientific results must thereby follow.."

"There has never been witnessed in in the experience of human beings so awful a scene of destruction as that disaster at Abbieann" said the Captian."The accounts

of the awful cataclysmm in nich the whole population of a city as large as Abbieann, and including other towns and cities were in fifteen or twenty minutes overwhelmed by the crashing buildings shaken down by the concussions of the explosions, or those fleeing into the streets being secondarily overwhelmed by the thick showers of still burning powder, that belched forth like powdered fiery lava may well make our whole country feel how tiny and insignificant she is before such a foe of Abbieannia, and indeed all the rest of Abbieannia too, when in the face of such powers the enemy can if she has done so make nature go through her mighty and mysterious throes out of time, and beyond what any other disaster never has been compared yet. As I have read and even seen, many poets and even story writers have set their wildest imaginations to book for and plays and shows, and actual frightful acts i in picturing and giving drama of hell and all its horrors. I believe Milton was one of them, and Dante another, the latter probably the greatest. But I don't believe the worst parts of the Internal Regions, and all its flaming terrors and all its horrid gnomes and other fiendish creatures as they concieved them are not more hedious and appalling, than the stories of the frightful experiences of those many millions of hapless inhabitants upon whom disaster after disaster has poured down their flaming and consuming storms of erupted debris, and flame, and of the frightful nerve draining floods that followed after, combined by the immeasureable forest fires, terrific m battles, fury of the Glandelinian soldiery, the immeasureable massacres of children, and the wholesale destructions of hundreds of towns and scores of cities for every disaster. And also general Starring the fact may be is that the Day of judgement, as fortold in the prophetic visions of the holy ones, could hardly impress the human mind with more immeasureable horror, and even terror, than the extic extinction in fifteen minutes of the greatest of Calverinian cities, by the blast of explosions, flood and a complication of other catastrophes.It will be one of the most impressive events for us all, and if you my dear sir can really find proofs that the enemy has been responsible, and that the explosions were not really volcanic eruptions as the majority are inclined to believe, you yourself can rouse the nation in such a manner that God help Glandelinia.This coming so soon after many others before, is a holocaust that makes even resisting Calverinia, nay all civilization after all seem very frail and feeble before such an enemy, seems so at least.There is nothing like a contemplation of your earthquake or your volcano horrors for knocking conciet and vanity outthe out of the human heart, w but when its comes to disasters of these kind then the world itself stands appalled....."

The boat was now heading for the city of Wickey Lansin.As he knew well, as it survived the disaster to a great measure by m r miracle this city is already filled with thousands of refugees from other places, and more are daily coming in.The terror even now has taken a new form. The forefires were manuvering like an army in battle , places hit hard by the explosions, but not touched by flood, were in the likely path of this new scourge, even Wickey Lansin, and there was great and imminent danger of starvation before help could even get there. The victims of the awful disaster, or fugitives of forest fires, driven onward day by day, and who have escaped with their lives and even without injury are dazed and as helpless as children. Starring knew they are absolutely destitute of everything save the few garments on their backs, the raging fires giving them no time to save a thing, while all the men folk of these towns have fought the fires striving to check them. The food supply in Wickey Lansin is even so small that with the utmost caution it cannot last long among those who have come there already, to say nothing of those who were still to come. Even from all parts stragglers are making their way there, and many fugitives cr wd crowded the shores and begged piteously for the captian of Starrings ship to take them on.

But there was no room on the boat,, and all the relief expeditions that were expected to bring to the city all whom they could rescue were stopped in their progress by the terrible fire.

All the districts for many miles about Wickey Lansin as Starring and his followers observed is a desolate waste, and even the whole appearance of the country had been transformed. Starring did not believe that there were any persons left alive outside of Wickey Lasin, and that those who have not perished had fled eother to the city, or elsewhere far out of the disaster zone. How many were loats lost in their endeavors to escape in small boats to other sections will never be known. But anyway all that is certain is that many did take to the rivers and other streams in this way and of these but few have been heard from. Fires are sweeping across many streams, in which even a steamer could go through only by a miracle.

Starring had been surprised also more and more in his life than he had ever been before, for ever since he had left general Concentinian Arronburge lines, nay even before before that months ahead, over the whole country no matter where he had travled there was and had been and is t still even in the middle of day, a twilight and some times midnight darkness from the great black canopy of smoke that continued to spread so far over the sky that rose so high from the many tremendous forest fires, and that kept the whole state sometimes in a stinky darkiness that even surprised the people in far away cities that were never touched by the catastrophes.....Also to add to the devastation, many smaller streams which took their formation from mountain heights, and which alowed had not ever overflowed their banks in their whole history dried up so that a terrible famine of water threatened.The work of exploring exploring what ruins there are in Wickey Lansin started by Starring and

a number of his followers but was continued on throughout the most greatest difficulty. There was a c c sickening or odor also here that arise from the great heaps of dead animals which still lay exposed in all directions, or of human beings which were or are still mingled with the heaps of ruins. There was one man whom Starring interviewed when he entered Wickey Lansin, and this man was a fori foriegn tor tourist who had come to the region after his first knowleage of the disaster at Abbieann.He was all over the northern disaster zone in the duration of three weeks.He spent several days in A what was left of Abbieann, studying the nature of the ruins, the parts still under water, and the fires beyond. He said to Starring;

"I am inclinged to believe that the deaths among the people of Abbieann could never be exaggerated. I really believe that we will learn in a few months more that the disaster was still more immeasureable than we know of it now. for I am not so sure any one yet have heard th the worst from the region /.As near as I can ascertain the spurts of flame from the explosions showed the ammount of explosives used."

The difficulty of searching through the ruins of Wickey Lansin increased tward late afternoon, when the cloud which had scattered so deep a murkiness over the early part of the day began to c become a solid and impenetrable mass.Along the horizon it resembled the thickest gloom of night or when you look into the big opening of an immense dark cavern.But as in proportions as the blackness gathered, and the glow of fires increase in their vivid and searching glare Starring indeed became alarmed. The glow was of a lurid and intolerable crimsom penetrating through the thicker and rolling clouds of smoke along the horizon far and wide, and lighting up the whole whole city every now and then from street to street, then to suddenly die into a sickly paleness.

Starring indistinctly heard the moaning of the fire wind, and a noise as of 5the roaring of the sea waves, the hissing murmurs of flames searing pine trees and other noises, and he said to one of his followers-

"I believe it's coming.We might have to make for the ship."

He looked again as the cloud appeared to break suddenly from is its solid mass, and then by the glare of the flames to assume a mimicry of huge and strange strange yet horrible shapes, and then the glow seemed to vas vanish suddenly onto ihto the awful abyss of shade, and to leave the city in darkness, making Starring think of the agents of terror and death.

Fearing a new horror, he said;

"Let's go."

The retreat from the city commenced, plowing through debris or clambering over high piles of wreckage. Smoke started to fog the city bearing with it the smell of burning leaves and pine. Even the atmosphere was terribly stale, and hot, and suddenly a wine wind began to rise, and then as they came near the wharf where the ship was they were surprised by the place becoming lighted with an intense and lurid glow once more, but more brighter and nearer and more extending this time. Starring stopped to look. Strangely bright, and gigantic through all that darkness, which closed around it like the walls of hell a immense stretch of forest far in the distance glared a mountain of leaping fire, racing madly onward like a cyclone, and a noise like shooting of artillery sounded from it. The horizon sky seemed riven in in two by the leaing leaping wall of flames , the two sections seemed to take two monster shapes, one confronting the other. The glare lighted up the whole atmosphere far and wide. This seemed hear headed straight for the river itself. Other parts of the forest were still dark and shrouded, save in three places, where streamed suddenly and increasingly large serpentine and irregular rivers of new flames racing madly to join the parent fire.

Onward gushed this source of sudden disasters. Starring hallooed to the ship, but suddenly a duller shade fell over the air. Instinctively he turned to the rear and behold for a moment a volume of blackest smoke gushed forth, hiding out the glare of flames which had rushed on an avalanch of fire. This su sudden and awful illumination, the burst of floods of fire, chanced to darkened before the smoke just when Starring and his party had gained the direct path leading from the city to the river port, and here he was arrested by an immense throng, more than half the refugees who had been in the city, and who had fled at the sight of the new horror. Starring edged his way through, and with his followers regained the ship.

As luck would have it, the wind suddenly changed, and the partly wrecked city was spared, but it was some time before the terrible darknesscsubsided.

At this Starring had said,;

"The apa apalling character and the results of the disaster, and the complications following, which has visited good parts of Calverinia is now being fully confirmed by all details of the calamity, as they come to hand, and which I have witnessed, therefore this will pass into all history as the most entire and terrible and destructive on record.The forest fires no now raging, the conditions still existing all over Calverinia, are yet unknown, and thousands of refugees may have found safty in tother cities and towns, although they may now be suffering great sorrow and privation. No accounts of the eruption of explosions by any intelligent and reliable eye witnesses on our landside has as yet over been recieved, and h when such a story is available it may materially modify the first impressions and give light to

the real effects. Yet it is sure that the inhabitants of Abbieann had had no warning of the awful doom that threatened them, therefore at best all that can be hoped for is that the news may have been exaggerated.Calverinia however is entitled and is recieving the substantial exhibition of sympathy which is reaching us from all quarters of the world. If Pandora or Calverinie had been like visited Calverini a would be far worse off than she is now. Indeed the terrible calamity which has visited Calverinia has swept an unknown number of its inhabitants to a sudden and most horrible death, the population of bigger cities probably suffering more than any other city in proportion because they were naturally attracted to a residence in the fatal city of Abbieann, Adelheid, and so on, while the survivors making an gradual exodus from the devastated region elsewhere, whether they are many or few, have been utterly ruined as to their worldy belog belongings.But let us hope in years to come the lavish hand of nature will soon again cover the waste places with the luxurant growth, but many years will elaspe however before Calverinia will witness the return of the of the prop prosperous and cohtented conditions so lately existing..

One week after starrings arival to the disaster zone, he recieved a dispatch from some where confirming the reports thatbthe population of Abbieann had been destoyed. He himself when he had arived in Wickey Lai Lansin found the state of affairs worse than was given to him in the reports forwarded by the news. The country around Wickey Lansin was apparently devastated in the same manner to that of Abbieann.He believed all ll living things within that region had been destroyed.

About seven thousand had been killed in Wickey Lansin. The managers and owners of estates with all their familes had been killed. One thousand bodies had been buried, and 10,000 persons were sent to hpos hospitals elsewhere. Probably only nine thousand of this number may not recover. The details are for him too harrowing to imaginas. The number of total dead will never exactly be known. All neighbr neighboring towns not cut off by fires were giving what assistance possible, and that account for the number of refugees from other places coming to Wickey Lasin. Every now and then coasting vessels were seen going up and down the river with water and provisions, doctors and medical supplies. The extent therefore of the awful and unusual calamity is now being fully realized, and every effort Starring knew full well what he observed was being made to grappe with it.

All the best farming districts in this neighborhoods have been fully and totally devastated, and all the cattle, horses, and farm animals of every kind are dead. All along the east of the margin of the flood and explosion disaster the fires have continued for weeks, and still continues, but at a further southern section is now apparently moderating, the fires going northward like a raging storm. The forest fire devastating could be observed for miles. Yet far west no fires are burning and relief was sent as far as possible from there.

Chapter 36

A TERRIFIC CANNONADING NOISE HEARD FOR FIFTEEN HUNDRED OR MORE MILES. EVEN HEIDI JUNCTION SHOWERED WITH DEBRIS THROWN BY ONE OF THE EXPLOSIONS. STARRING OBSERVED THAT FOR WEEKS, THE FOREST FIRES CONTINUES TO DARKEN THE SKY WITH CLOUDS OF SMOKE. A SPLENDID AND MOST APPALLING PHENOMENON. INCESSANT ROAR OF AWFUL THUNDER.
TERROR PARALYZES THE HELPLESS INHABITANTS.

The southern section by the east is devasta ted from Reclair, to Wickey Lansin.On the southeastward side, matters are worse.The refugees number thousands, and only sixteen sixteen hundred are under relief. The ship now left Wickey Lansin with the purpose to steam on tward St Ann, and Starring requested to the captian that the h ship would lay a course almost due northwest, after leaving Wickey Lansin, and go through the passage of the Heidi Stream and head for the open water way of the Arronburg Runs.The entire journey of one hundred miles to QAbbieann he hoped might be made in a day or two.The ship the captian told him would be pushed for all he she is worth(providing he can push her) and he expected she would go the speed of fourteen knots, very good speed for her considering her fould conditions put upon her when she was in the explosion area.If not mentioned before the Ships name is Jane.

What Worried Starring most of all was that the forest fires were s trying to follow his course, and to make it worse the winds were southern and a little east, and th smoke of the greater fires were borne away further to the westward. Starring knew that this had somewhat relieved the working parties in some of the ruined cities , and they were having a good chance of making a more careful examaination of the ruins if possible. Being forced to stop at Josephine Junction Starring made a trip also through this ruined city of fourty thousand inhabiants inhabitants, and through the ad jacent villiages, with a new searching party organized by him from his followers, this time being accompanied by the two boy and girl scouts,.Here there were many examples of the curious effects of the fire blasts of the explosions which swept over the towns and cities, bodies being burned beyond recognition but clothing of the most. flimsy material being little or not damaged at all...;;;...

The body of the Mayor of the town was found near the villiage of Mic-Holls a surburb of Josephine junction, and the scenes around here were worse than any plave place Starring had visited yet.. In the latter place the victims were mostly ocvered with, debris and other wreckage hurled up by the explosion and which then fell. Near Mic-Holls Starring was told where over five thousand bodies that had been terribly distended and in an advanced state of decomposition.These bodies were counted in the streets of the little villiage, and on the adjacenr land, and many bodies looked as if they had even been hurled there by the explosion as they were terribly mangled,, and nearly all the dead in the city were lying with tye their faces of the ground, and all were found badly charred. The body of a woman, man and three little girls and six boys, were found in a near by stream, to which they had been thrown by the explosion as evidence showed. A large heap of bodies badly torn and mangled, and even dismembered of either heads, arms or legs, oe absolutely disembowled, or whole front portions of bodies torn away or in a worse sta e state were found in one spot.They were apprently near the explosion when it occured and the blast had destroyed them. Another residence close by but sha sheltered partly by a hill on the Josephine junction side.... escaped almost untouched. The windows and blinds inside and ould were gone, but inside the furniture, papers, books, clothing, and flooring were unscathed, though plan plastering from walls and ceiling was badly cracked.The only living thing of any kind that starring observed in this desolated district was a little kitten thin as a skenel e skeleton.This little animal stalked after Starring meowing piteously. Starring went on foot to St Ann. On the road he passed a wagon with wheels broken off, and in the seat was a dead man, and lying in front of the wato wagon was a dead horse.

Furi further on he came upon the body of a man lying atbthe foot of a broken Statue of the Sacred Heart, he apparently having been killed while he was at prayer.

He believed the whole district passed through a literal baptism of fire, the results here being just as terrible as those in other ruined cities he had visited if not worse.

There appeared not a single human being alive in this region, and he had received word that five thousand four hundred bodies had been recovered, and he believed that many hundreds still lay buried under the ruins which were so tangled that it seemed ino impossible for the bodies to be recovered.. Starring heard that it was estimately that about 12,000 had perished in this town. This included many foriegners which meant the almost annihilation of the race of foriegn visitors. The destruction in this location was unusual, and Starring and his followers were surprised.. He heard that from Francis Atlanta the flashes of the explosions were visible during ty the fatal night of June the Foist? And now the forest fire sbbt smoke was visible from east of St Vincent by day as far as Francis Atlanta, and theyglow of the flames by night at Calverine still further away. As the steamer the Jane continued on to get closer to the main heart of the city of Joseph ine Junction, it attempted to force its way down past the town, but ran into the heart of a fierce conflagration

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was raging to cross the stream. For three hours and a half the ship was entirely helpless in a cloud of smoke and flames from burning trees, than which they enO she encountered further down near Wicley Wickey Lansin. When the main town of Josephine Junction where many survived the disaster was reached at day break Starring found the survivors panic stricken.The streets were covered many r feet deep with debris from fallen bu l buildings. Josephine junction is seventeen miles from one of the "Explosion Craters", which blew into the city debris of all kinds. From another place norty north of there Starring learned the distress was great, and that a call had b en sent for priests to administer to the dying. Up the s sides of the north stretch of the Vivian Hills east of the city forest fires were burning in hundreds of formations, which uniting and seperating, formed at times a nework network, from which there was no possible escape, for any living thing caught within its grasp.

By the awful explosion ariver that had existed near the scene was dried up.Starringcould see that many searching parties had been out. He lost hope however when before reaching this city the steamer was forced to run through five or six miles of smoke that was so dense that all on board were almost suffocated, and the ship for more than an hour or two had to e be left to its own guiudiance. The forest fire though not so near as before was s still to s threatening as to tr terrifiyn the survivors, and to the left smoke and flame continued to rush on within easy sight the flames at times reaching far up into the sky. Starring had been warned that for many days the forest fire had labored forward, to envelope the explosion region and erase all clues sooner or later. Smoke arose all over the territory in immense clouds, and the rumbling of many explosions made by dynimiters in their efforts to stop the Red Plague redoubled in numbers and force, and before the concussions the ground at times trembled as if in the throes of a terrible agony. At night in intense darkness as Starring had observed the flames would sear the summit of a high hill making it look like a volcani volcano in eruption and giving to the whole scene a weird and terrible appearance.All during the tip trip so far the splendid yet terrible phenom enon continued, giving all those on board the river craft a view never to be forgotten but hardly any change for refugees to make their escape.All on board the ship seemed hypnotized. As he watched the display of flames Starring heard this excited story from another explosion witness;

"It was about midnight sir, when the whole country side suddenly opened sending great clouds of earth de bris over cities andytowns.Death was everywhere, and in its most terrible forms.It seemed as if flashes of fire and clouds of it came down from the sky, killing many who had escaped into the streets.For this great tragedy the settings were wonderful. The country side before the concussions literally rocked with devastating effects in its agony. From the nearest explosions majestic columns of smoke apparently inky black, reached skyward, and the scene was for that moment as if craters from the surface of the ground was vi vomiting incandescent matter that gave forth prismatic lights as it or the fiery cloud rolled over the land, sending great waves of fire over the cities and towns, and such thunder, as had never been heid by man cracked and rolled through the heavens. From the earth came the most tremendous detonations ever heard on record.These joined with the secondary thunder all for those fifteen minutes merging in an in incessant roar that added to the panic of the flesing people who had any chance of ewc escaping.

All this of course lasted fifteen minutes and the clouds the color of sackcloth rose to an awful height, mushrooming at the tops, spreading out in denses clouds that descendedcand spread far and wide to bring night at ea late morning.For hours the atmosphere had been so laden with powder gases that life was made almost impossible.It is believed that many of those who escaped from their falling houses were suffocated by this gas before they were touched by the fiery cloud.

Many expected that the entire country would be destroyed, and all morning th e darkness was beyond description, save when everything was made light as broad day by the flah flashes of flames from the forest fires.

For fifteen minutes by the concussion ot the explosions the earth qaked in quaked incessantly and most violently, the very mountains shook and caused terrific landslides, and so terrible were the thunders, that it nau seemed to the terrified that the universe was being rent to pieces. "

At first as Starring well knew from all the first reports, the disaster was said to be from volcanic eruptions. The next morning when there was a respite in the so called eruptions, those of survivors who were more stout hearted ventured out but were trapped in the fires resulting.As he inspected the scenes Starring saw with his own eyes that even all areas of farming lands were totally destroyed, plac many places being buried under banks of what had been called volcanic matter, lava lava stones, and so forth.From a height he observed all plantations and farms as far as the edge of distant burning forests being devastated. Some places nearest the edge of the flood zone were under water. The better class of Calverinian farmers had madethis portion of the land their country. Now beyond this district the whole countey was a smoking smouldering ruin. Ashes where forests of trees had stood was everywhere, no place being less than six or five feet of red hot smouldering ashes ,and n some placesthe very grow d was red hot for a considerable depth.. Every farmer

had disappeared, and if they had either perished or escaped, it cannot yet be known.

All kind of vegetation had entirely disappeared, for no matter how far the eye reached, not a spring of green was to be seen, and further off the horizon was walled up in the smoke of the forest fires. All live stock belonging to these unfortunate farmers had died, all houses had disappeared, and small creeks and rivers were dry because of being evaporated by the fierce heat of the forest fires.....

A guide pointed out to him where everywhere north of Josephine Junction hadcbeen had been found dead bodies, some half buried, or others showing they had been stricken down by stones and huge rocks. The guide said, decomposition had been almost immediate because of the awful heat. Many soldiers had come to do the burying, and foe prisoners had been pressed into the work as rapidly as possible at the point of the bayonet, but the conditions are such that pestilence can not be avoided. Violent Lansin starring heard was safe, but Violet Paul had sudder suffered terribly first from the explosion and then fire and flood, but he was told that that district so far was unapproachable. In the hospitals of Violent Lansin there were about 11,897 sufferers from Violet Paul who were being taken care of, but with little chance than any of them would ever recover. He heard that also throughout that district a famine is raging or threatening. And nless supplies were quickly recieved, all will starved. While the forest fire has passed this district without threatening any of these places the air is still filled with fog and smoke, and the heat was increasing, creating an intense thirst and causing such suffering as only those who experienced it could believe.

Starringdesiring to learn the cause or what the debris contained that was hurled into the streets of Josephine Junction by the explosions continued the work among that the ruins, but it was not quite so satisfactory. The soldiers were about and had to be forced to act, even though hour by hour a danger of pestilence increased. He came to a place where dead were still being buried in trenches or burned in heaps, the pyres being fed with gasoline and tar. To get rid of the dead bodies the great fires that had broken out among the ruins were kept going by the soldiers, which ha at night lighred up the entire neighborhood, at which being seen at Violent Lansin led to the belief the forest fires had spread west of them. While There for the few days Starring and his followers aided the soldiers in theiF work. He came across streets on the outskirts of the town where debris thrown into them by the near by explosion were in places six feet deep.Still even now everywhere within his sight were dead bodies, decomposing, and giving off a stench that made many of the workers faint.One soldier said that although thousands have been burned or hastily buried, bodies still remain to be cremated. They were also hard to handle as many of the bodies even as Starring observed were carbonized and swollen, and many bodies are found here that never belonged to the city. Some were still encrusted withmud. The natureof the debris hurled about by the explosion showed no signs whatever of having come from volcanic eruption, as they consisted of, debris, from the ground, pebbles, clay, mud sand, limestone, and gravel of all sorts.

Armed soldiers were also watching out for val vandals, with orders given to shoot down any sneaking Clandelinian that many enter the ruins or who is seen robbing the wreck of the town or a dead body, but no such a vandal has appeared. One disaster alone in many others past so far where from any location known it is believed not a single robbery occured.The Clandelinians no doubt were afraid to come from the awful nature of the disaster itself. Some idea of the terrile heat by the forest fire in speeding close by this town but not touching it may be had when we can say that the iron frame works of an immes immense bridge crossing Heidi's Heidi's creek was melted as though they passed through a iron foundary or furnace, and the creek a hundred feet across was boiled or evaporated entirely away, and the sandy bottom turned like white hot lave for a time.. As Starring observed from a high rise of hills above the town the forest fires elsewhere were still in destructive fury. Stranger too a terrific cannonading of something he believed he could hear a hundred miles away somewhere. And the reports could be seen followed by immense clouds of white smoke rising miles in the air. Immense balls of colored fire also rosecupward, and the whole neighborhood was one mass of traveling flame.Starring believed the fire st struck some rangers explosive shed and blew everything up. It was impossible to reach Abbieann as he observed by any straight northwesterly route by land or river because of these fires, and he said there was no means of estimating the destruction added by this fire to probab to probable life, and entirely to property.

Learning that Violent Lansin was still safe, though the sky over the town was dark as of a storm from the smoke, he decided to make the trip by that rout if the captian of the Mary Jane would submit. The hills in that direction were invisible because of the fogs of dense smoke black, gray and white... Also it was reported from Calverine that gray quanities of half burned trees was floating down the river through the city, that is the Calverine River. and that it seemed strange to the ihn inhabia inhabitants for even half burned houses came down. Starring felt Starring felt sure the forest fires would continue untill a rain came, and unless it does many hundreds of miles of countryside would soon be covered with smouldering ashes which are many feet deep. He asked the captian if Violent Lansin could be approach approached.As the captian contemplated on the subject the roaring of the dynamite

explosions could be heard continuously. As the Captian knew that troops and some river war ships have been sent there, to search what ruins are there, and bury the dead, he decided to try the trip.It was however a longer way round to Abbieann.

As the boat continued on again, they had then traveled for about two miles when they came within sight of one of the explosion craters easily seen from the boat which looked like large and deep crevices of circular shape. These craters appeared to have no water. The signal station at Francis Atlanta reported that a new and large forest fire was seen there in the evening of August the First in the direction of St Helen, and that the latter place was in peril.

Starring was getting used to such reports and as he continued with others in examining the ruins the search parties discovered safes and molten precious metals in stores and burned dwellings in the town. No one who was not able to show a pass from the military Government, or from the Emperor, of the Vivian Girls was permitted to penetrate into even the suburbs of any of the ruined cities and towns, and to prevent any one without passes from going in a cordon of soldiers had been placed around the towns. Whenever he entered for his investigation, starring increased the cordon of soldiers by his own, and giving orders to admit no one without first being consulted by him whether he had a pass or not. The biggest Cathederal of Violent Lansin was all down, with with the exception of one tower, and of six theatres only one wall was standing. A big convent which contained five hundred school children, two hundred girls preparing for being nuns,, and 137 nuns to include, alone was not injured, but the college adjoinig adjoining, where 345, men scolars and fourty priests and professors had been was missing. Yet there was no evidence of much loss of life here, for though many buildings were badly ruined, the majority of the city stood, with many houses only amiss of window glass or frames, and roofs partly orn off torn off.

The ~~Governor~~ Mayor of this city, who escaped the disaster, and the insular officials had declared that for this city all danger from the horrible forest fires in thi the disas distance was passed,and a cordon of armed soldiers at the advice of Starring, added by policemen was placed around the town further out than the inner suburbs to prevent timid people from leaving, or to prevent so called vandals from entering. The Mayor told Starring that when the explosions occured he was riding on a suburban car back to Violent Lansin from Violet Paul. The car he rode was derailed by the concussion, the roof blew out, by the shock, the glass in the windows were sucked out, and the car stood on the roof of a building after the concussion was over. He said he never desires to ride a jumping car again.

The Mayor continued; "The destruction at Abbieann sir is appalling beyond words, for I was there myself two weeks after the flood had subsided.. The streets of the northern section of the city not touched by the flood because of the high elevat ion are two feet deep in rubbish thrown by the explosions, which cover the wreckage which I know covers thousands upon thousands of bodies, scorched black and shiny as if they had been plunged into boiling pitch. No one yet had taken them out as the region is yet dangerous to approach. Many of the dead were never touched by the explosion fire, and many of the houses destroyed show no signs of burning but of being wrecked as if an earthquake of terrible violence occured.

In the northwestern portion of the surviving section of the city the town hall and portions of the extended elevated structures for trains are still standing, and two skyscrapers, while at the north end known as ~~Pictart~~ North End the most massive stonework and brickstfuc structures are calcined. Here the force of the blast was closest and more stronger. The Big Church tower built by the Abbieannian government twenty years ago of cyclopean, Grecian and Spanish mason work combined, is by a miracle in that ill fated city the only building building standing wholly intact. The very golden six foot crucifix on top exposed to the fullest force of the blast, is not even harmed except from discolartion from the smoke. A huge statue in the front entrance made of iron and brass not facing the explosion is found twenty feet away from the tower beheaded, and without arms,.and so disfigured that we do not know what it was supposed to be. There are yet no soldiers guarding the property as the region is said to be in the possion possession of the Clandelinians. When I was there, the stench throughout that section was terribly offensev offensive. And the streets are still obstructed by huge piles of debris and dead bodies, and it looks like when St Pierre had been destroyed but on a most immense scale. No one is there to attempt the work of cleaning the streets and thoroughfares, and if it is done it will be necessary to employ large numbers of men for many months, and maybe force many prisoners to help.

A part of northeastern Abbieann called Ingersole is partly prrserved, and Port Rum, and Heavens Haven are yet unhurt, but the inhabitants have left, having crossed the river and fled the disaster zone entirely

TO ADD TO THE HORROR OF THE FOREST FIRES CONTINUED TO SMOKE UP THE C UNTRY
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THAT WAS APPALLING AND MOST SPLENDID.
A STRANGE AND INCESSANT DEAFENING ROAR OF AWFUL THUNDERS.
TERROR PARALYZES THE MANY SURVIVING INHABITANTS.
NEW AND TERRIBLE HORRORS REVEALED DAILY.. RIVERS AND LAKES DRIED UP
BY TERRIFIC HEAT. PHYSICAL CHANGES MADE BY THE EXPLOSIONS!.

It was now three weeks since Starring had left general Concentinian Arronburgs camps, and for all the time of his trips, all hills, and valleys, and plains would seem to literally follow him from b hind, vomiting clouds of denseest smoke. giving forth sho ts of flame, and as he looked on the dark side of things in those days he sure dreaded the coming of some other great catastrophe. For many people of towns eastward which had not bee in the sweep of floods, and only slightly affected by the concussion of the explosions, the smoke of forest fires seemed produced so constantly and normally that it was permissiable for even those who were inclined to look on the dark side not to dread a sudden and more horrible catastrophe. Even ar at Evangeline St Clare,, where the terrific fires attracted, as they continued on much attention, any anxiety which may have existed, gradually died down, when on September 5th, a terrific sea of fire, overwhelmed the north side of the city, and for ten days the men inhabitants all of them, battled like mad to stop the awful conflagration, and worse to say unknown to Starring, Concentinian Arronburgs whole army had been forced to retreat, as fighting against the conflagration did no good. Even his whole army could not stop it. At Evangeline St Clare twenty five persons were killed fighting the blazes, and the river northof Evangeline St Claire, mysteric sl mysteriously swollen to a muddy torrent noisily overflowed, and its waters was terribly scalding hot. On September the 7th while there was still deliberations going on at Evangeline St Claire, and while the fight still a waged desperately against the flames, and were days and nights had been passed in terrible anxiety and anguish and ignornace as to whether this new advance of the forest fire was the precursor of or end of the fire disaster, was within ten minutes the annihilater of three quarters quarters of Evangeline St Clare city, and three others. But to go back to the horrors of Abbieann. Many other s interviewed by Starring, stated that the upper portion of the city not touched by flood had been razed by strange clouds of fire thrown down upon it by the explosion, which crumbled everything in its path. In the lower portion of the city there is no or where it stood a vast lake of water that refuses to drain out. And to the stupifaction of many who are familiar with the spot , a big Clock in the tower of a remaining portion of the Citys main Cathedral strangely r m remained intact, as if to show the precise moment of the disaster, and this sinister indication deeply affected all who had seen it.

On the other hand, the other section of the Cathedral was shaken down, or burned and only the alter and the walls behind behind and the doom remained standing. Some fragments of the pews were thrown a thousand yards. Bodies found within the ruins of buildings and whose strange attitudes were preceptible, were lying as they were killed, with bowels protruding, as though forced out by the tension of the heat of exploding powder clouds, and with their bodies partly or wholly carbonized.

Starring had when leaving violent Lansin drafted some scientists, who he forced to come with him from the city to help him trace the cause of the disaster, for he now began to realized that the damage done to Abbieann and the whole country side would be known to be considerably greater than was at first estimated. The present uneasiness of all the inhavitants and refugees that starring met with on his long trip was continually increased by the continuous ravaging progress of the forest fires. Before leaving Violent Lansin Starring had brought on board the ship large stones, a canfull of the dust, and other fragments of debris thrown on be the streets and having a volcanic scientist aboard he had them examined. where he secured this a hot or cloud of hot something passed over from the east, and owing to this great heat is was impossible to approach one of the explosion craters.

Starring while in Violent Lansin, and while going north to the countryside had made surprising and wonderful discoveries, in regarding the physical changes of the landscape there resulting from the explosions. Several fissures had been observed near the craters. An estate of some ones had disappeared, and had been replaced by an inlet of the rivers . Another estate belonging to Lottie Rangers on formerly flat ground and upon which there had been a small town, had been completely buried under a landslide. The hills to the north by this time was wearing a cap of smoke clouds, which is being lumined every now and then by flashes of something red. Every one was wishing for several heavy raingowers, which would wash out some of these stupendous fires, and save the verdure of the rest of the forests.

Owing to the fires, and the other disasters many farms have been wiped out, and destitution prevailed among all the laboring classes who survied survived,, who are without homes, without clothing, food and ~~tbbbhtftt~~ fresh water to drink.

All throughout the region when the floods had been slowly abating Starring learned that for weeks and weeks, bodies have been discovered in flood swept houses in life like attitudes, presenting grewsome spectacles, and that the known dead was growing and growing that it was becoming immeasureable. He heard that nearly two hundred thousand were found that belonged to Mildred greenbgurg along alone. Bodies hadeb on Bodies had been discovered in houses of violent Lansin itself, mostly which were fe decomposing and ga in order to guard against disease, it was necessary for the authorities to burn these dwellings. And Starring had observed that owing to the many diffi diffic diffi ties difficulties in the way of those who should have the matter in hand, hundreds of bodies cannot be interred or reached. No one has been able yet to approach within nine miles of one of the explosion craters in this neighborhood, because of the intense heat, and judging from what can be seen at a great distance, a lake of water near the city has disappeared. The numerous fissures in the ground extending to a great distance from one of these craters show no doubt the mighty force of the explosion, but sometimes this scene was enshrouded by a dense volume of smoke that would pass over lik a cloud from the distant fires, and as far as eye could reach it seemed as if b the whole country side was covered by a peculiar mist. because of such lack of sunshine for so many weeks, and for such intense heat, created by the fires, spreading so much and because of the inhalation of noxious smoke fumes the spreading of sickness, dreariness and discomfort was increasing...

Starring did not know what to say when other information brought him the fact,., that starvation was raging in good many parts of Calverinia, and the horrible effects of the disaster, those before, and the results, and the stench of so mn many decaying bodies is driving out so many people that it seemed as if a general exodus of southern and Central Calverinia was under way.. utilated bodies when found were tied up with rope ropes, and dragged to trenches and buried, or even cremated in the trenches...

He knew the many local governments were still feeding and doing what they can to shelter as many refugees as possible, and even now subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers were still being raised in all portions of the unaffected areas, and throughout Abbieannia, but that did not seem to help him, or his purpose any. He knew now that throughout all districts affected by any of these disasters the dol desolation was most appalling and for hundreds of miles bodies found were being burned upon great pyres upon which oils was poured, but in spite of all this, it seemed that though weeks and weeks passed the places recovered from the flood, could not be cleared of the dead. The more dead were found, and put out of the way the more were discovered. Yet none of these bodies seemed to have come from Abbieann.

Physicians in the city of Violent Lansin who made examination said to starring that in most cases death was due to either being buried under wreckage, or to asphyxiation, and that the fires came later. It is believed by Starring and all of his follower followers agreed with him that the explosions were also of some sort of destroyers that threw off some exceedingly heavy and noxious and poisous posionous gases, something akin either to w fire damp or to the posion gases used in the world war, which settling upon every region close to the blasts rendered all the inhabitants to death. This theory also was accepted by many of the survivors who were taken from the ruins, alive or from ships in the harbor of this city, as they said their first experien ce was either one of faintness or that they could not get any air to breathe....

Starring was indeed dumbfounded, because now it wasc September, and quite a long time since the awful june disaster, and yet suffering to an immense and terrifying degree continued throughout all the devastated districts of Calverinia. Food was being recieved but aid came slow, because of destroyed communications, and the majority of refugees who could flock to the bigger cities were able to recieve more aid than elsewhere, or those who could not come, and they horrified the people of the cities with the harrowing stories that had to tell. The biggest flock of refugees flocked to Cal verine, Sacramento, Bambon. and Also Pandora, Mic hollester, and other places and Starring had recieved word from both Calverine and Pandora by wireless that all those who arived as refugees said that the dumb animals sufferered worst than the people.. The aurthorities believed that by the disasters before the Glandelinians some how or other might have given some sort of warnings of at least the storms of fire which they had been storing up to hurl upon the forests, that the refugees though they heard the warnings or not refused to heed them, and therefore remained, and the danger which had long confronted them brought destitution to many thousands ,but no warning was given of the approuching explosion disaster.

Starring knew that animals of all kinds can usually suspect a disaster long before it comes, for as survivors told Starring, live stock throughout the country became uneasy, and at times were almost uncontrollable. Calit Cattle lowed in the night, horses screamed hens and chickens showed great uneasiness, there was signs of panic among all kinds of birds in the sky, and dogs howeled and sought the company of their,, masters, and gave every evidence of fear. Cats even though usually fearsome of dogs sought their company and dogs harmed them not, but looked even for their sympathy. Wild animals of all kinds disappeared from the vinicty of all forest fire horrors, and even the snakes, which at ordinary times are found in great numbers crawled away, the much needed presence of Glanglglomenam creatures was a thing of the past, and all birds ceased singing, and left the trees of the forests, so that no birds were seen. They all sensed either disaster, seemed to know what the secretly disguled disguised Glandelinians were doing, and therefore a great fear seemed u to be upon the whole land, and though at times it was shared by the human inhabitants, they alone

apparently neglected to protect themselves, or were not prepared... There was another thing that was more astonishing to starring, and that was of the reports he had frequently recieved of the delicately suspended magnetic needles at all coast lines throughout the world, in all the geodetic survey observatories being disturbed by the enormous explosions, at the time the catastrophe at Abbisann was reported to have occured. The delicate apparatus int installed at all of these observatories are so arranged that they register automatically by photographic means the very minutest variations in the direction and intensity of the earyh earths magnetic force.

Even it can be a noteworthy story that all seismological observatories throughout the world also reported a seismic disturbance all over during the time of the awful explosions.

No magnetic effects due to volcanic eruptions of the most violent kind on Calverinia had ever been recognized at such magnetic observatories, and therefore starring believed the explosions he wished to investigate were rath rrather queer. In galverinia before this disaster, pre purely mechannical vibrations from natural earthquakes or by the other explosion disasters have been often registered by the delicately poised magnetic needles. The Lake Selicia Explosion disaster for instance was recorded not only by seismographs at various places, but also in Abbisannia and foriegn countries and magnetic observatories, but this explosion concussion merely caused a mechanical vibration og the magnetic needles about their mean position of rest and lasted for about a few minutes minutes, whereas the explosion disaster of June the First was a distinct magnetic effect, pulling the needles asife aside from their usual direction and lasting two days.

The Mary Jane soon reached the city of Violet Paul. where this city had stood he saw that day a molten hecacomb of burning buildings and walls, which proclaimes the horrible story of the fate of the people of this city also in a a awful stench that was made manefest in spir spite of the smoke laden air, while the ship was yet twenty miles away from it. He found it possible however to penetrate the outskirts of this city from the southwest, but in no other direction. A hill looked like an erupting volcano to the west of the city, and further off to the northeast and east all wasrolling walls of clouds smoke and flame. where the houses were more thickly built the wall of fire that struck had consumed everything but the stone walls, and the wave of fire that had pured up the sides of the elevation reaching to the city had its greathest force and fury in its fire hurricane. everything was smouldering when starring reached the place, and he overheard that the concussion of the explosions though further from here had overthrown most of the buildings, and that just recently the forest fires struck, and 10,000 men fighting desperately with every meanw means at hands, and all the citys fire departments could not save the city.

Therefore no one was able to rescue the injured pinioned in the wreckage or get at the corpses and that the smoking smouldering ruins was hiding the bodies of the thousands the fallen buildings had engulfed in an indescribably horrible doom. There was no need here of funeral pyres, for scenes beggaring descriptions was done by the conflagration, and bravery also beggaring description was enacted by the survivors who had strove either to make some disposition of the dead or save the city from the conflagration. even now after the conflagration, wherever there ix is a spot that is easily reached in the face of the terrific heat, little groups of men were e seen engaged in dragging together the horribly charred bodies of the vikims victims which were piled together. There was no need of reburning them, they were already burned to a crips crisp. Ano Above and b yond the presence of the present horror there was or is in the minds of those who have taken up the work of destroying the horribly burned corpses, a still greater horror. A plague was stalking in the wake of the conflagration.

After an hours interview Starring left the Mayor of the city who by a miracle survived. He was reeking with the fumes of smouldering wreckage and bodies, his clothing was in rags, and his face showed the horror of the work he had been engaged in. He was directing the work in person. He explained to Starring that it needed but little directio direction. And those from outside who had volunteered for the labor of salvaging the city had been inspired by the common desire to frustrate the conflagration.

"I do not believe we any longer can find it a most disagreeable duty that we do altogether from motives of humanity and chairty" he said to starring. "It u is a duty to the living. The many thousands of unbirued dead, almost impossible to reach on account of the heat of the smouldering ruins must be disposed off, or I tell you sir the whole State and the co n country in general will be ravaged by a tremendous plague and blotted from the world entirely. We have not the material material for the work and no one can face the heat. There is not a bit of wood that could be obtained. Indeed it would take a whole forest of wood and tiaver, and a lake of mortar and a sea of bricks to rebuild our city, and the forest fires are wiping out our means for that. A lake of asphalt tar would be needed to recover our streets. There are countless of corpses in every direction sir under these smouldering ruins, and though of course they may have been cremated beyond recovery and the conflagration has saved us from the work of disposing of them yet nless we are soon provided with means to assist to aid in the rebuilding of the city, we will be hopeless for years. I suppose of course we are not the only sufferer as many other cities suffered too.

It has not even been at all possible to approach even into the n ar interior of the city for the heat,,, is fierce, and the salvaging has not even started. Of course

vicles we are seeking and trying to find means to restore our city as far as it is possible. It is almost impossible to do anything at all for the despairing energy of the men who have lost family and fortune in the catastrophe have all gone off to the army to revenge their loss on the enemy. I am here to see the boy of my own wife and children who met their own deaths. And I have no means of telling just how many died inthe overwhelming of the city, but there so far are only a thousand men survivors, and sixty thousand women and children survivors out of a population of over one hundred and fifty th usan thousand. Thousands others surely have been caught at night in their beds and died under the ruins of their buildings, and p pinioned there while other thousands finally died in the deadly storm of fire and confligrations that struck the city, impro imprisoning many who had tried to sala salvage their last hopes. and the work here by these soldiers is carried on in the face of such a death as never was met by any person before. The clouds of smoke from the fires hangs over the sky day in and day out never allowing us a fringe of sunshine. And even sir while the awful work of the soldiers are going on here, we are fortunate enough to report that so far no Glandelinion ghouls have at f red their way into our city, and no one has yet robbed the homes of the dead that may be entered. Of course nevertheless we are careful and have posted gu r guards, and the soldiers have orders to shoot any persons acting suspiciously but none have been seen so far.

In trying to salvage what can be saved desperate chances have been taken by these soldiers who fight their way th through still hot ashes and smouldering ruins to get into the houses to save from the ruins what they can. I hear that throughout all the seried disaster zones famine menances the people all over the southern part of the state, and as far as possible a general exodus of the people are commencing.

At present those who are leaving for the north have only a little food supply, but it must be restored in a few days or they won't even be able to continue their flight.

I will sir also tell you of my experience. It was early in the morning when it occured or at least a little after midnight.. I had been in the southern outskirts of the city in my own home, watching the glow of the nearest forest fire, and the air was so hot and stifling that I did not sleep. There was a thick cloud over the sky that that but that that being from the forestfire was not at all unusual. I went back several times into my bed room and tried to sleep, and that I was not ill by any fever produced by s ch heat, or did not suffer a heat prostration I could not understand. I believe however my being unable to sleep is the reason why I am alive to day.

The last time made my trips back and forth, I walked down the steps and into the streets, when suddenly there was a sight which I never thought I would behold. The horizon sky in the west seemed to suddenly flare into flame, there was a most terrifif terrific eruption, and it was as though all the thuder that ever roared, and all the canon in this war, and in the world in that one space had been set off at once, added by th e simultaneousl explosion of all the power powder factories and munition companies together. I lay flat on my face instantly knocked down by the sudden shaking of the earth by the explosion. whether you believed it or not, wooden houses either played at leap frog, or acted like popcorn in the hot shaker, and big buildings crashed down in clouding ruins with a terrible roar. I could not have lain there an instant when r recovered my senses. There was a roaring sound as though all the houses were either being torn to pieces or falling to the ground. It was perfectly black all about me, and I raced for a sewer cover my only safty from falling buildings, and as I reached the bottoml only six feet below me there was a blast of wind col coming that was as hot as a flame. I might as well have died and been in hell. The heat drove me mad. I could not stay there, and I lifted myself out. A strong wind was blowing like a hurricane, a gale so hot that I could not breathe and clouds of dust and smoke hid the nearest buildings like the densest fog. It was now darker now than ever, the air was full of mortar dust and the smell of powder and some strange gas, and I almost went blind, and felt dopy. I rushed into what place I found not injured, dipped my handkerchief in the water which I let into a basin and tied it over my face and then went out.

The roaring of more falling buildings was fearful, but not as loud as compared to the thunder that come now near now distant that came from fresh eruptions every few minutes. I was compelled to make my way on my hands and knees, to the back wall of my home not daring to expose myself to that scorching hot wind finally I took the wet rag off my mouth and saw that a part of the wall had been thrown down, and had fallen into the river, the building being on the edge of the stream. Strange to me the front part of the building was moving along with other houses. I thought I was mad, and seeing strange fantastic things. As a bright glow added to the uproar, I then could see about me for some distance. There was not a being in sight and the upper sections of high buildings ruined was still every now and then crashing down. A dreadful fire was all flashing from many of the houses, that seemed to be covered with some strange plastic substance that looked like clay and mud or wet sand. The heat made me frantic, and I threw myself down over the broken wall into where I had hoped the water had been.

I fell on a pile of stones and luckily did not break my legs. I tried to crawl along the river beach and fell into what looked like a sand pile. It strangely enough was burning hot, and n a nearly burned me before I rolled myself off. I then found a place under a large rock where there was some water. I stayed there all the rest of the night watching the tidal wave of forest fires in the distance, and wondered

if that was not responsible for the disaster. I could see a long way because of the fires glare but saw no one, and most of the city was hidden in chrouds of dust. with the approach of morning which was dark and foggy with smoke I crawled south along the beach. I saw not a single human being, not even a dog or cat. When I finally got beyond the danger zone I got to my feet and believe me I did seek some place of shelter."

Another man who said he saw thesupposed eruption from the highest part of a hill, and who escaped death after being almost thrown over a cliff, tells something of the story of the explosion in lucid intervals. The man had been insane at times from his sufferings. He was a ranger on guard on the hill top on the midnight hour of the cataclysm of the explosive horror.....

He said to starring;

"I was pacing my beat, when I was suddenly startled by an awful thundering roar that rent the air and sky, and made all the trees within my view quiver.The veryhill itself shivered as though she were in a convulsion. Of course sir no one cannot describe how the thundering crash sounded, neither I myself, for the noise left me senseless for several moments. When I stood up, there was for several seconds a great upright shaft of flames that such have to my notion reached for many miles, and could be seen as if a thousand volcanoes were belching forth fiery torrents of white hot Lava. And I could see leaping from two sides of the shaft of fire a great roll of something heavy and black. I almost simultaneously looked twara the city and saw it disappear in a cloud of dust. The hill was only a few miles from the scene, and I could see the people who had not yet gone to bed for fear of the distant fires running about.

Thousands had suddenly run out of the houses at the first awful roar,., and most of them knl knelt in the streets. It seemed only an instant more before everything hid from view in a cloud of white dust. Violet Paul city, with all its houses, all the people praying n and running about in the streets, all everything seemed to have been swallowed up into the bowels of the earth amid a great eruption and cloud of dust. An enormous cloud shot over head twara the hill at the same instant that the city disappeared from view. and the shaft of flame and fiery materials whatever they were began to fall out of the sky. There was an awful hissing sound as the eruption collapsed to the ground..And then it it was all over. I do not remember anything more of it."

No one yet has been able to effect a landing on the landcape shore north,. of the city, and all who have given themselves to the idea that the entire population of the cities and towns within the explosion area has been obliterated, as was that of Abbieann. The few refugees on board the Mary Jane said that there is not a green thing lini living in any part of Calverinias disaster zone. So far as the shore of the land on both sides of the river can be seen from the Mary Jane this can be true of other parts of the country, and the l ashes left after the passage of the forest fires have made a barre and barren and horrible waste of what was a week ago on c one of the garden spots of the Calverinian world.

As the boat prepared to resume the trip, there came to the captian from Port Jensen that the written descriptions of the ruins of Abbieann wrought by h the explosion fell far short of the really reality.

Starring had observed also with his own eyes the most remarka le and topograpi topographical changes wrought by the effects of the great explosions. th The ship passed within view of a wide crevasse. Stopping at one place a sounding of the river was attempted near within sight of a cre crater and a remarkable change in the river bed off the northern section of the city was noted.. In some places the leaden wire sank fully thirty fathoms deeper in the river than anything known for river depths before finding bottom.This was a peculiar phenomenom..... This easily explained why under ground cable communications had also been cut off in some sections y by the explosions. Another witness to an xexplosion said the air was cut and slashed with strange eletric discharges after the blast, and that a strange ball of fire and fiery clouds lighted up the country for miles. As the boat passed by the houses of the ruined city, starring observed that th cw the work was preceeding as slowly as the Mayor had said, and under circumstances of the most greatest difficulty. He had long before expected that landelinian vandals being attracted by the hope of loot would invade the ruins and he was surprised that this was one disaster with the exception. Of course as the Mayor said troops ad had been placed on guard, with orders to deal with the vad vi valda vandals as nefits their shameless crimes but not a vandal appeared. Twenty seven women, and four men and sixteen children had been brought to the ship with the hope of being refugeed but there hardly was room for them. starring knew that work in the ruins of this city was dangerous, for crumbling walls were a serious menace to working parties and therefore he had no intention to explore.He had urged the Mayor that for saftys sake what remains of the city should be leveled with dynamite. Even he had observed when bodies were found their identification had been difficult or impossible. and inhabitants of surviving towns near the city had been forced to quite their homes on account of the odors from the dead and the gases emanations fr m the distant forest fires.. And public services of all kinds were sadly impeded by the heavy task that had fallen upon the aurthorities in distributing in the southern part of the country around violet paul the refugees from the northern part.

No one of starring's force has been able to approach nearer than five miles of of the explosion cre crater near violet Paul because of the recent forest blazes.

Scientists that finally were coming to the explosion area believed that the eruptions were not at all volcanic activity, and that a general expectation of another and more severe explosion was out of the question. Yet during each explosion earthquake concussions had followed each ot one in quick succession, and were sufficiently severe to do great and immeasureable damage, filled the whole state with f fear, and now if it had been possible to obtain transportation it can be safe to say that the whole of Calverinia would would have been depopulated within two weeks.

To Starrings vision the whole countryside seemed to have been changed in its shape.. whole sides of high hills seemed to a have disappeared, the top of one hill with its forests have also disappeared, and from a distance another mountain mountain looks as though a mightysteam rooler roller had been pressed upon it, crushing down its apex.

As far as the boat continued to run over the entire county country as far as eye could reach spreads a peculiar mist or fog-the -hog, which was injurious to the eyes and which seemed to contain noxious gases that caused m very much distress..

Some of the buildings built by the farmers still stand, and yet in every one there,, are bodies. And Starring also observed that standing about in the open wer many bodies of animals, blistering in the terrible hiest heat.

And therefore the result is that a effluva spreads of v over the country which is very nauseating, and which threatens a pestilence that will further decimate the States population, and therefore Starring urged that such precautions as are possibleshould be taken to ward off fevers, but just now the most that can be done indeed is very little.

There were not enough men found to have burial parties as so many are in the army, and therefore soldiers dragg the bodies out with ropes and chains to trenches to trenches or ditches for internment, and e even cremation has to be resorted to. And worse of o all one great trouble lies in the fact that as fast as many of the bodies are too close to the heat zone they cannot be approached, and untill the heat of the forest fires die down they must remain to ad to add to the st ench that is now almost unbearable.

Since the beginning of the disaster starvation at many places too was or is a condition that actually existed throughout parts of the horrorzone, and as Starring heard over thirty thousand refugees, are lightly fed at Pandora and also sheltered by the Government near the cities of St George and Michael, but millions are in need of food. Supplies are still very slowly coming in, not even fast enough to meet the demands one third of the way. Many boats to work relief had even to be built and it was reported that relief ships that are hastening to other points, cannot even find traces of the so called cities that were to be surviving after the flood..

Everything was being complicated week after weekk Even the water famine is causing more distress than lack of food. Many of the former supplies of water have disappeared either because of the draining by the flood or by the heat of fires.

Rivers that were runni g bank full before the explosions, and before the forest fires are dried up or evaporated away by the heat...Even lakes have evaporated, and only in the location of the flood zone is there any water to be had and it is filthy.

The bigger rivers are muddy and gray and not fit for drinking purposes.

East of violet Paul city a stream of some size can be seen flowing tward the Mic-Hollester Run down which the Mary Jane is sailing but no one has approached close enough to tell whether it is fresh or impregnated with filth, as much of the remaining rem streams are.... Starringwrote this in one of his reports to the authorities,--;;;;----.

"We have just arived at Violet Paul city on September the first early in the morning, and had at once made arrangements for landing my men with the purpose to investigate the explosion ruins. The surviving members of the population and the Mayor expressed keen appreciation of our mission, but we could not go far. We saw hundreds of refugees leaving the city, all of them without anything except the clothing worn by them, and many carrying their coats on their heads to ward of the smothering heat of the ruins. They were dazed, and did not know what to do to care for themselves. The Mayor said the situation is unusual, as nothing could be done to save the city. I and all with me were struck with the apparent apathy of the surviving inhabitants of the ruined city. And their calmness while speaking of the catastrophe was unusually remarkable. We were tood told, the explosion near this place, wrecked a good portion of the city, and a confligration finished the work. Yet it is impossible to ga give any kind of a description of the condition we found existing in this city and the country about. The country for many miles in the east is covered with smouldering debris left by the fires in the forests. And the stench that comes from the bodies in the city is so strong that it is very offensive ten miles from the city. Our party of investigators landed at the easier part of violet Paul w but we were only able to penetrate about one hundred yards. All of us for a time became ill. We had disinfectants but they did not make any impression on the stench.

Near as the forest fires were still raging, and Scientists who made a studyhof of it say the heat is three hundred degrees a half mile from the fire. The bodies in the city itself were incincerated, and the stone walls of the buildings were melted and crumbled.....I tried to go through the city, yesterday on horseback i i with the purpose of visiting afterwards over fifty miles of the stricken

territory, not to get in some of its terrible scenes of devastation, but to fre and find access to one of the craters caused by the so called eruption and investigate. As I passed through the small portion of the city I came across a place where I believe I observed over three thousand bodies. Outside the city in the safer zone thousands were in improvised hospitals, and I came across many refugees flocking into the camp as every one because of the fury and ra-a ravages of the forest fires are panic stricken. And the burned lying cattle wander in agony on the roads. Water is almost impossible except by the river, and it seems as if hundreds of miles of country in the east in this location will soon be covered with burning embers of our once beautiful forests.

The entire northeastern section of the country beyond the city is covered with a dept depth of smouldering ashes and embers and trees, and the mim minimum of the dead is put at fifteen thousand, and the highest at twenty thousand. It may be sixty thousand. The destitute in other sections are everywhere suffering and the weather weather is dry and very hot. The disaster radically differs from that of other places in the greater area and all the rural districts affected. Wickey Lansin which is twenty miles from the explosion area has been as badly damaged as Violet Paul, but Violent Paul is not so seriously handicapped having escaped the conflagration.

Among the incidents noted is that of the matron of an op orphan asylum and her husband, and own children, and all her little charges that is the orphans, and twenty nuns and two priests killed at once. On the road to the Big Girl Knool or Yellow Brick Road I saw many bodies and much smouldering rubbish. Hundreds of country towns were buried by the debris thrown up by the explosions. There may be hundreds of bodies under each. We saw horrible scenes in the camps and refugee hospitals, where the many injured were dying on the ground, the number of nurses being very small. When I entered Wickey Lansin first, sixty thousand refugees were waiting for river boats to take them to Pandora and other places. Thirty thousand have come into River town. Even in these cities many people had perished, the survivors suffering from the terrific heat, and in wat of food and water. The Government has the greatest of all difficulties in relieving and saving so many people scattered over such largae large territories when they cannot be reached, and now number od of people to be fed and cared for are said to be reduced by starvation and plague. I will endeavor to get to Abbiann when things are more favorable. Will have to remain in the vinicty of Violet Paul for a week.

Fortunately the city and many others places are not infested with glandelinian pillagers, but nevertheless the authorities are on their guard, and will mete out severe measures if vandals do appear. We were asked to explore the ruins of violet Paul for valuable books and papers, but the heat is so terrific we cannot penetrate more than a hundred yards. A foriegne Officer, an englishman, secured the Sacred Vessels of the ruins of a church, and has been taken to Pandora, where he had the Sacramentals placed under proper care. There were hundreds of bodies found and interned interned esterday, making a total of 12345 buried so far.

Yet the work of interment is presenting the most greatest difficulties. No funeral services can be held. Even some Italian sailors and men and children were saved who we th were thought to have perished at the time of the explosion.

The next morning hoping it would be cooler I travled over the desolated eastern portion of the citys outskirts, foolishly taking with me the two girlscouts and one of the boys, and and they were brain sick at the sights witnessed. Still the smoke of the forest fires obscures the landscapes, and when wind blows even showers of hot ashes and flaming embers continued to sweep upon us at intervals. On the lower levels of the road I encountered many fleeing from their homes and the forest, fires..... Then in company with the Mayor I spent much time in encouraging and pacifying the country people, who are now in a state of terrible panic. But of the police that survived and the soldery who came also lent active service, and if the forest fires subside there will be no more disorder and quiet will soon be restored. I saw at one of the camp hospitals a an old man who told me he was driving to Abbiann at the early midnight hour of the great catastrophe and got caught in the very edge of the cyclone of gas and flame and debris that came from the explosions or eruptions. So close was I to the burning suffocatingcloud of the explosion, that my horse was killed by it, and I was badly burned. Another man told me that noticing a violent oc oscillation of the needle of the barometer, he hurried with his family to Galverine four hours before the disaster. I am sending this cable message to Pandora, and will soon push on tward Abbiann. There are plenty of unusual scenes of the explosion and flood violence, and great danger in the upper reaches but so complete has been the deat destruction of life that I fail to percieve any signs of recovery for any one. After leaving the safest part of the city, I entered the real zone of the explosion effect.

Everything here was covered with thick layers of debris, unlike the stuff seen elsewhere. Judging from what I and my followers saw here, I should imagine that great streams of mud wreckage and water, and still burning powder fell tward Violet Paul and water and mud and gravel and other debris nearer to the crater, and tward the north. I wished to reached one of the craters, but the heat of forest fires drove me back. At noon I reached Little Greek a veral miles from violet Paul.

Work among the ruins of St Violet Paul and other villiages near by has ceased, and the burial parties have been forced to flee to escape the heat from the fire ..

of the explosion ore crater near ...

Many refugees had longed to return to their homes,, believing that the forest fires might turn another way but they are now again in full flight, and the distress is increased. Search had also been made by a party from the River crews for the body of the governor of Bengall State who with all the members of his family p rsi perished in the debris , but the search has now been abandoned, and the searchers have returned to River Knoll. They report that the heat of the fires is unbearable, and it is now believed that the body of the governor cannot be recovered. When I came to the city the conditions did not seem dangerous, and I had intended making a tour of inspection of the crater, but owing to the fierce heat of the fires the trip was not a success.

When our ship arived boats were lowered, and I and all of my officals and the child scouts started for the shore. Before a landing was made, the forest fire hit some explosives somewhere which went off with terrific noise. The crash was not in the direction of the city, and no damage was done, but the investigators fled precipitately, back to our ship, leaving me alone with the girls on the shore.

It was at this time that th the workers abandoned their labors among the ruins and took refuge in flight.

While on the boat we took soundings of the river, and it was discovered that the bed of the river had been changed by the strange upheavals, that have strangely accompanied the explosions. In some places the bed of the river had dropped beyond the reach of the deepest plummet which s rprised us greatly. And yet in some places rocks and land have been forced to the surface that do not appear on any chartt, and which jav have never been noted before.

As I watched the shore move as the ship passed on, there was panic everywhere. I met women and children strugling tward unforested hills, and all were so badly frightened they seemed dazed, even almost afraid to look behind them. As I passed beyond the ruined city I m met many of these refugees and they were too frightened to speak. There is danger everywhere of pestilence, and great epidme epidemic os diseases are raging elsewhere. It has been estimated that there were four hundred and fifty explosions within the minutes between Elel Eleven thirty and twelve oclock beof before the big ones came. and the extent of the devastation cannot now be estimated.

According to witnesses no mud or other explosion debris feu fell upon the country districts, which were however fe freely besprinkled with the dry dust hurled into the air by the explosions. It is probably the explosiths explosions gave a good demonstration of a force o of which the world before knew nothing. It is believed that the singing g flame was the still burning powder, traveling with strange cye. cyclon ic force and rapidty. Outside of the immediate heat zone the dame damage was not so great. A great iron locomotive engine standing in the path of the shooting flame from the explosion was affected in a most singular manna manner. One side was melted while the other side was scarcely touched by the intense heat. Dust fell everywhere and most horrifying details of the condition o of the country where dead cattle and human bodies lay for days are told. Although the numbers of dead in this city due to the disaster is estimated judging from the missing inhabitants at twenty thousand up to now only fifteen thousand bodies have been rirecovered and buried. The undiscovered bodies probably are still under the debris.

I discovered in the ruins of a building a hundred and eighty seven bodies, and not one of them could be recognized. In other ruins bodies were found in similar condition. and other terrible discoveries have been made. Many injured persons are suffering from fractured skulls caused by the wreckage of buildings falling on them. "Although attended with smaller loss of life the destruction of villiages is severe.

Officials in the vinicity are busy relieving the sufferers and making camps for the injured and the hopele homeless. The main problem now facing the government is how to provide permanently for the people who lost all they possessed as they cannot be reached.

"The area covered by the forest fires in this neighborhood comprises an unknown number of miles. The fact that the loss of life is so severe is of the suddeness of the disaster."

When the ship finally was to continue on, the the investigators were to have weird and interesting exp riences. And it was only through what seemed pri providental accident that the steamers engines were saved from serious injury as the result of the swiftness of the ships movements. Starring also brought up the information that the violation brought upon Galverinia was looked upon by the survivors as that done by nat re and not the glandelinians this time. He heard several of the residents of a town that survived telling one another that they believed the destruction of so many cities and towns was a terrific convulsion of nature and of volcanic activity from the ground, but Starring believed different.

As the ship continued on he noticed a peculiar haze o covering the landscape and the river in the distance. The air seemed more heavy and oppressive, and the weather conditions were not at all unlike those which preceed the great Mic-Whirthian Seas Typhoons or huge circular sea tornadoes but knowing it was not the season for them to come along the shore or enter any parts of the country, Starring rek remarked that there must be a heavy storm approaching and that at last the forest fires will

be pur put out.
be noon put out. Man, of the sailors, who were not only men of river ships but who have been very experienced seamen laughed at these prognostigations , and informed Starring and his friends, that there would be no such a thing as a storm for a month and insisted that according to all indications, a dead calm was in sight. Yet indeed so unusually peculiar were these weather conditions that starring and his followers talked talked of nothing else during the day. That early evening in the direction of the straight southeast in the direction of the southern section of the Marie Osborne forests there was a very black sky, an unusual thing indeed at that season of the year, and yet Starring was hoping that a storm was brewing, which would douse the fires,, though this cloud was not in the direction which storm come from in the great Calverinian countries.

As the evening wore on those on watch noticed what appeared b to be great flickerings of red lights in the dird direction of the Marie Osborne forests, and it also seemed as if the ordinary conditions were becoming reversed, and even the so called ships prophets were unable to offer explanations.....Occassionally over the pounding of the engines and the rush of water, starring and all on board the ship, thought they could hear long deep roars not unlike the ending of a deep peal of thunder. Sometimes they heard the rumble and the roar, but at the time they were not certain as to oa exactly what it was or ace even whether they really heard it, or fancied it.

Every now and then there would suddenly come great glares, and flashes of light flickering up and down, changing to a dull red glow from the dark bnk bank tward the Marie Osborne region. Sometimes the glow and even the flashes and flickers of light seemed to spread over a great area, while others seemed to soar skyward, sheet and tongue shaped. And all night this continued, and it was hot untill day came that it ceased. The dark bank however that covered the sky did not fade away with the breaking of day, and later that morning the whole section of the sky in that direction seemed darker and more troubled.

At about seven oclock starring was sitting on one of the hatches, with Angeline Richee and Jennie Turmer, and discussing the peculiar weather conditions and phenomena with the officers of the ship. A few minutes later the lookout called out that they were runing into a big fog bank dead ahead. Fog banks for a landscape at such a time of the year were unheard of, and starring wondered what could a fog bank being doing here at this time of the year, and also he surmised that forest fires would prevent the fog. He winked at Jennie and whispered-

"It's smoke."

Before they knew it however, they were in into the fog, which indeed proved to be a big dense bank of smoke, and it spread over them from all sides and seemed to move slowly from the east. Ventilators were quickly brought to their places, and even the hatches were battened down. The strangely coming heat and fog becoming suffocating, and all on board had all they could do to keep from choking at times. What the fog was most of those on board at first could not conjecture, or rather they did not have much time to try to investigate what it was, for they had to get their ship in shape to withstand they hardly knew what. At first they though that they might have entered the zone of some volcanic eruption, and then they decided that if the captians figures were right, they wouldn't be nearenough to the farthest volcano to have such volcanic vapors blown down upon them, there was more the smell of burning wood in the air, and as they had just passed Violet Paul they knew the captians figures were right.

Just as the fog conditions were at its height, one of the engineers was nearly suffocated by it, and it was some time before he could be revived. And just about this th time t it became so dark that they found it necessary to start up the eletric lights, and it was not ntill they had got clear of the smoke fog that they turned the current o current off. In the meantime they had burned from eight oclock in the morning, untill after five in the afternoon. Tward five oclock they were somewhat clear of the fog, but at seven oclock that night they ran into a second ank bank of it, though not as bad as the first. That following night there was more of the same distant fiery phenomena tward the same direction but a little nearer, but it was not untill they halted near a large shelving in the shore of the river, where they saw one of the wrecked ships that they knew the fog was smoke of forest fires.

Starring seeing the wrecked ship covered with debris and the so called explosion dust, took to a small boat and rowed to the craft, boarding it, and looked over the finer debris to see if it was so called lava or not. He found the dust itself was superior to granite and other stone mixed and superior even to emery dust. He found it it cut deeper and quicker, and only about half as much was required to do thework.

He made up his mind to keep what he saw, to investigate it and so he gathered it up. The decks of this ship showed the effects of the fiery expl eruption through which it had passed. All aboutthe decks fine dust could be seen working out of cracks and crevices, where the brooms of the men had not reached in their efforts to sweep it up into a bucket to hold for investigation. In places the paint was blistered, and in the leftier prtions of this ship, the paint which was yellow looked as if if it might have been partly scorched off, and then covered over with some kind of

...xplosion cre crater near Violet ...

browning wet sand and mud. Inthe lifeboats and elsewere, were mounds of gravel and debris and dust. Starring had a large jar filledewith the debris.

Starring visited one of the officers of the wrecked ship who described the storm of shooting fire, through which the ship passed in a seconds time as being like like a severe snowstorm of sparks with the thermometer at 110 degrees. The most harrowing picture Starring observed was that of the captian of the ship. He scarcely looked like a man at all he was burned and scarred and injured so badly. He sat with his arms supported on pillows, and he said to starring jokingly that there was not enough flesh left on one of his arms to feet a cat with.

One of the officers on this ship who was a native of Calverine, said he left Abbieann for the purpose of visiting his wife and daughter, and his story indicated that his departure from Abbieann was just on time to escape possible destruction.

"There is a volcano not far from Calverine" he said "But they said it is almost practically extinct. If these disasters have anything to do with volcanic activity as is said then it is unusual."

"Could you see anything of the terrible outburst near Abbieann from Calverine?" Starring asked him."

"Yes I answered" Only I did see the hedious burst of red flame from forest fires which would leap far into the black clouds like sudden bursts of flaming lava shooting up into the air as if from a mighty furcane furnace. When the explosion came the shock was felt even in Calverine, I was thrown out of bed, and there was a mighty wrenching and shaking of the earth, with a noise that sounded to me as if all the powers of the universe were struggling under your feet. I have recieved word that sufficient supplies were on hand to meet the emergency, but even though public subscriptions have continued even now it is hard to reach all the people, because with all the great disaster before, this big one complicates all. For the present no further supplies can even be sent to any spot by our state and city governments and it was that the State Governers advised that all people that can should leave the disaster zone and come north where they can be taken care of. The Emperor has called upon the army and navy officers in all localities to express their views upon the sufficiency of the supplies available, and when their replies are recieved he will take immediate action."

The excitement throughout every place Starring had gone to was still most intense. He had come upon many refugees, destitute, starving and frightened by the appalling disasters at Abbieann and grave and similarly serious damage in more northern northern and southern sections of the land. He hoped most strongly that good rains would come to cure the forest fire conditions as they were hindering his efforts. One good thing Starring had ardent hopes for in bringing about good results.

Ever since the big disasters had occured, throughout, other portions of the country in all the big cities, at the close of High Masses every day funeral psalms were chanted every day for months and prayers for the dead were said in memory for the purpose of memory of those who perished in the greatest disasters, and special and frequent Novenas and Litanies were offered to the cause to be known. Every Mass or at Every Mass and every evening service and every Novena the Congregations were record breaking, and good collections for the aid of all of Calverinins suffers were continually taken up. At a special service held in the Church of the Holy Name, city of Pandora, the citys Cardenal and all others coming there pronounced absolution on the whole State of Calverinia. The commemorative services for the disaster dead , was held at Notre Dame, Cathedral Cathedral, Angelinis Agathis City, this service being a high religious and National, imperial function in behalf of the stricken State, General and appropriate services for the calverinian victims were g held in all the churches throughout Abbieannia, and collections for the sufferers were taken up.

Starring had finally learned of the fate of the ship from which the dust had been gathered up. It was the only ship that had escaped the terrible explosion at Abbieann, and which had been on the river west of the city. Starring observed that the state of the ship was enough to show that those on board must have undergone the most awful experience. When he boarded the ship Starring had observed that its decks was covered with a mass of dust laying inches deep on the decks. Some other matter had fallen in a red hot state all over the steamer, setting fire to everything it struck that could burn, and when it fell on the men on board it burned off limbs and and large pieces of flesh. The captian finally told starring the whole storybof his experience.

He said-

"I was standing by the railing of the ship talking to a woman passenger of the vessel who had just come on board, when I heard a terrible noise as the firing of a legion of great large guns at once, and then saw what appeared to be an enormous black cloud covered with a terrific flash of fire underneath, and like a wall with patches of fire in it, approaching the river from the north. With it came an immense sheuf of fire accompanied by a most loud and terrible roar. I shouted to the crew" hunt for shelters, but before they could do so the steamer was immediately caughe ceaught by some sudden heavy pressure and tossed over on her side almost being turned over entirely. Drebus darkness enshrouded us all suddenly, and then all about the ship was flashes of fire, and something like volcano of red hot matter showered

down while the air was thick with strange f m e and d et and smoke.. The heat was a The River was a conf sed of roaring ; asses of roaring water all of a sudden. I feeling s re my ship had steamed up at my orders, and instantly realizing the necessity of escape rushed to the engine room annunciator, and signalled below to the engineer to start the engine full spped speed. The anxie s remenin increased by my burns and agony of mind, and by the sight of the city going into clouds of dust with a terrible roar were relieved by the vibration of the engines and the reply from below.The terrible r sh of hot air which had swept over the ship and nearly captized her, parted the cable, and the vessel was adrift.

Then came other great eruptions and concussions further away, and when the engines started it was found that the steering gear ls had become disabled in some manner and could not be worked. For more than two hours the ships engines were worked, backing and going ahead, with the hope of bring her head tward the river and away from the falling smoke and dust covered s city.

Once she got dangerously near and almost between two ships all afire.Some of those aboard were jumping into the boiling water of the river, some fell dying to the deck.All this time the strange wreckage was falling, and the water was rising as if there was the dangers of a flood.smoke and dust and falling wreckage filled the air and strange fumes like that of powder spread about. After three hours effort the steering gear moved a little, and enabled me t head her out for the river, and with considerable diffu dic difficulty I managed to steer her a little distance from the wharf of the city.

As the air cleared the scene aboard the ship became all the more ghastly. The ship steamed on through thick clouds of smoke, and the screams from th e the injured became more plainer.Some rushed frantically about with their clothing on fire and large pieces of flesh burned from their arms, others in their agony lay writhing in the debris. It took us three hours more to get into more clearer air.Ther an investigation of h the loss on board, showed that besides me, who as you see am fright frightfully injured, only one engineer and six sailors were able to do duty.Fire was still burning about the ship, and the rigging was in flames. I decided to reach Poverty Row fourty five miles distant.. This He succeeded in doing by the next next morning. And in the time occupied on this terrible voyage the experience of the survivors was still worse than the former experience. I and my few men fighting the fire, exhausted and burned, struggled and worked, trying to do something to assist the dying shipmates and passengers. Those working below strove to j keep up the steam. I suffered the greatest angony agony, but succeeded in v navagiating my vessel saftly to the city of Poverty Row, with one hundred and eighteen dead bodies lying on the deck and human limbs scattered about.One of the surviving sailors stood by constantly wiping my injured face and eyes.."

Starring believed from this that the performance of the captian of this ship was indeed most wonderful, and the more so when he saw his pitiful condition.He did not understand how he kept up, yet when the steamer at that time had arived at Poverty Row at which Starring was now and medical assistance was obtained, this brave man asked the doctors to attend to the others first, and refused to be treated untill this was done.

Starring knws knows that since the outbreak of the war, every battle, every earthquake shock from explosions, every war disaster so far, massacres, and every horror known brings out a most curious phase of human nature. Many of those who had seen their houses destroyed or their nearest relatives killed, despite all perils have returned to the possible scenes of devastation as possible. But in this case it was not so. They hardly couldn,t even leave the scene of devastation. They were cut off from escape and almost entirely from sufficient aid. It was so after the great Irientown horror, it was so after the Lake Selicia and the Arronburgs Run flood disasters, it was so after the floods swept Central Calverinia,, and in more recent weeks, the Abbieann disaster, the big floods, and other parts of the catastrophe confirm the old experience.

This disaster has indeed destroyed much more property than Starring ever imagined it would and an immeasureable number of lives, and rendered a whole nation of people homeless, and he was forced to see a people forced to remain in homes wrecked beyond recovery in sight of the telegraph pole from which the fatal live wire dangled or the flood in which so many drowned.. He before could not concieve such a terrible catastrophe as that which so early in June suddenly overwhelmed not only a big city but a whole country side, simply blotting out Bengull state as a land of fair homes and extinguishing its great agriculture and business, and destroying half of southern Calverinia with flood, raising the old question again how the government of Abbieannia can deal with such fearful events.

Think of the sudden ferocity of this power, whole country side being blown up as if it had all erupted with a mightier force than any volcano known, and hurling down upon cities and towns masses of wreckage. Thus perished Abbieann and Adelaheid entirely, and many other towns, by explosion, and then [illegible] by flood. And not one wicked person had ever been in those cities. Abbieann was special in goodness of the people.The people were as decent as those of any quietly place, and it needed no [illegible] vindictive judgment from [illegible] all.

Chapter 37

STARRING HEARS OF HOW THE ABBIEANN EXPLOSION DISASTER
MOVED MOUNTIANS FROM CONCUSSION.
THE FLOOD LAKE OVER ABBIEANN MAY STAY FOREVER.....

Then said Starring to Radcliffe.....

"What I have gone through calls to my remembrance that which was told me of a thing that happened to a number of forest rangers and even their leader during the time a good part of General Arronburgs army was fighting the forest fires near Irientown when a little girl called Jannie was lost. and in danger from it. The name of the head ranger was Hank Weaverton, he was a very good man, and so were his followers, and before he came out he heard that the fire was heading for Irientown. The usual unusual thing was this however,, he and his rangers about about two hundred of them had entered a part of the foe forest , that stretches down from Broadway Creek, now known as Deadmans lane, so called because of the horrid results of the conflagration that swept there.And the Ranger and his followers, had come to this point with the hope of breaching against the fires, and save Irientown.Now t e there had happened at that time, to come down the lane from the north bend of Broadway Creek, three sections of the forest fire, moving forward with great speed.Now most of the men were stricken with terror, as the fire so suddenly came up so close to them, and though their leader bid them stand and work like mad, some of them looked as white as a sheet, and had neither power to fight or to fly.

Then said their leader-"Retreat to the lane fools ,read retreat to the lane." but but they making no haste to do it, for they were too confused to retreat for even their safty safty, their leader ran up to them, crie crying out"To the lane, to the lane."Just at that moment a tree burning through fell, and a branch of it like a great club struck him on the head, and the blow felled him flat to the ground, where he lay bleeding.All this while his horror stricken members stood by not knowing what to do while the conflagration reared closer, but at last they hearing that the flames were coming across the creek, and fearing, lest they should be trapped , they betook themselves to their heels, two of them carrying their leader.

Another for force of rangers and men citizens of the doomed city who also were striving to stop the conflagration came up and saved them, but their leader had been severely wounded, for not only his head was lacerated but his left arm was broken and his right leg crushed and his hip bone dislocated. This was the story."

"But did they not succeed in stopping the fire from hitting Irientown?"

"No No, the place was direct in its path path, but nevertheless his successor tried to hold against the progress of the fire elsewhere, but as I was told the rangers was much afflicted by the loss o loss of ground, for the fire drove them before it.The part of the forest which the fire did not turn was the stretch on the Big Bend, it did not cross t e there, also there was the little odd ravine with most of the trees still left, but scarce enough to tell that it was once a beautiful little ravine, nay if I was not misinformed, they were forced to fight even to save their own lives.But struggle and do what they could, they had to retreat hastily for many miles untill they got to the Mic-Hollester River where it was too wide for even the wind to carry flaming embers acr across."

"But is it not a wonder the fire did not strike the town of Certificate which stands some distance off from Irientown, by which way the fire could have crossed the big Mic-Hollester River."

"Tis a wonder, but the Big Bend prevented that, though the flames failed not through any effort of the fire rangers, for they being dismayed at the fire coming so suddenly upon them, had neither power nor skill to save the latter town, so was more by the intervention of our Blessed Lord than by their endeavor that the fire failed to cross Broadway Creek at the Big Bend.If it had even Evangeline St Claire would have been burned.Don'tbyou see that is what saved that big city too.Because the fire failed to cross at Big Bend."

"But it must needs be a comfort to them nevertheless that the fire did not cross at the Bend, or they too would never have escaped."

"It might have been a great comfort to them, had they used the opportunity as they should, but they that told me the story,said"that they did not take much advantage of it, and that because of the dismay that they had in being so suddenly surprised by the fire hurricane, indeed they forgot what they were doing half of the time, indeed they forgot everything else but retreat and safty all the way to the big river, and besides, when at any time it came into their minds, then would fresh thoughts of their loss and failure come again upon them, and those thoughts would swallow up all."

"Alas poor Rangers, this could not be but a big greaf to them."

"Grief.Ay grief indeed,would it not a been so to any of us, had we been so thu taken unawares as they, to be routed, and have our leader fatally wounded too, and that in so terrible a place as they were too for a time even cut off from escape so that they had to fight their way through the fire to safty.Tis a wonder his friend

did not die with grief. I was told that his nice successor, scarr scattered almost all the rest of the way from town to town with nothing but doleful and bitter complaints. Telling also to all that overtook him, or that he overtook in the way as he went, where his crews and the leader was surprised by the "Red Plague", and how, who they were that were routed, and what ground they lost in the big fight, how the leader was f t fatally wounded, and he too and many others with him narrly escaped with his life..."

"put" continued Radcliffe"tis a wonder the necessities did not cause them to go to the ravine for refuge as commanded, that they might have relieved themselves of such experience."

"You my boy don't understand my saying a moment ago, they were cut f off from the ravine by the fire. In ll that country the fire was sweeping, besides had they gotten into the ravine they might have been so suffocated by heat and smoke of h the conflagration all around, ad that wd that would have been worst to them than the retreat they were forced to make, and of their desperate fight through a narrow part of the flames."

"Why couldn't they reach the Ravine. We succeeded in reaching one when the fire came up not but yesterday morning, and that for a mess of foolishness that we were forced to do so, and if they could not do so why were we able to reach ours."?

"We did succeed in getting into a ravine, and so did all of our followers, and so by doing excluded themselves from the main fury of the conflagration. But you must put a difference between them rangers and us. Our escape from the flames was typical, but the case of the rangers and their unfortunate ranger leader were not so. That Ravine was large, and our refuge, but that little lane for the rangers might not have been so safe. Besides I could when in the tree top see the course the conflagration was taking, the rangers could see no further than a mile, for the smoke so were surprised. And for them though it was their lot to have the misfortune was by their not being watchful n enough in the first place kept from securing a good place of refuge when the flames came up, and made to see that watchfulness pays. You read not such things happening in novel stories of fires, no not so much as even a little, therefore no marvel if only where the fire comes up unawares, and so quickly that no number of men can resist against it successfully, if they get cut so suddenly, for it is such as it is with the ass, who cannot be turned away before the danger is too close. When their mids are set upon fighting against the oncoming fire when too close for safty they will risk the danger, whatever the cost and rue their folly. But these rangers were of other kinds, their minds were on the fire only, therefore for what end could they have to come too soon into the lane.

Their efforts was upon things more of speedy flight than of even thinking of the ln lanes, therefore to what end should they, that were in such immediate danger think of going first into the ravine or lane when they saw their leader felled by the tree, even had there been any chance of getting to the ravine on time, to save thejselves themselves admid amid the inferno. Will a man heed other things when he sees his leader injured? Or can you persuade them to desert him. Though fearless ones can for any good purpose, do what they can to combat a fire of this kind, and hold their ground outright to boot, yet they have faith, maybe even saving faith but what can they do at the loss of a leader. Here therefore Radcliffe may be thy mistake?....,"

"I acknowledge it" said Radcliffe. "But General, these three arms of the fire, I am persuaded in my heart, were not as severe as the main body of the conflagration , and yet if the leader was not injured would the rangers have run, else think you as they did, at the mere noise of the flames coming up the roadway. Why did they not pluck up a greater heart..? They might I believe have stood one trust with the fire, and have yelded only when there had been no other remedy but to make a hasty retreat....."""""

"That they were not bad fires being three branches of the main body, many have said, but the rangers did not find it so in the time of their triall trial. Of course I believe the branches were mere trifles or they being surprised by the fire would not have escaped with their lives it being said they fought their way through it to the river.. As for a great brave heart, that they lost at the destruction of of the forests within their view, the injury of their l ader leader, and I percieve by thee my boy had you been the man concerned, thou art but for a rush brush, and then to yeild, to retreat. And verily since this is the height of thy opinion, now that the fires at are at a distance from us, should they appeared to us as suddenly without a warning, the conflagration might too have pus put us all also to second thoughts. But consider again, they may have been stretches ahead of the ain main big conflagration, which may have passed off to the right of Broadway Creek and the fact that the her folk of the city of Orientown came to their aid themselves saved them from perished perishing the flames that almost overtook them.

I myself with many rangers have been engaged often in fighting forest fires, even as theseco unfortunate rangers were, and found it a most terrible thing... I was with a Ranger known as Frank Appleby, and his men were in a long line of battle fighting ground fires, blasting and cutting down trees, and trenching and doing all other kind of work against the advance of the forest fire. The flames of the main conflagration almost set pon us unexpectedly, and the leader gave out a

warning and we all retreated to better quarters, yet I would as the saying is, have given my life for a penny, but that as our Blessed Lord would have it, we were then clothed in abestos. Ay and though wewere so harnessed, we found it hard work to fight our way through that sweti seething and smoking inferno, no man can tell what in that combat attended us, but he or they who had been in the battle themselves. That experience was when after the battle of Cedernine, the forest fire came up and so fierced that the whole of Hansons army had to fight its way out it was so suddenly taken unawares."

"Well but you seethe men of the ranger who was killed ran you see.. when they did but suppose h that the fire was about to overwhelm them."

"True they had fled, when the flames had so suddenly appeared, and no marvel, for the fire if the blazes horror, but I trow you will put some difference bw between the ranger, and the flames, all of the fire was not heading for Broadway Creek, nor could it cross at the gap near Big Bend, nor could the rangers when tried do such feats of war against forest fires that seem nigh I impossible. It is meet to think that even the rangers I worked with could handle the work against the surging flames as they did, or that there should be numbers enough to put up a good fightvagainst the conflagrations. Some portions of the head fires are strong and big, some have great fury and speed, some have little fury but turn out to be big smoking ground and brush fires, and therefore they retreated nevertheless."

"I wish it had rained for their sakes."

"Yes then there would be some hope, but without the help of rain all the forest range rangers have their hands full, for I must tell you, that though every one of the forest rangers in the country are excellent in their work, and has and can so long as they keep the fires at bay, do well enough in checking them or turning their cur course, yet if they get within their own domains, it shall go hard with any number of the rangers. And when a man is down you know, what can he do?

Who ever sees a great fight waged against an advancing fire nor hurricane, shall easily give good demonstration of what I say. You once I heard that many rangers whowere almost caught in bad ground during the work declare that they even despaired of life. How did the big conflagrationtravel up so far, despite all the efforts of the sturdy men. You townsfolk and others are forced to bestir themselves, when their towns and villiages were in danger, and yet that notwithstandig, they were worsted and could ot not save their homes.. Hansons whole army at Cedernine Creek after the battle tried what it could do, but though some do say he is on one of the best of the christian generals, the fires routed his armies so, that the effects of his experience made him at last" afraid of a sorry girl". Yet besides, the great general is at their help, he was and is never out of hearing, and if at any time they were put to the worst, he sent other troops to help them. Think of a monsterous army like his fighting a forest fire to no avail. It was said of general Hanson "The swords of the enemy that are laid against him cannot hold,, the musket, the cannon nor any weapon, he esteemed the fury of battle as a lark, the worst charge charge of the foe cannot make his army fly, he laughs at the roar of cannon, but his army could not hold against this worst enemy the fire.

Yet when a fire strikes his army,,, or takes it by surprise what can he do in this case?? This true if his armies could at a turn, have enough artillery to blow down all the trees inthe path of the flames,, and had artillery men in enough to man them, and courage to face the horrid" Red plague" of the forest, he and his staff generals might do notable things.. Yet all the rangers are not and should, not be afraid of the forest fire as the grasshopper, even though the fury of the great fires are terrible, and wipe out a whole valley in half a days time, they should also rejoice in their tarlent, and go out with willingness to meet the conflagration right, to mock at fear, and not be afrighted, neither turn back from the work, even though the fireviteself destroy and swallow the forest with fierce ness and rage,, neither should they believe that it is the end of the world like many terrified idoits believe, and though should be able to detect signs of the forest fire far off, the thunder of the l flames, and the shoutings of the winds, and fire hurricanes..

But for such as we adventuerers are, let us never desirevto meet without extreme necessity an enemy, nor vaunt us if we could do better when we hear od other others that they have been foiled nor be ticked at the thoughts of our own manhood for such come mostly by the worst when tried. Witness general Hanson of whom I had made of some mention before. He would swagger, ay he would, he would as his mind prompted him to say, do better, and stand more for his armies, but who so foiled and run off with his army by these sudden approaches of fires as he.

When therefore when we hear that such fires comes through good parts of the country, two things is best for us to do, first to go out with a body guard, and be harnessed to fight such conflagrations if caught, and to be sure to take a good supply of medicine with us, for it was for what of that also that Hansons army though it laid lustily at the fires could not stand. Indeed if that be wanting we could do nothing against the fire at all. Therefore he that had skill said;

"Above all for all rangers when going out to b do battle against fires, take alo all the necessary materials, wherewith you shall be able to fight it to some advantug advantage if not all. Tis good also that we desire of our own friends, that we must depend up upon god to follow us on our adventature adventure. This made general

general gangons army rejoice when in this Calverinian "Valley of the shadow of Death", and his leaders were for rather dying where they were, than go one step without their main leader.On comrades all, if our blessed Lord will but go along with us in this adventure, what need we be afraid of ten thousands of foes that set themselves against us, or even of the dangers of the forest fires? but without him, we would never make any success.I for my part have been in the fight against the forest fires many times, and though though the help of our Blessed Lord I am as you see alive, yet I cannot boast as being a hero.Glad shall I be and you also if we meet with no more such brunts with forest fires though I fear we are not yet beyond any danger whatever by no means.,however since the enemy and the fire has not yet devoured me, or the rest of us I hope God will also deliver us all from the other dangers, and aid us successfully in our adventure."

"""""I d" declared the leader of the bodyguard have been through the region where the effects of the explosions at Abbieann had been known off, and I would not be afraid to say that it seemed to be as if the mountains literally a walkd walked walked, that from the concussion landslides edded like great waterfalls, that crevasses occured or opened that swallowed houses, and trains, and farms, and villages were swept away under a rising and falling sea of loose earth and so on."

"That is an unusual story" said Starring, and if true will make the Abbieann explosion, concussion, and flood scenes one of the most appalling catastrophes in all history.But are you sure you are not talking through your hat or merely dreaming that?"

"Well general " you may scoff but it is true, it is not a fable by no means.The tremendous shaking up by the explosions have done this, even though most of the story had now began to spread beyond the points of broken communications.Because of the extent of the disaster, and of so much communications ruined it is the most poorly broadcasted calamity that has ever occurred.those who bring the news have travled far, and therefore the details of the disaster had never come over the wires but by man on boats and by travelers and couriers, and from written statements of rescuers, relief parties and the survivors themselves.The population that did survive were too stunned, and too busy in relief work to give any description of the dancing mountains, vanishing valleys, the cracks of the many miles of ground, the great floods and so on."

"What kind of dance did the mountains do.The Highland fling?"

"You may speof general, but I swear it is true, and if you believe not we can go any time you say to see.I was with the party that visited the disaster aarea and we have brought back for our government one of the first accounts of the real horrors of the devastated country which other couriers and newschad not brought, and the strange things that happened when the explosions made the earth in the region of Abbieann turn itself into a strange contortionist.The area of destruction by the concussion, two hundred to six hundred, by 1000 miles in extent, not counting the flood, contained twenty large cities, besides many villiages and towns and a score of railways that run through.It is in the heart of the Bengal County, where by the shock and concussion of the explosions the loose earth cascaded down the sides of hills into valleys and buried every object in its ppath path."

"Then the flood I suppose hid all clues of that" said Starring."

"No at that section there was no flood sir.Tales may be just as strange as the horrors of Martinique Island, or of the gama Roman times of Pompeii and so forth which could be recounted of this devastated area.As three fourths of the added dead from the slides are Calverinians, the Abbieannians claim that the shocks w re were caused by volcanic eruptions underground.Some o somehow the landslinian aurthorities have claimed the same so stoutly that it does seem very sus spicious suspicious.Not far from this scene is the region where so many hundreds of miles of country is split into fissures like shattered glass glass by the concussion, and by the river a whole country and forest sunk by the vibration and covered by a lake."

"I see the point " said Starring."One thing more I can say.Abbieann is buried also by water, and mud, never to be recovered of what had not been swept down the country by the water, and one of the most dramatic episodes of the disaster also is the destruction of the total of the population of the city, whose fate was sealed by the wreckage of builings by the concussion beca before the flood descend descended upon the place,while the majority of the population lay dead amid the ruins."

"Yes" said Angeline Richee."And by some miracle I and other girl friends each escaped from the horrid place before the flood came, but we did witness how many of the population were buried in the ruins, and were never recovered."

"Some of the sayings may be or quite likely to seem very exaggerated" said Starring somewhat doubtefully.But "But putting all joking aside I will have to believe it, because things have occured from the effects of both explosions and floods which you colonel could not exaggerate in saying you saw, for you saw nothing compared to the real thing and I know it.The government as general Vivian told me has records of what many investigators observed and I'll tell you some, and maybe it'll be your turn to think of scoffing.In the district north of Bengal County a party of investigators were surprised ti find a whole mountain topped

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by a town and forest had from the dreadful force and earthquake shock caused by the explosions slide into a valley.A little beyond they were more surprised to find that a road, bordered by a long line of trees, and a road side town had absolutely ridden the crest of a gigantic slide for two miles and a half without the slightest damage to the trees and the villiage, even the birds nests in the branches of the town had escaped The astonished people of the town looked out of the windows in the morning to find that a good part of the high hill had moved the town off its its former site with the road and line of trees stopping its lines of marcg march within a few feet of a yawning abyss. In another villiage the only people found a alive, were a few women and children.They were only saved from death by the fact that their relatives displayed a most strange lack of filial pe piety, by sending them to live in a house on the outskirts of the villiage, which was buried deep by an avalanch.The death of the rest of the population was taken as evidence by survivors in the neighborhood that God had punished the rarelatives for its lack of respect.

In the city of Bengal, where the shock was felt severely, wrecking of build ings however were not so savere, but the most appalling sight was what is now known as the Valley of the Dead, where a hundred great slides crashed into a valley, six teen miles long, killing every living thing in the location, and carrying six to ns towns across the valley on the crest of the unusual avalanch, which caught another village in the crosscurrent of two other slides, whirled into a gigantic vortex, and catapulted the three towns to the slope of another hill, demolishing every building to a total loss and killing all the inhabatants.

One of the districts that suffered the most was the ablelend to the north of Bengal County known as the Paradize Country, which supplied the best fruits and farming crops of the whole state...The soil is an unyeilding alik alkl alkali which cracked in the most appalling manner, since there was no hardened kind of ground to mitigate the force of the explosion shock and concussion... In one town with a normal population of nearly a thousand the investigators found not a single survivor. The loss of nearly three hundred thousand lives and the total destruction of hundreds of cities and towns by the shock calls for reconstruction work on a most staggering scale. Seventy thousand landslinian prisoners under strong guard have been forced to work in releasing the dammed streams, and to try and gradually release the waters still covering Abbieann, and thus prevent further disasterous overflows and other floods.Their work and that of volunteer citizens od surviving towns, and of superintendents, is said to sooner or later near successful completion, which should be a romance of adventure in itself."

Fortunately there is no problem of orphans as children in the devastated districts were so much in demand that they were promptly adopted by the survivors. Of this most remarkable s r series of explosion shock disturbances which occured throughout the whole of Calverinia since the war began , the most strange and most phenomenal was undoubtedly the great Abbieann horror of that fatal morning, the date of which I forgot.

Owning to the unusual charucer charucter of the conditions of the hillsides , funtastic effects were produced upon the surface of the earth wai which they said gives the observer the feeling that he is on some strange planet still in the forming stage.In realty no earthquake occured which played such havoc, and never e such havoc occured as that at Abbieann and its region.The series of great explosions explosions around or near Abbieann who or which according to winesses this time played havoc such as never was witnessed for reality, or never recorded in truth historical facts with the face of the earth, and the habitations of men. likely noearthquake no earthquake in any annals of science over could have changed the physical ger geographical conditions of any land as did in this story happen to the physical geography of the affected region of the Calverinian lands to the extent of the Abbieann cataclysm. The region never had been of any earthquake disturbance since it became inhabated, and therefore only two immense shocks like earthquakes were ever recorded that in a little degree may have equaled to some extenr the recent calamity in destructiveness.One of the disasters was at Lake Selicia, and Wickey Lansin But the Abbieann horror affected most severely an area northwest of Abbieann, and two hundred miles to the east, of the city.The area mst effected by the disaster--what one can call the area of supreme destruction, where no build ing of any kind was left in a habitable condition is between the Mic-Hollester and Aronburgs Run Rivers, three hundred and seventy miles long, and two hundred miles lawide.The region comprises two distinct types of geological formation at least on the surface which adds adds great varity and interest to the unusual occurance.The southern half of the region stretching from the northern bank of the Mic-Hollester Run tward Abbieann is with the exception of the mountain ranges and densely forested regions cutting it from east to west not far from its northern edge, a part of the great farming and forest region, which stretches from Central Calverinia almost to Calverine City.

It is in the hill countries that the strahgo and immense slides occured, burying or carrying away villiages, covering level farmed f valleyed floors with a debris of rocks and trees, damming up stream beds, and turning wide valleys into lakes. and accomplishing those hardly believable freaks which no one could accout for.

The other half of the region was a rolling o plateau and in this district the soil being brittle but firmer did not slide, but cracked into countless fissures.The summits of the hills consisting of rock protruding many thousand feet above these fields and plateaus, although in the hart of the although in the heart of the concussion area werevno were not shaken severely.The awful slip apparently occured in the rock bed underlying the hard plateau and sent vibrations to the surface in varying degrees of intensity, according to the nature of the soil and the thickness of the ground blanket, which acted as a sort of cusion or cushion.

The vibration was only slightly transmitted to the mountains.

It will be a long time however before the remoteness of the district in which these disasters occured can be of any unusual interest.Although the past disasters are to be all history the Abbieann disaster is still news.What actually happened in this part of Calverinia isc only now through the reports of the relief investigation expeditions of which friends of dne are members being made known in any comprehensive way, even in a Calverinias capital and other cities .

As it happened also the concussions of the great explosions, selected for destruction in the agriculturally rich farming countries, and thickly settled regions of the whole affected area, and the most populous portion of the State, and to the south, many of the best Calverinian cities which were leveled. Although the immensity of the population . is not more than one half of the region of the southern parts of Calver Calverinia, the loss of life from the landslides, collapsed country homes, destruction of villiages and towns, together with the deaths from exposure to all kinds of weather, was according to some official figures about three hundred and fiffty five thousand. and according to the estimate of the investigators more again than twice this number.

One of the Members of the cemini, took by horseback and auto the royal oadway through the region of Pepe Evans to Bengal County, crossing the Mic-Hollester River, near the site of Abbieann, and proceeding directly to north St Andrew the great trade mart of the western half of the county. County."""

"Where was the first spot of ea damage discovered?"

"The first damage discovered, was found to be what was left after the passage of the flood, not far from where Abbieann still (or what is left of her) lies under the waters, and among the tablemands of the forested Mic-Hollester Run where a temporary swamp was formed, not far beyond the border between Calverinia and Angoline vine State. In Calverine city, and also Francis Atlanta some damage wad was said to be done to houses by the shock of the concussion, but there was no losses loss of life, except some caused by the ensuing floods later."

"A disaster like that should make a good work for a Historian" said the Guide. "In the vinicity of Calverine and Francis Atlanta, many towns collapsed causing great loss of life and property among the peasants, and cattle horses and herds, stabled in barns were buried alive or swept away by the flood."

"That is true" said Starring."Passing the site of Abbieann , the investigators found themselves in the belt of complete destruction were many cities as well and big towns, country towns and villiages and the like,,, suffered heavy loss of life,,, and all buildings were leveled. At Poverty Row, and Calverine Hills, where a long highway forks,,, one railroad going north to Calverinw, and the Mic-Hollester Run Forest Region along the same river, and the other southwest to Francis Atal Atlanta, we obtained our first pictures of one of the ruined cities, shaken by the shocks of the explosion but not touched by the flood..The investigators taking the road that leads more straight for Calverine soon ascended one of the bigger of the famious Calverine Hills.. With the elevations here evident as of the explosion shocks grew somewhat less, to become much more abundant g again when some of the foothills were reached.

Two of the hardest shock hit cities, Mic-Hollester Crossroads, and Mimi Timi were passed by the investigators, and then they visited the distrivts where the sides of mountains cascaded into the valleys and elsewhere. Following the Mic-Hollester and Central Calverine Railway, they ascended a small valley of deep grade directly some distance west of Mimi Timi. Suddenly the road for more than ten miles dropped out of sight.It looked as if some giant machine had cut it down, or chopped it with millions of axes, leaving . long stretches of old trees of every kind with which the road is lined partly uprooted like sentinels stricken at their posts posts, upon the edge of the one hundred foot gully which occupied the pos s position of the railroad.

The roadside immense watersl supply of a near by city had as the investigators were told by survivors disappeared down the same place.Making their way over the rent terraces to a large lake suddenly coming into view, a lake said to have been formed by the valley being dammed up by a four sectional slide from the hills on such bank of the stream, the in vestigators secured what are perhaps the most unusual pictures of the scene and forwarded to the Abbieannian Government. They also saw surviving natives carrying their water from this lake a mile to the north in the center of the valley..The long valleys in this section join one another like links in a chain.

The investigator rode to the summit of the divide which as he said seperated

this from the next link, and he was amazed by the strange panorama of a valley filled with clouds of many tremendous avalunches of landslides which had come out of the hills on either side.This valley had been become the climaxof climax of tremendous desolation. Not a single portion of the valley floor remained uncovered Not a single portion of the valley floor remained uncovered, and all valley towns lay buried beneath the debris, and not one person survived in the ruin .

It seemed the only survivors of another valley were saved as if by a mirace miracle, a small population of a small villiage, which town instead of being buried was caught upon the back of one of the slides, carried two miles down the valley to where it was diverted by two streams of earth coming from other directions, and as the resultant of the two forces, was pushed another mile or two up a small draw.

The people of this town like all others in this strange slide zone were absolutely unawares of the nature of the great disaster which had overtaken them untill the following morning.The survivors declared they heard a tremendous noise or a series of loud thunering crashes, and felt the shocks which were secondary and immeasurably severe, ending with a sickening swing to the northwest, and a most violent jerk back to the east by south, lasting two or three seconds. They made all ordinary efforts t to save themselves even though the town seemed to move so strangely.Then not untill day dawned and they crawled out to fight the neighbiring villiages towns and cities obliterated, farm lands carried away or buried, streams blocked and hills of earth towering av above their compounds, did they apprehend that something unusual had happened to the country.

It was in this valley of the dead that the most curious freaks of the concussion shocks occured.It would they say take four months maybe longer to reestablish communications over these breakages, to rebuild telegraph lines, and pack down trails on which horses would not sink to their bellies and carts and wagons to their hubs.The valley of desolation opened in its eastern end into a wider valley where the destruction was more severe.

At the junction of the valleys stands Heldons Junction a town of twenty thousand people in which all were killed in the collapse of buildings, and other people in villiages were saved by the miraclous stoppage of two bodies of earth shaken loose from the mother hill and left hanging above the villiage lacking only another half seconds shock to send them tuj tumbling do down.

Another series of avlunches having flowed from the higher mountains on the opposite side of the valley across the valley floor and the stream bed is said to be piled up in a young mountain near enough to the villiage to look like a lava flow.Their route through this larger valley led them past four lakes formed through the blocking of the stream by five enormous slides. some of the sco scooped out places left by these slides were six miles in width at the mouth, extending back into the hills for a mile and a half and furnishing enough dirt to cover a thousand farms. some were as regular as if they had been made by a series of gigantic trowels while others were as rugged as if they had been ripped at of the hills by the teeth of some collasal monster.

In such case the earth which cascadeddownward bore the sure appearance of having shaken loose clod from clode and grain from grain, and then cascaded like water forming vortices, swirls, and all the convultions into which a great torrent might shape itself.Hay and grain and all kinds of crops were mingled, and mixed with the earth for miles and miles,, for miles and miles, showing how the dir h dirt had worked in its strange descent,On the opposite side of this slide a thrashing floor call carrying all the stacks and orchards of all kinds had come down intact.

Hundreds of herds of cattle and other farm animals had been s ocaught in thr so caught in the slide that either their limbs or heads protruded, and steeples of some town churches showed above the ground.

Two other slides causing the loweest of these blockades coming from the sides or of the valley buried a large town of 10,000 persons converted a shapely high ground butte into a ragged mound, and created ten miles of lake out of large rich valley farms.

The local authorities realizing the further danger od of destructive washouts if these blockades were not opened before the late summer torrents, had before he the arival of outside relief made such pitably insufficient efforts as were at their commands tward the release of the dammed up waters.And their efforts upon recommendation of the expedition were also incorporated in the work of the relief sociaities.Conditions in a score of other valleys in the Abbieann neignneighborhood are similiar to those of the three valleys described.There is probably no other area, however where withihin a hundred miles one may count two hundred immense landslides. A hundred milrs further east, near Turner city a bled slide occured, and sixty miles north other bad slides occured one of which was said to be responsible for the greater number of towns being buried. In is in this incident which gives the Calverinians cause to rate the explosion shocks as a punishment for the Abbieannian Government, as they claim the government was too overconfident anddid not believe the glandelinians could do anything.At some places far from hills north of Abbieann could have been seen the hardest shaken section of all.Here the ground is of brittle clay level of gravel-alkali grass country country which was too sl solid to slide but which cracked like a porcelain dish

hie hit with an immense weight.Towns without any exception gave way, not one brick remaining upon another.Even city walls collapsed.And nine tenth of all the people of this district were in morning mourning when the investigators arrived.In one villiage of six hundred and eighty inhabitants all were entombed, but half were dug at alive out dug out alive by rescuers.In another town all of the residents perished.Much is still I believe the scenes of desolation which met the eyes of many investigators who go through that region."

"It may be strange but nevertheless" said the Guide" no one ever dreamed that the localities of Abbieann would be torn and racked by a concussion stronger than caused by Naturas forces, and that during one of the greatest explosions of all record, floods would come that would form lakes covering scores of miles of country in one single day, to stay perhaps forever unless drained.""""

"Yes but it happened said Starring. "At the first 1 blasts, people of other towns and villiages tried to flee to the hills, but the rocking earth made them real ad stagger so they could not escape from the path of the onrushing flood.No one ever knows how many were drowned in this terrible disaster.As I was told by many who were witnesses of the disaster, of flood and explosion, that the shock was like a most violent earthquake but of course of much shorter duration, b but the very awful noise resembling loud but distant thunder came some moments first following as it seemed by complete saturation of the atmosphere with strange smoky sulphurous vaopr c vapor, causing the darkness to continue somewhat late in the early morning.The screams of the inhabitants of towns near by, who were either awakened by the shocks, or caught in falling buildings, the cries of all kinds of birds, and animals and beasts of every species, the falling trees, the tremendous boom and flash of the eruptions of explosions, and the rearing of the two big rivers the current of which was retrograde for a few seconds, formed a scene truly most horrifyig horrifying.For fifteen seconds the explosions ands shocks continued, at which time some were more violent than the others and with the same accompainments.

The shocks probably, they say continued fifteen minutes, being many shocks and eruptions of explosions in that time following like a rolling thunder on the ground but all seemed to be equally as violent always accompanied by the same awful phenomena. and where floods did not touch the flash of explosions were said to have started forest fires.

All this time the earth was in continual agitation but the main explosion and shock came at the last, and the concussion seemed to make the Mic-Hollester River and other streams recede from its banks, burst levees and sturt floods, that the waters evidently gathered up like a mountain carring with it to the flood tide all kinds of river boats and ships, or stranding many others, hardl, giving the crews passengers and sailors time to even save themselves.

Boat wrecks were numbered by thousands. The concussions seemed to make the rivers rise high and expands as it were at the same time, overflowing banks, burst ing the dikes and levees, and then the floods rushing on tore with such violence that it took with it whole forests of trees of every size which were in its path. The trees were broken off with such regularity in all is instances that persons who had witnes witnessed the fact could say that it looked the work of man. The f lood was literally covered with the wreck of boats ships, houses trees, and debris from whole towns swept away.Yet they say the main flood that swet Abbieann and other big cities away did not come from the rivers.

The surface of the earth in the vinicity of the explosions was said to be covered covered to various depths by sand and earth that issued from fissures that were made made in great numbers all o ver the country by the shocks and force of the terrific explosions. Some of these closed up immediately, but the country elsewhere was split terribly by the shocks. It is impossible to say what the depth of the flood was, but we have reason to believe that over the site of Abbieann it is still very deep .The highest part of the town was settled,down at least thirty feet but not more than two miles below town there does not appear to be any kind of alteration on the bank bank of the main river.Back from the Mic-Hollester Run and other rivers l large ponds, lakes and swamps which covered a large part of the country were nearly dr pdried up.The beds of some of them are elevated seventeen feet above the former anks banks, and lately it has been discovered that a strange lake had been formed on the opposite side of theMic-Hollester River, upwards of two hundred miles long, ad from and from ten to twenty miles wide, of a depth of fifty to six hundred feet.Therefore we do n know that an explosion of such force may have produced the shocks which caused ten times more damage, than it was even said to have done.

The lake of water over the site of Abbieann was not the only lake formed., for large areas in eastern Calverinia, and northwestern Angeline Vine State were partly submerged for weeks, and a number of small lakes remained also elsewhere.This consuccion earthquake caused by the explosion will be known as the "Abbieann Explosion earthquak2" and the shocks of the terrificc explosions caused strange to say a settling and rising of the land over a large territory, and partly demolished the cities of Mic-Hollester, Lucillie Rickson, Glorianna, and a hundred others.

Although most of the region q affected by the shocks of the explosions was a wilderness, which had lured many armies to hide from one another during secret expeditions and during those dreadful four weeks of horrors, the devastated regions were visited by Henry Darger, the well Noted Gemini leader, and many of the christian generals with the expedition of river mining and other engineers. I n middle Angeline Vine state lived the governer of Angelinia Agathia, and others, be besides the Mayor of other cities who witnessed some of the disaster which ended so tragically at Abbieann and many other big cities.All of these great men left great accounts of what had happened.

James Gingerore, of Professional spy and child Dive liberator fame, living or working his own time near Abbieann at the time saw great blocks of sandstones loosened loosened from a high cliff, two thousand feet above the river crash down the mountain sides by aid of the moonlight.

An ernormous area throughout Calverinia was affected by the concussion and explosion shock.Far up in the northern wooded country of northwestern Calverinia the population reported that strange earth tremors occured, to the southwest, in other sections as well, the people were terrified by the same quakes, while to the southeast, on the Aronburgs and Norma Rin Run Rivers, there was much fear among the population of cities and towns their there,,.At Angelinia Agathia, five hundred miles awa , at Dorothy Dale, six hundred miles away, at Pandora seven hundred miles away, and even at Francis Atlanta, and beleaged Vivian Wickey, at a distance of 2,200 miles slight tremors were felt.."

"I wonder what really occured in the Abbieann region?" asked Radcliffe."Many doubt it was really explosions, but claim it to be real earthquakes."

"That is hard so they claim, but evidence seems against Landelinia." said Starring."The real profound mystery of the situation is, where did the big flood come from, what really happened to Abbieann, and other places never recovered or brought to light afterwards? There were no hard rocks in any of these regions, all the country was covered by rc rich territories, rich ground, beautiful forests, and under the surface of rich loam and clays, there was layer of loose sand and clay down to a depth of over three thousand feet.From the shocks of the explosions so they saw the great forest trees mo moved with branches interlocked like fields of grain before a terrific gale.Their trunks having no suppleness of youth, fell prostrate, or reclined at grotesque angles to the earth."

"I don't see how explosions could produce a y rhythmicmotion of the earth.."

"Well I don't see either, but it is said they did, and they claim the rhythmic motion of the earth was well shown by the long parallel lines of all kinds of trees growing on the low crests of the many rolls in the Abbieann flood region . The City of Winkle laid out by the Angelinians on the banks of the Mic-Hollester River was near the center of the earth shocks, and it too fared very badl,, for here the bluffs settled, the river banks caved in and most of the town was absorbed into the big river,.Many who went therefound the place a complete wreck, sunk about thirty feet below its level, and entirely deserted, its its inhabitants , with those of the adjac t adjacent country who had fled there for refuge, were encamped encamped in its neighborhood.They represented their cries as truely very distressing.The whole region could be called the Sodom of Calverinia for every city and town in the main disaster area had been destroyed.The inhabitants of most , of the explosion area however were more fortunate than of the flood region, in that they found safty inthe in the hills and forests."

THEN sang Patrick Radcliffe..:::....

Poor Calverinia, Has been among the furious foe..
Was torn with disasters. Remember this whosoever believes,
There will be for Landelinia mourning by and by."

So they all went on.As the woods grew thicker they continued on more cautiously, till they came to a sort of glen, where they saw a big bog of quicksand in their way, and seemed withal to extend far beyonf the way ad direction which they should go, and here they knew not which way to go, for the bog was too wide to be passable by turf or sacks or flank planks, therefore here they stood still to consider.. consider.And as they were trying to plan of how to even get around the quicksand, Starring said " I believe a way can be found around this quagmire.Why should we stand here like geese ".

"Radcliffe answered;

"The bog goes to a great extent, is a mile or so wide, and how d we know of which way to take to go around?"

"Follow me" said Starring."Let's try it anyhow."

So they followed him along the edge of the sea of mud, but the further they continued the more wider it beame, and by wh c which edge sometimes almost turned directly in their way, and even turned them entirely out of the way in which they desired to go, so that in a litt.e little time they were far from their course, yet they followed him on.Then suddenly he stopped.

"We are sure barricaded"he said. "We might as well be in a net which we can be so entangled that we could not know what to do.Might as well go back.I'm also sure I see myself in an error.Did not one of the Rangers bid us beware of a certain

bog."

"Yes, and he also ave us a note of directions about the way, for our more sure finding thereof, but that we have forgotten to to read.But we must try and et out of the path of this quag.We might find a place where we can cross the bog in spite of it."

Just at this moment they espied another but lone forest ranger coming tward them onnhorseback.Then he came up to them he halted his horse and asked;

"Where are you from, and what are you doing here?"

"Starring answered;

"We are a scouting force going tward general Manleys lines to learn of some importa important information, but we find we cannot cross this treacherous quag."

"I understand who you are" said he."It is a dangerous quag indeed miles deep so they saw.There is no way to cross it unless you bridge it for in either direction it extends for miles and unless you wish to go way out of your way you'll have to go around.Follow me and I'll show you how to get a across.Then I may set you in your way again."

So he first led them back to the place which they had left to try and get around the peat bog.Then he asked them , saing;

"Where did you rest last night?"

"With a Ranger lookout at his station upon the hills beyond."

"Did not that Ranger give you a note of dire c tion as to how to cross this bog."!

"Yes" answered Starring.

"But die did you" said he" when you were at a stand pluck out and read your note to see what should be do?"

"No" said starring.

"Why?"

"I forgot."

"Forgot?"

"Yes."

"Did not the Ranger bid you beware of coming tward the bog in the first place.?"

"No".

"How?

"He did not mentiON mention anything of a bog.We did not even imagine,that this bog was even here."

Then the ranger led them through a portion of the wood which no one else had even the thought of, and this done he bid them go on their way, and to take good heed of the other directions of the Ranger Outlook.. So they thanked him for all his his kindness, and went softly along the right of way, all of them singing;

"Come do along all you who seek ad venture;
See how foolish ones fare who go against ado anture,
They are catched in the most dangerous zones,,
Cause good council they do not listen too,
Tis true we rescue those,
But let all take heed of dangers hidden."""""""""""

Now after they had continued on a long time through a perfect wilderness, they percieved afar off one coming along on horseback and alone, and he was racing at high speed to meet them.Radcliffe said to starring;;

"Yonder is a man that does not look much like a Ranger to me, and he is coming to meet us.Be sure he is not a disguised for.I do not like his looks."

"I see him said " Said starring, I don't like his looks either, therefore let us all take heed to ourselves now, lest he should prove to be a glandelinian spy in disguise.If we discover he is we'll seize him."

The man drew, nearer and nrear nearer, and at last came up to them and halted. his horse.As he halted his horse he saluted and asked them;

"Where are you going?And are you a scouting party, or men and children out for a stroll in these woods?"

"We do not tell any one whom we doc do not know, where we are going." answered starring."But we are seeking adventure.That we can say."

Then the man fell into a very great laughter.

"What the heck is funny about that?" demanded starring."What is the meaning of your laughter.Tell me or I'll command my men------"""""

"I " said the man cannot help laughing, for I laugh to see what ignorant, rash rash and foolish persons you are to take upon yourselves so dangerous and tedious a journey through woods, which you do not know, where hidden dangers lurks, where where are sweeping in all directions, and yet you are not likely to have anything but disaster for your travels."

"Why man" said Starring, surprised"Do you think we shall fail on our adventure? What dangers are there to face?"

"There are many more dangers to face than any one can tthink of."..."

"Why man dod you think we shall all perish?"

"Perish.Hardly so.But you also might not succeed in your venture either for what ever be its per purpose."

"Not succeed? Do you think we shall fail?"

"Fail.!There is no such thing as success in anything for one who goes through these woods."

"But there is with the help of God."

"When I was once q spy and scout, I went through all parts of the country, I heard of a lots of disasters going on throughout this state and others,, and from that hearing went out to see, and for months not long ago I had been in the Abbieann flood and explosion disaster region, seeking a way through to Angelinia Agathia for all that time, but f ound no more of it than I did the first day I set out.The region in many places are still impassable, and sir, where there are no floods our way to the city is cut off by the big forest fires."

"Yes " said Frodrick Nance," we all have heard, and believe there has been such a disaster occured though we have not yet seen any of it."

"Well sir had I not when at home, disbelieved of any such thi disasters, I had not come out this far to seek my way through, but finding no way through,(and yet I should had there been a way through to be found, for I have traveled much further than you, and fought my way through fires twenty times, I am coming this way now, seeking some opening, and will seek to get through,if I have to defy hell to do so.I am on my way to general Vivians lines.The whole country is barricaded off from the world by these disasters."

"Then said Ned Perkins to Fred"Is it true what this man says?"

"Probably he is a friend, said Fred"Take heed remember what it had cost us so often already for our not harkening to friends who we meet.He too is a forest Ranger.That no danger in those woods.Did we not see from high tree tops and hills that the very country of Calverinia is all aflame.Also are we not going out to reach Manleys lines.Did we not see from a high hill a portion of manleys army.Let us go on lest some part of the forest fire overtake us again.You should have tought me the lesson which I will tell you."Cause to vie with such untimely perils, and keep our eyes and ears open." "I see

"I see" said Nance, "I only put the question to you, not that I doubted the truth of his statement myself, but to prove to thee, that there are many dangers to us all if not from fires, then from hidden enemieound he the like.Therefore let us hope to go on."

Starring himself had ordered the troop to go forward, bidding adeau to the lone man, and he waving a warning hand at them rode slowly awa.. They now continued on untill the, came to a large open in the woods a large open country.The weather by the this time had grown somewhat warmer again, and the condition of the air naturally was enough to make any one drowsy.Starring and some others had grown very dull and heavy of sleep, and the guide himself sai d-

"This warm air makes a person very drowsy, that I can scarcely hold my eyes open, let us all lie down here and take one good nap before we proceed."

"Not by any means, said Starring."If we sleep here and the fire again overtakes us, we'll never wake up again."

"But" said Radcliffe"Sleep is sweet to those who labor and are tired, and if we do take but one little nap we'll be so refreshed e we can go on our journey with better speed and pep..""""""

"Do you not remember some time ago, andnot so long either, said starring, at some distant time when a little girl known h as Jannie had bro been brought to general Concentinian Arronburgs lines, and how h when his sentries did not swwatch atch as they should, his whole camp and army was surprised and routed out of the Mic-Hollester woods by a sudden onset of the "Red Plague."! From that experience we ourselves should learn that we should beware of sleeping, therefore let us not sleep as did those sentries, but let us watch and be careful."

"We acknowledge ourselves in a fault, and had I been here alone " said Radcliffe I would have probably been asleep, and chanced the danger of death.I see it is true that the wise men said "Two are better than one.Hitherto your company had been my succor."

"Now then" said Walter Starring" to prevent drowsiness in this warm place, let us all fall into good discourse."

"With all our hearts." said Radcliffe.....

"Where shall we begin?" asked Walter.

"Anyplace you desire.But you begin if you please.Tell us something of your experience experience of when the army under general Arronburg was hit by the fire without warning."

"How do you wish it to be told?"

"Well" said Angeline Richee herself, "I will ask you a question.How came you to be in his camps that fatal night, near the Irlentown Disaster?"

"Do you mean, how came I at first to be I within his camp?"

"Yes that is my meaning."

"I brought him a dispatch."

"And how came you to think at first of so doing the scouting work for him as you do now?"

"Do you also mean how came I at first to look after the welfare of the christian armies?""

"Yes that is my meaning."

"Well" said Starring, that is one thing none of the generals allow me to tell.Yet I continued a great while in the delight of these adventures, which even Violet, and her sisters have sent me on, things which as I believe now, would have(had I continued in them still,?) drowned the enemy in perdition and destfuction."

"What things were they?"

"I told you I could not tell.Yet when I did many spying depredations I noticed many Glandelinians generals delighting in much roiting , reveling, drinking,, swearing, blasphoming, lying about other, acts of dirtness and uncleanness, Sabbath bt breaking, and what not, that tended to destroy the soul..I found also by over hearing and considering of many things I watched and observed, that many times if our best of generals did not look out the entire cause itself was in the gravest danger, and also hearded of many good spies that were put to death for the cause, ,that the end of all these things for overcautious parties is death or destruction, that all these disasters that afflicted Calverinia, and her sister states is caused by overconfidence on the christian generals and the Governments in general, and that for these things sake the wrath of God cometh some time upon Glandelinia for all these things....."""""""""

"And" asked Jennie Armor, di" did you presently fall under the power of such an a convinction?""

"No, that is not then.I was not willing presently to believe the evil that might or did threaten our country and its cause.Nor the destruction that follows upon the outbreaks of these strange and terrible disasters.But I endeavored, when my mind at first began to be shaken with the news , to shut my eyes against the horror i of it all, thereof.....".

"But" asked Angeline Riches" hwhat was the cause of your carrying of it thus to the first workings of success in any of your undertakings."?"

"Well" declared Starring, " the causes were---"I was at first somewhat ignorant of the true state of affairs produced by these disasters, as I only had then newspaper details only;-I never thought that by awakening for such news.For it seems that the enemy began the war first with disasters."2 I was therefore mad, for even though Abbieannia is no birth place of mine, I once being a Foriegner, yet Abbieannia is very sweet to me, and I was loathe to see all this happen in Calverinia and her sister states.3.. I could not tell how to part with my old companions, when I had to go out on the adventures, their presence and actions were so good and desirable to me, but they couldnot come with me.4.. Yet the hours in which full convictions were upon me concerning my duties to find out the originators of these disasters cause me such troublesome and heart affrighting hours and days, that I could not bear, not so much as the remembrance of these upon my heart."

"Well, then it seems, to get rid of your troublesome fears and thoughts you'd go out on this adventure for Violet, and her sisters?.??.."

"Yes verily, but nevertheless it would come into my mind again, and then I felt just as bad, nay worse, than I was before."

"Why,, demanded Radcliffe" what was it that brought all these disaster horrors to mind again?"

"Many things, as;

I If I dee did but be a victim of one of these disasters myself or see friends of mine perish.If I did but meet my father and o mother in the streets and see the floods come rushing upon or ; or;

2..If I have felt the effects of reading the news of the disasters, or read of them in magazines books and the like,; or

3..If from the effects of excitement my head did begin to ache; or

4,,If I were told that some of my dearest relatives were flood victims, how I would feel, whether they perish;;;or

5How I would feel if I heard the bells or the tups sound for the many dead flood victims; or

6...If I was a dying victim of ne of the terrible explosions, or;

7...If I heard that hundreds of thousands met sudden death what would be the effect upon me or;

8-,-but a especially, when I thought of my parent s and myself, that if Glandelinia did all these horrid things, flood disasters, forest fire and explosion horror, world record breaking massacres of little children, what would Our Blessed Lord say when he brought Glandelinia to judgement and all the victims of the war horrors testified against the glandelinians.."

"And could you at anytime with ease start off on this adventure when you first began, when by any of these awful news the horrors of the war came upon you?"

"No, not latterly, for at first Violet and her sisters refused to sent me.They said they feared it was a most dangerous task of all.And then if I did but think of going back on my s self, it would be double torment for me."

"And what did you do then?"

""I thought I must endeavor to do what I can to get permission to go on the mission, for else if we do not find out the cause, thought I, I am sure the Abbieannian Cause will be of no avail."

"And did your endeavor to obtain the permission?"

"Yes, and at once betook me to the adventure, and many other things I also did too much here to relate."

"And did you think yourself well on the way then.?"

"Yes, for a while, but at last I found my old fashioned troubles coming tumbling upon me again, and that over the neck of all my other experiences. Everywhere I went, forest fires interfered with my purpose."

"How came that about, since you first started out?"

"There were several things brought it upon me, especially when I allowed myself to be surprised by the advancive of the conflagrations.From whence afterwards I began to reason with myself thus,"If the Glandelinians will by disasters reduce Calverinia like a filthy rag, if by the deeds, no man of Glandelinia can be at all justified for recieving quarter by our own soldiers, and if when Glandelinia has done all, she is yet unprofitable, then tis but folly to think of letting things go just because of a little dangers.I further thought thus, If Glandelinia contonues continues to run wild with her disasters, what will be the thought of the whole world which is shocked already by these catastrophies.By the works of wicked Glandelinia no man of her armies are worthy of quarter...When Glandelinia has done all these things, she will even be unprofitable in the war.If she loses the war Abbieannia and the whole world can sue her, and cast all her best officials into prison untill she pays the damages and the fines."

"Well, and how did you apply this to yourself?"

"Why" said Starring, I thought thus with myself, Glandelinia has by her sinful war ran all the way into Gods great Record Book, and that by mere reforming will not in no means pay off that score, therefore she must think still under all her pre present wicked movements, that she can not be freed from that damanation, that she had brought upon herself in danger by all her former war horrors and trangressions untill she pays the last farthings.""

"A very good application, but pray go on."

"There was another thing that had troubled me, even since my latser d later discoveries, and that was if I looked into the best of what the Abbieannian Government could and does do now, I still see disaster, new disaster threatening despite the best the Abbieannians could and do accomplish.....So that I am now forced to conclude, that notwithstanding the former efforts on the part of the very Abbieannian Government, Glandelinia has been able to q accomplish enough horrid crimes in one month to send the whole Glandelinian nation to hell, though her former life might have been faultless."

"And what did you do then general????""

"Do?I could not do a thing,ot or think of doendoing anything, and therefore befog before setting out on my mission I broke my troubles to Violet, and her sisters , for they and I am well acquainted, and they told me that unless, they I, or some one else, no matter who it be could obtain the c information leading to the full and direct apprehension of the glandelinian generals or aurtherities responsible for the disasters, neither Abbieannia, nor all the concentration of the world itself, could save Abbieannia from a defeat, and the fulll devastion of the Southern states and so forth...."

"And did you feel sure Violet, and her sisters spoke the truth?"

"Had they told me so when I first believed all the news to be exaggerations I might have called them a fools puck, but now since I heard so much about it from books, telegrams, and so forth, I have been forced to be of their own opinion."

"But did youthink, when at first they suggested thatbyou should try your luck at the expedition, that there was any hopes of obtaining such kind of information, or that such men who were responsible for the disasters would be found, of whom it might be justly said;That they are fully responsible more than even the wicked, and cruel Glandelinian Government."?

"I must confess" said Starring, that these words at first sounded strangely, but after a little more talk and company with them, I had full conviction of it."

"And d d you ask them if they were goingto try it also, and how they might succeed?"

"No.I did not hthink of it at the time.Yet they always suspected hat the that the responsible ones must be the Munleys, and said Violet-" You must be justified in your judgement first though even by spying on either one as best as possible, for rush judgement on no condition pays."I asked them further "How does it seem possible that the enemy could be fully responsible, if no one can bring any evidence against him.?And they told me "Munley is the mightiest of generals operating the Western Drama o f the war, and did what he did in all things known of him already since he first became chief commander, to whom his doings, and the wicken w ckedness of them, should be placed only on him."

"And what did you do or say then?"

"I at first made my objections against my believings of the true nature of thr of the true nature of the disasters, for that I thought, no one was willing to do anything to save the nations cause nations cause."

"And what did one or ay o any of the Vivian Girls say to you then?"

"They advised me to try it myself then.Then I said "It is presumption for any one to try such a dangerous game." but they said no"nor they desired me to go on the adventure f o for their sakes at least.Then Violet gave me a book that was written by some one who went through one of the flood disasters, to encourage me all the more to go, and she said concerning thaty book,"That every thing of its detail, and title thereof stood firmer of truth in the disaster than any one else who could have written any other books.Then I asked her"What must I do when I succeeded in reaching general Munleys lines, and they told me I must do all I can to find out those guilty of the disasters.Then I asked her further, how I could obtain any means to do so, and she told me to go and I will find some way to accomplish it, but she said to accomplish it I must go and always entrate upon my knees continually ttt with all my heart and soul, Our blessed Lord to reveal the secrets to me for the good of the cause.Then I asked her further "How must I make my petition to Him?" and she said, go as we advise but I said that I knew not what to say when I

when I tried to do so., and she bid me to say to this effect, "God have mercy upon our godd and holy country, and help me to learn who the responsibile parties were, for I see that if it is not found out, and the disasters continue., the country itself might as well be or attord, be cast away. Lord I have heard that Thou art a Merciful God, and has ordained that Thy Son Jesus Christ, should be the Savior of the world, and more over that Thou art willing to bestow upon any good nes a blessing, therefore therefore dearest Jesus my Lo my God take this opportunity, and magnify Thy Grace in the saving of our holy nation from such ruin, through J esus Christ. Amen."

"And did you do as you were bidden.????"

""yes, over and over again....."

"And you have not succeeded in any part of the mission yet?"

"Not as yet. I have not reached Manleys army yet."

"What do you intend to do now?"

"What?" said Starring. "Why I cannot say what I'm going to do."

" I hope you have not left off praying?"

"No."

"And what is the reason you did nt????????"

"I believe" said Starring, that that was true which had been told me to wit, that without any one being successful in the important mission like mine, all the world could not save Abbieannis from defeat, and therefore I thought I with my own efforts could succeed, I can do something that would be as record breaking news for the world, as the flood and other disasters have been. And if I was captured, and I die the death of a spy I can but die at the throne of God. And withal this came into my mind "If it takes time to succeed in anything, try to suceed just the same, because sooner or later success will soon come, and then it will come tenfold, so I continued praying, untill Our Blessed Lord caused me to recieve some help and direction from general Concentinian Arronburg."

"And has any of the disasters, especially like that of Abbie ann revealed to you?"

"I did not see any of the disasters with my bodily eyes., but I have read a good deal of them, and thus it was one night I had a dream and it was thus;;;

"I was walking along the bas banks of the mighty Jorma River, and was very sad, I think much sadder than any time of my whole life, and this sadness was through a fresh sight of the greatness and horror and vileness of the recent big disaster that swept Abbieann off the map., and as I was then looking for nothing but the end of all for Calverinia and her sister states, and a probable defeat of our cause, and the overlasting impression of it on the whole world, suddenly as I thought I saw the apparitions of many of the slain children killed by the enemy in massacres looking down pon me from heaven, and one of them saying;

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and have faith in thy undertaking, and Abbieannis Holy cause will be victorious. You will will, for we ourselves slain by the wicked ones will help you also." But I replied "But the undertaking I am asked to accomplish is very great and difficult and difficult, and can I succeed?" and that I observed from that saying saying "He that trusts in Our Blessed Lord will never fail, that His aid is sufficient for thee, and that and that he hat comes to him in seeking for aid, shall never be disappointed disappointed, and gev he that Believes in him shall never fail. "Then the water came to my eyes, and I asked further" If children dear may my mission be a saving for the cause if I win?" And I heard them say, "And those that believe shall be accepted." And from all which I gathered that I must look to him for help, and to be thankful for His intercession. And now my heart was full of joy, mine eyes full of tears and my affections running over with love to the name , people and ways of Our Blessed Lord. He is always on the side of the righteous causes to every one that believes , He died for the sins of all, and rose again for our redemption, He loves us all and wahses us from our sins in His own blood, and therefore those who have no faith in him do not understand."

"This might have been a revelation of the di dead children to your coming success, but tell me particularly what effect this had upon your spirit."

"Well" said Sturring. It made me see that all of Glandelinia is in a state of condemnation., it also made me see that Our Blessed Lord is really on our side. It made me greatly ashamed of my small faith, and confounded me with the sense of my own ignorance, for there had never came a thought to me of such hope for success. It made me love my life of adventures for His Sake, made me love a holy life and long to do something great and brave for the honor and glory of the name of our Blessed Lord. Yea, I thought that had I now a million gallons of blood in my body, I could spill it for his sake and for my countrys sake."

As they continued on Radcliffe looked back, and saw the girls when whom they had accidentally looked left some distance behind coming after and talking among themselves.

"Look " said he to Starring. "How far we have left put our girl friends behind."

"Yes, I see. Let's stop untill they rejoin their company."

"But I am surprised that they did not know that we were FAR AHEAD OF THEM, other wise they would have kept pace with us hitherto."

"That's true" said Starring "But I believe they were so busy in their own convers vconversation that they did not notice us going far aheadd."

"That I think is possible, but however let us tarry for them."."

So they did."

"Then said Starring. ""Come on girls. Why do you stay so behind?"

"We did not know you were going so fast." said Angeline Ric ee, (both g rls looking surprised. "Where were you going. Were in you in a hurry."

"No" said Radcliffe. But come now. Let's have a wise conversation. How stands it in your opinion about the situation between Calverinia and her sister states now?"

"Yes, " said Jennie Turner ""Also when others are in conversation we take it a dutiful pleasure in riding by ourselve ourselves even more a great deal in company or than in company unless we are permitted to remain. It is not right to be too close to listen in on other peoples conversation unless allowed to join in."

"But what is your opinion to my question????"

"I hope well, for I should be always full of good opinions, that come into my mind to comfort me when I ride along during an adventure."

"What good opinions? Pray tell us. "

"Why I think of what could be done to avert future disasters for the good of our country." said Jennie Turner.

"Yes, so do the Glandelinians and all their leaders think of doing all they can to continue the disasters despite all our efforts..."

"But I think if your mission is successful, we can succeed in preventing it."

"So do many who are never likely to make success in any kind of undertaking, or who are likely to come to the foe lines, the best of the spires desire success and had not succeeded in anything."

"But I think with the aid of God and the Intercession of His Blessed Mother we will see you successful."

What makes you think that?"

"Why because I think of help from God and heaven."

"So do the Glandelinians hope to frustrate us even with the help of the wicked devils and dammed souls....""

"But I think of the aid from Heaven and desire it."

So did many christian spies, but they never reached the enemy lines, the best of us so far had desired, and had nothing for our pains pains."

"But we all think of some hopes of success, and left all for the sake of our Countrys Call."

"That I do not doubt of course, but you know going through stirring and dangerous adventures is somw somethat a hard matter, you a much harder matter than many are even aware of. But why or by what, are you persuaded, that we who have left all for God and our countrys cause will succeed in the long run."

"My heart and faith in God tells me so."

"Yes, " declared Starring" but the wise man said, "They that trust their own heart are fools."

"This is spoken of evil hearts, but I hope mine is a good one."

"But how can any me prove we'll be successful, when our mission is just started."

"My continued prayers for success comforts me, in the hopes of pe plenty of aid from heaven."

"That may be true, but how can any ones heart minister comfort to him in the hopes of that thing called success, for which they have yet no grounds for to hope when such an adventure is just in its infancy."

"But I and Violet, and her sisters, and the other girl scout leaders have agreed together, and therefore my hope is well grounded."

"Who else said that you and the Vivian Girl Princesses agreed together?"

"They have told me so."

"Ask me if I be an unsuccessful spy. Violet, and her sisters told these so. Except the words of Violet, and her sisters beareth witness in this matter, other testimony is of no value."

"But is it not a good mind that can bring forth good thoughts and plans. And is not thata good hardy and brave life, thethat is according to the commeration of the nation? "

"Yes that is a good and mind that brings forth good thoughts and plans, and that is a good brave life that is according to the commoration of others, but it is one thing indeed to try and have these, and another thing to find you do not accomplish anything after all."

"Pray, what makes you think on the counting of good and reliable thoughts and plans, and a life according to the commeration of others somethimes sometimes does not bring success?"

"There may be good thoughts and plans of divers kinds, some respecting the making of plans, some of knowing the ins and outs of all parts of the country, and many other things and so on."

"What be good thoughts respecting the making of plans."

"such as agree to the making of plans that will bring success in any kind of undertaking."

"When do our thoughts agree with the knowledge of the ins and outs of all parts of the country."?

"When we are so well educated that we can go through any part of the country no matter how strange it might be without geting getting lost. To explain it more fully, Violet, and also her sisters have said of personal spies in a nu natural condition. "there is none in the christian lines yet personallly professional, not even the members of the Gemini, there is none that do the work so perfectly as you and your girl companions have done it. They said also that every imagination you have worked to success when planned, that your intentions were also a success and evil in consequence to the enemy, and that continually, the reason why even your shadow or a trace of your horse is a terror to the Glandelinians, which you know. And again "Your depredations upon the enemy never was a failure. Now then, when I think of this having sense thereof, then our thoughts are good and successful ones, because we can do it with a hearty good will. If you and your two friends did not come with us I do not think we would have gone as far as we have."

"I will never believe that I am so much of a girl scout as all that."
"Therefore you never know yo rself as others therefore know you K Jennie.But let me go on. As a person makes a plan, and passes a judgement upon the outcome of the plan, so he also passes a judgement upon the result of the plan and what it will accomplish, and when our thoughtsof our successes, and the nature of our adventures agree with the judgement, which the works of the plans give to both, then are both good, because agreeing thereto...."

"Make out your meaning." said Angeline Richee herself.

"Wht everything we try to accomplish, is usually from the fact that also mans ways ways are the best ways, not too good, not too bad but perverse.They naturally are out on a good stirring adventure, and yet they have not known it.Now when a spy thinks he can be successful and yet is not professional, I say when he does sensibly and with heart humiliation thus think, then maybe later he may have good thoughts according to his plans, because after his experience his thoughts no now agree, with the passing judgement of the plans."

"What are the good thoughts concerning the passig passing judgement of the plans."

"Even as I have said concerning ourselves, when our thoughts of our adventures do agree with what the words are said of it, and that is, when we think of its success through the help of God of when I cannot now discourse at large.But to s ei speak of Him with reference to His help for us, then too we have the right thoughts for the success of our adventures, especially when we believe He knows our necessities better than we do ourselves, and can see danger staring us in the face when and where we can see none ourselves, when we know He knows our innermost thoughts, and that our hearts with all their depths are always open unto His eyes , also when we think that all our efforts are only through His help, and that for the good of country and for our souls and welfare as well He cannot abide to see us st stand before Him and His people in any confidence, even of all our best performances if through failing we had failed through lack of faith in Him and his Aid."""

"Do you think that any one would be such a fool as to try a adventurous mission as to even then think God would fail him, when he would even then not come to Come to aid him in the best of his performances?"

"Why what makes you think in this mission such a means would be a failure?"

"Why to be short, we must always believe in His aid whether he gives us help or not."

"Well you may be right on that, for it is foolish to try anything without His help when you see your need of Him.Those who never see any original or actual infirmities of impending danger in adventures, and yet has such an opinion of him self and what he has to do, and yet has no faith in God, plainly renders it to be for himself a person that never did see a necessity of Christs personal aid, when a persons adventure is at justified.If a person is like that how can he say he believes in Christ?"

"They do not believe well enough for all that'"

"How do you believe?"

"I believe that Christ died for all of us, and that all those who do His will in the face of all difficulties and troubles, shall be rewarded, through his gracious acceptance of their obedience to His Law, but just the same they must have faith in Him otherwise how can he be fully justified.To deserve help they must have faith.Those that believe with only a fantastical faith, might as well believe in a false faith, because it can take all justification from the personal righteousness of that person, and applies t it to the one who believes not.Therefore we who have the right faith, puts us upon flying for refuge unto Christ for aid in our dire needs, by which we can hope for better hope of success."

"Do you think Abbieannia will be such a fool as to let all these disasters go without punishing Glandelinia"Or that the world itself would allow our Cause to be defeated by such a foul foe after she has created such wicked performances." asked Radcliffe of Jennie.

"Why how doe you think in this matter?"

"Why to be short I believe Abbieannia such demand satisfaction."

"How do you think Abbieannia should demand satisfaction, when she has not been able to see only one third of the disaster because of all communications being cut off.Radcliff you neither see the original or actual situations of the affair, but has an opinion of it yourself, and what the enemy has done, without being a p witness to it, which plainly renders you to be one that never did see one of the disasters, or a necessity of the nation to demand a redress dor for it, tobjustify the whole affair before our Blessed Lord.When all is cut off, by floods fire, and so forth, how then do you say," Abbieannia can be avenged."

"I believe well enough for all that ,that Abbieannia can find a way."Said Starring.

"How do you believe that?" asked Radcliffe himself while the girls looked at him in surprise.

"Ibelieve that Abbieannia can find a way, by pontoons, by forcing the foe el prisoners to rebuild all the railroads injured by the disasters, and that for all she does and may do Abbieannia because of the holiness of her cause may be fully justified before God, from the " sin of revenge", through the causes of what Glandelinia has done in contu contrary to the obedience of the Law for civilized warfare, and so shall she be justified."

"Let me give an answer to that" said Angeline Richee."Thou Starring believes with a fantastical faith, that Abbieannia can send in vast armies despite all communications being cut off, but this faith is beyond hope so far as the situation goes, and if it is accomplished it is a tremendous miracle.
You believe even almost to presumption, because it takes a unusal miracle to justify such a prediction, because it takes a lot of work, lots of material and so forth to either move across the floods by pontoons and boats or by going through other devastated places, and this applies even to only a small amount, and can all prisoners be forced to work and not count themselves as being made l slaves too.

That prediction of yours, makes not so much as a hope for such a thing to occur untill everything is restored almost whole, and therefore such a prediction cannot be justified. Nothing short of a miracle can even stop glandelinia from making these disasters.Therefore all these hopes is only decaitful to you and would also be to us, even such as will leave the whole of Abbieannia to face of such a problem but nevertheless Glandelinia too shall and will face wrath and fury in the day of god Almighty, for true justifying punishment of a wicked person in dire danger, and all those who will fly for refuge to christ for safty.I say it can be so, and by it such a believe be presented as dangerous for your and our safty, and acquit from condemnation."

"What" said Angeline Richee," would you have us trust to the fact that Abbieannia cannot do anything in the face of difficulties?This conciet would place all of us in the gravest danger, and tolerate all of us to live as slaves of glandelinia, for what matter how great the disasters may have defaced the country and ruined all our railroads, if we and our government can see a may way to acc accomplish things through all those difficulties, when we believe it can be so?"

"Yes" said Jennie, for dangerous is the situation throughout the whole of the State of Calverinia, and as her name is, so art the whole world fearing. even all the past disasters, those still going on ,and the fury of the war itself demonstrate what I say.Terrible is the situation everywhere, and as dangerous is the situation of the war itself, through the ensuing results of it, from the heavy disasters thus coming and go n going.Yea many of us are irgon ignorant of the true effects of all these calamities, which has devastated nearly the whole of Calverinia till this day.Ignorant most of us are of what the disasters really did to their fullest estimate, and as their results are, so art their consequence to the final.Ignorant we are also of what justifying righteousness is for Abbieannia to seek redress, and as ignorant are we, how to secure means to see that time come, to see Glandelinia face the heavy wrath of God."

"Ask her, if she has ever seen any of the disasters?" asked one of the

"What are you seeking such an adventure too.I do believe that what you and all the rest of you may say about my being a witness of that disaster is but the fruit of distracted brains.Why man, I can furnish proofs of that any time you wish and nothing is so hid from us concerning such disasters, that they cann tbe cannot be known, and therefore everything I say must be true."

"Yes" said Angeline Richee."That is the very fact, even if it is not mine own statement but yours, yet I doubt not, for it is as good a fact as anything for I too was there with you!"

"Give me leave to put in a word" said Starring to the soldier"You ought not so lightly or so slightly speak of this matter, for this I will bodily affirm" even as the two girl scouts have done, than no one can give any discription of such a disaster as they have done but that they were there to be partakers of, yea, and fortunate survivors too, by which Heaven helped to be, therefore their statement must be wrought by the exceeding greatness of the disaster, of the floods mighty power, the workings of which disasters, I percieve my poor man you are ignorant of.How many have fled to the Lord Jesu Jesus during such a calamity and hoped by His righteousness, which is the righteousness of God, for He himself is God, hoped to be delivered from such a horror."

They went on now for some distance, and then said Starring to the colonel "It pities me much for the results of this awful war so far, especially in poor Calverinia.If I do not succeed in my mission, it will certainly will go ill with our cause at last."

"Well"said Hance"There are abundance in our christian armies, ho who would strive to do the same thing knowing that the whole of Calverinia has been placed in this condition by the enemy, whole armies of them0(and that of the Gemini too) and if there be so many in our armies armies, how many think you must there be in the Glandelinian armies would would also try to learn if any one was out looking for the ino information you are searching for?"

"Indeed as violet, and her sisters saidd; The Gemini have tried and not yet made any, success . Now that our conversation with the girls is done for a time, what do you think of the situation.And what do you think of the Gemini leaders.Have they at any time think you convicions of dreadful consequences because of these disasters, and so consequently fears that the situation is dangerous in Calverine?"

"Nay it is better for you to answer that question yourself sir, for you are some---what older than I am."

" Then I can say sometimes as I believe, they may, but being naturally wise may also underOthestand that such convictions may tend to their good, and therefore they would and do make desperate efforts to succeed in thi their own missions, and do so at any risk."

"I do believe as you say" said Nance that fears of something impending tends much to our good, and to make us all do the right thing for our cause, even at their beginning, to continue on anadventure or an undertaking untill it is a good success."

"Without all doubt that is possible" said Starring, if it be the right kind of kind of a mission.The fear of anything they say is the b beginning of wisdom."

"How will you describe the right kind of fear?????"asked Ned Perkins himself.

"True or right fear of impending dangers to the countrys cause is discovered by four things.

"1 .. By the disasters already c occured.

"By the rise of the fear itself of more.It is also caused by the saving convictic for future disasters and i their consequences.

2. By the strength of the foe, and his ability to do anything worse than even the disasters of the past.This fear drives even the best of christian spies to las lay fast hold of Pitetional prayers, and begging of Christ for the salvation of the st stricken nation ad her and her states.

3..The nature and power and shrewdness of the Glandelinian generals, and all the Retainers, staff and body guards under them.Their knowledge of country and so on.

4....The fear begetteth and continues in the soul a great fear of what may come in the near future, ad making them afraid to not be watchful enough, or cause the enemy to gain the upper hand."

"That was well said" declared Radcliffe himself."We all believe General you have said the truth.Are we now far from being in the path of the firen now."?

"No, I do not think so" said starring, but I would know if it came near.Put let us return to our matter.How many spies know that such unusual convictions that tend to put them in fear of disasters if they are not successful in their mission are for their good, for therefore they seek to do what they are sent out for ad do I not let all hell stop them."

"How do they seek under such difficulties?"

"They think that those fears are wrought by God for the good of the nation and their own, and thinking so they give in to their fears, for fear that to not to succeed would meanfor their cause a complete and awful overthrow.They also think that those fears tend to the spoiling of everything else, and therefore they hardentheir hearts to fear of anything else but failure.They presume they ought not to fear any danger whatever, or any difficulty, ad ad t and therefore in spite of them, become confident of success with God's help.They see also that these fears tend to take away from them their fears of danger, and therefore they strive with all their might to accomplish their mission....."

"Well I know something of this myself" said Fredrick Nance, " for before I knew myself it was so with me."

"Let's full upon another profitable question?" said Angeline Richee.

"With all my heart" said Fredrick Nance," but you shall begin....."

"Well" then " said she, " did you not know about a few years ago, one by the name of Gringigore in the christian camps, onwho is a powerful member of the Gemini anda great spy?"

"Know him? yes he always works with Dargar, or Schloeder."

" " You are right" said starring."He works always with Dargar, or Schloeder.Well that man was awakened to a sense of great peril once.I believe then he had some sight of the peril his country was in, and of the consequences that was due thereto, that is the reason he never stops even even to this day in his efforts to find out what the enemy is up to."

"I am of your opinion too, said Radcliffe," for I spied on the enemy about two miles from him, and he would often times come to me, and that with many tears to see so many child slaves in the Glandelinian camp and no one to help them. Tri truly pitied them, and was never without hope for them, but I one day suggested suggested that he could easily free them on or during his ex ed expeditions if he would pose as a slave traider or owner and so on durig the time and se them and use them as his confederates, and when the time came to leave he co l could easily take them with him."

"Qnd he told me once" said Starring, that he was resolved t resolved to go on in his mission, but not the time or kind we do, then all of a sudden he hit upon a sort of plan, and then as even all say and even Glandelinians testify he became to the enemy extremely dangerous.Some say he is more dreaded than ever Dargar."

"He told me once" said Angeline Richee, that he was resolved to find out the most important purposes of the enemy under any conditions, and even as you are so determinedto do also, but one day he went into general Hanleys lines as I have heard heard, with plenty of money,(where he got it no one knowe) but it was Glandelinia money, and with it he bought from one of the generals a whole column of child slaves which he apparently worked to their fullest, while in secret they secured for him plenty of good owe which he desired to know, and then one day sometime after a little child slave known as Jannie was sold to him, he disappeared from the Glandelinia camp fr with the whole lot."

"Now since we are talking about him" said starring, let us inquire a little into the reason of the sudden disappearance from the camp of Gingigore and the little child slaves."

"It may be very profitable, but do you begin " said Fredrick Nance.

"Well, then" continued Starring, there " there are in my judgement for reasons of it.

First...When he had the children with him quite a time, and he had been quite successful in his expedition, the conscience of his purpose was thus awakened, and having all he wished to know, he desired to leave, but for what they had done for him he desired to ake take them with him also.Therefore he left the camp with thm them all.This I say being hot for his countrys cause by virtur virtue. only not because of love alone but of the sense and fears of the results if the ruin by the enemy continue, his fear for the perils he may face chills and cools, so that his desire to give up his expeditions cools also.So then it comes to pass, then shen when their fear is gone, they resume their course again.

Second.... Another reason is, they have or he had slavish fears over what the enemy had done because of the disasters, that overmastered him. I speak now of the fears that he had of the results of the many disasters caused by the enmy which he had heard of.So then though he was hot for his countrys cause, he was still hot more hotter, when the flames of an earthly hell is all about them, then when he heard of more greater claml calamities occuring he betook himself to second thoughts, namely that it is good to be wise, and not to shirk the duties or run the hazard of losing all for the sake of a little four, or at least of bringing himself into unavoidable and necessarlies of troubles on a charge of cowardice , and so he fell in to all his worth, and for the glandelinians became the greater greatest danger there is.

Third.... The shame that attends cowardice lies also as a block in their way.He became more daring, and crafty, and all the enemy does is low and contemptable, therefore when they have committed the hellish deeds of disasters, he went forth to learn who were responsible and why, and how they did it.

Fourth .....The horrors of the disasters was enough to meditate terror to him, to be very grevious , he must have seen much of the misery caused by some of the disasters, and might have been one of those who even experienced one of the great disasters. Though perhaps the sight of o one disaster at first might have appalled him, the others might have increased his apprehension, and learning of how many have retreated from forest fires, how many are homeless because of all the disasters, he even then shunned the thoughts of fear of a foe in this matter, therefore when ever he had an opportunity he went to work with a will, and choosed such ways as would give him better success."

"You are pretty near the business" said Starring, for the bottom of al is lam all is, that he became a great spy.And therefore to the enemy he is like the felon that stands defiant before the judge, but he does not quake and tremble, he does not repent at all of what he has done, for the bottom of all is, t the fear of what may come to Abbieannia if these disasters in Culverinia continue, not any detestation of his missions missions, as is evident, because let this man loose on his work, and to the Glandelinians he will be a dire danger, and so a dangerous spy still, whereas if he was a timid man his mind would be changed otherwise."

"Now" said Nance, "I have shown to you the reason of his going frequently to spy on the enemy, do you show me the manner thereof....."

"I will do so most willingly" said Starring.

I.When he heard heard of the disasters, he drew of all his very thoughts, all that he might from the remembrance of such things as a good Glandelinia, soldier, and he'd rather face death and judgement than fail in his purpose.

2...Then he casts off by degrees, all other purposes, as mere scouting,, writing plans,, watching enemy movements, and the like, but ehere the foe camp for such information.

3....Then he pretends to mingle in with the company of glandelinianiofficers to secure better information, and gets it or knows the reason why.

4...After that he grows cold to peril, and does anything.

5, then he begins to pick holes as we say in the coats of some of the highest foe generals, and that cloverly, that he might have a seeming color to throw their cause behind their backs.Especially for the sake of some infirmity he might have

discovered in them/.....
6... Then to obtain the more desired information, and that is of the responsible
ones who caused the disasters, he pretends to adhere to, and to associate himself
with these carnal, loose and wanton Glandelinian officers.
7.... Then he pretends to give way to carnal and wanton discourses in openess, and
fortunate indeed would be the Glandelinian generals if they could see his real
purpose, but they don't, and he more boldly does his work.
8... After this, he begins to play with the Glandelinian officers more openly.
9...Then being fortified, he trapps them and shows them who he is.Thus being
launched into the gulf of his own passion, they to save their lives alow themselves
to be his prisoners and tell some things, and unless they are not rash they do
reveal all, or perish at his own hands in their own efforts to decieve so dangerous
a man...""

By this time Starring and all his followers had entered what appeared to be a
very large clearing in the forest, a clearing miles wide, and many miles long,,
where for a change the air was very sweet and pleasant,, a large pathway lying
directly through it, and here they desired to remain for a while and rest themselves,
for rest they needed badly.And being some distance off now from the forest fires,
they even heard here continually the siging singing of birds, and saw beautiful
flowers growing, and heard other sounds that showed that at least there was life in
this part of the forest..But here the sun though it did shine yet did not shine
very bright, for the thick smoke haze was heavy still in the sky. but it seemed
they were far beyond the " forested Valley of the Shadow of Death", and also out
of reach of any wing of the fire, neither could they from this place so much
as see the nearest van of the frightful Red Plague.Here they hoped to be within
sight of any part of General Manloys camps, of which they were searching for, but
as they continued on they were again joined by some of the forest rangers, for
because of the situation all forest rangers were continually on patrol, because
any part of the forest was menanced.Here plenty of crops wild crops but edible
were growing, even corn for in this clearing they met with abundance of what
they had sought for in all their travels.Here they heard voices of all kinds of
singing birds, and as they rested for a space in this clearing, they felt they
had more rejoicing than anywhere else they had been, to which they hoped to be
bound, and drawing nearer to the best part of the clearing they had a sudden
view of a camp of some kind at some distance away.

It was formed of the christian style, and they wondered what it could have been.
.They lay down for quite a while, and then being strengthened and rested, they
decided to continue on their way, and came yet nearer and nearer, where there
orchards, vineyards, and gardens, and a few houses, and the appearance of a large
long highway.Now as they came up to these unusual places, behold some men appeared
and asked the party to halt, and demanded whom they were;

"Starring answered;

"We are from general Concentinian Arronburgs lines.We are making a long dt
detour to have an easy change to spy onManloys army.Whose vineyards and gardens are
these?"

One of the men then answered"They are ours, and are planted here for our delight
and also for the so ace of solace of travelers."

The men then allowed them to enter into the vineyards, and bid them to refresh
themselves with the dainties.He also showed them a new and better route through
the forest, and here they tarried and slept.. Now through the exciting times
they continually had some of them began talking morevin more in ther their sleeeep
sleep at this time than ever they did in all their journey. When the next morning
approached and they awoke, they addressed themselves to go up to the distant
camp.go as they went on, they were met by two sentries in uniform of the dark
Calverinian gray(Glandelinian Glandelinian). After recieving the answer to thr
the challenge these sentries, asked Starring, whence he and all his followers
came, and he told them, showed his pass.Then the sentries asked them where they
had lodged the night before, what difficulties and dangers, and what comforts and
pleasures they had met in the way, and they told them, and also of their mission.

Then the sentry said;;;

"You may have two difficulties to meet with before you can enter the camp."
Then Starring, asked the sentries to go along with them, but they told them they
cannot leave their post.So they continued on being petmitted to pass, untill
they came within sight of the camp.But between them and the camp was a river,
there were no pontoons over it, and the river was very wide and very deep.At
the sight of this river therefore, the adventurers were much stounded, and they
began to inquire, if the stream was bigger, and longer than it seemed, whether
it would guard the camp as hoped for in case a fire came up.They were told by
the guards that it probably wound.Starring, however began to doubt in his mind
, and looked this way and then, but no way could be found, by which the river
seemed narrow.They then ash asked the men if the waters were all of a depth.
The sentry said;" No yet it would help in that case, for it might be shallow
or deeper asaccording to its size and through where it runs.

Then they urged their horses into the water,,, and entering they all started
across but as they passed on to the middle of the stream, Starring said to Ned
Perkins who was riding alongside;

"Some times I am greatly discouraged over the effects of both the Abbieann
and Angelinia Aguthia disasters, because the communication throughout all of our
states are still cut cut off and no one can get into any intercourse with either
Ang imi Angelinia Aguthia, or Dorothy Gale.I believe the billows of the big flood
just past has gone over the city entirely.I wonder if that city with the Emperor
and every one has been wiped out."

For a few minutes there was silence as they continued on through the water and
then Fredrick Nance said;

"Be of good cheer my brother, I believe all will be good bye and by.That city cann
cannot be wiped out."

"Yes, but it seems to me that the sorrows of Calverinia, have compassed the world
itself in every direction, that a land that flowed with " milk and honey" is a
thing of the past, that a great darkness and horror has fallen upon all our war torn
states,, that it is possible the population has almost lost its senses.But all
seems lost and I sometimes cannot help but doubt.All the words that I have heard
tends to discover that the population itself has horror of mind, and hearty fears
that all should perish in that state by the hand of such an enemy, that the national
armies may never win the war and drive the foe out, and that makes me full of the
troublesome thoughts of all the disasters of the past even from the wars infancy,
, both since and before the Battle of Evangelinia Grania."

"Yes, such things seems possible" said Nance, "for Calverinia is like a drowning
victim and por Abbieannia has much ado to j keep her sisters head above water
yet, sometimes it seemed she had been gone quite down, and then ere awhile she would
rise up again half dead. But be comforted General, for now I see the camp much
closer, and a column of officers mounted on horses waiting to recieve us ;"
but Starring answered;

"Tis poor Calverinia I worry about, but you have been hopeful since I knew
you.You must help me win my adventure."

"And so you shall have my help" said Fredrick Nance.

"Ah Comd Comrade" said Starring, "If I was sure of success, Calverinia would
be saved from future horror, and I must asked our Blessed Lord to help me, for
because of being unprepared Glandelinia has brought poor Calverinia into the
awful snare, and has left her desolate.."

"Then its all the better for the future" said Nance"My comrade you have forgotten
the text where it is said of the wicked nations"They have all their own way in wars
at the very start, but in the end their downfall is tenfold.At the beginning they
are not troubled like the good nation, neither are they plagued with disasters
like the Christian Countries they war with.These troubles, horrors, and distresses
that Calverinia has gone through, are no sign that God has fora forsaken such a
faithful stae state but are sent to try the people, whether you will call to mind
that which heretofore she has recieved of His goodness, and live pon Him in her
distresses."

Starring was now in a muse for a while, to whom also Fredrick Nance added
these words;;;;;;

"Be of good cheer, as Jesus Christ maketh thee whole, so will he turn the
tide of the war in favor ou of our side later."

They all presently found go grounf for their horses to stand upon, and so it
followed that but the rest of the river was not very deep.Thus they finally got over,,
over. Now upon the bank of the river, on the odder side, they saw a line of men
in Calverinian uniforms who stood there waiting for them, and when they finally
mounted to the shore the Captian of the men saluted them, saying,

"We have been sent forth to recieve you into the camp."

Then they went along tward the camp.Now the camp stood upon a long high hill
but the hill was of such gentle r grade that the horses went up that hill with
ease.The horses wit went up which with much agility and speed, talking again
as they went, the venting, being more comforted, because they saftly got over
the big river, and had such glorious companions to attend them.....

Chapter 38

STARRING HEARS MORE ABOUT THE EXPLOSIONS
AAT ABBIEANN, AND ALSO THE MAGNETIC DISTURBANCE CAUSED BY THE FORCE
OF THE EXPLOSION. HE HEARS ALSO OF A GEMINIAN EXPEDITION TO THE SCENE
OF THE EXPLOSIONS.

The Conversation they had with the soldiers in this camp-the-lamp was continually about the nature of the forested country, the progress of the past forest fire the war, n and disasters to cometh, and they answered that the horrors of the past disasters and the raging forest fires, and even the fury of the war itself was inexpressible."There at Abbieann, from where we camped thirthy miles northwest of is the heart of the war disasters, the now so called hellish region, the place on unknown but innumerable deaths, and the spirts of nations appalled, but which center o: disasters the enemy will pay for dearly some time to come.You are going now, on your way as we learned, to the Glandelinian camp under either one of the Manleys, wherein you shall try to obtain all information possible about the cause,, and responsibility of the disasters, and of how they did it, and when you come there we know you shall have to disguise as Glandelinian chieftians, and your wa k walk and talk shall have to be like the glandelinians, even all the days you shall be in the glandelinian camps.There you may not see again for a long while a such thing as you saw when in the christian lines, or when you were passing through here,, to wit, good times, friendly persons, and so forth.You are going now to general Johnston Jackson Manleys lines, or to his sons or brothers, men that the world itself believes knows something about the disasters, if not responsible themselves, and who are now trying to keep everything secret about it. "

Starring asked his guide;

"But what do you suppose we could do to succeed in our mission?It is very difficult you know."

"Why you might have to prevent to be pretend to be with them in all they are, you must recieve and obey all their orders as far as possible without going too far against the laws of your own country, and have patience for your difficulties you might meet with, you must reap what you have sown, then even the fruit of all your prayers, and tears and suffers sufferings will be of some good.In Manleys camps you will have to wear uniforms and hats of Glandelinian generals, and pretend to enjoy your serving them, for only in that measure will you see any opportunity to secure what you ever are after.There also to hide your identification ou mah may have to servie the Higher Glandelinian generals continually, otherwise your mission will meet with much more difficulty, because of the peril of the undertaking. There you may be surprised with seeing the natures of a vast glandelinian army, and if you happen to hear much wicked words you will have to stand it to hide your pit purpose, and only whenyou succeed may you have a chance to get back to the christian line lines and enjoy the company of your friends againnn again, and then you shall with y joy recieve every one that followed on missions before of after you did..... I know when you succeed in this mission you may recieve a higher commission than many, you shall be clothed with a glorious uniform, and go along with his Majesty Emperor Vivian.When he shall come to meet you with sound of trumpet and bugles you shall be brought b forward to meet him, and when he recieves you he shall bestow upon you a fine commission of your own choice, ad when and when he shall pass sentence upon all Glandelinian disaster makers, you also shall have a voice in that judgement of the generals of His staff, because they devastated our states without reason to win their wicked war.Also when he s hall again re return to his own headquarters or palace, you shall go too with the Vivian Girl Princesses, and the whole royal court, with sound of bugles, salutes of musketry. and all and cannons, and be ever his best friend and leader."""""

Now while, they were thus drawing tward the larger part of the a camp. behold, a large company of Concentinian cavarly, rode forward to meet them, and the leader thus adressed Starring;

"Are these your followers, who have left the safty of camp and home and friends all for the sake of country, and to learn important details of flood disasers disasters."

"Yes." answered Starring."We have come thus far on our desired journey, and that we may have the chance of entering general Manleys lines and force some of the foe officers to confess the information I wish to know."

"Then said the officer of the cavarly.

"God bless you and aid you in your mission."

Then there came forward to meet them along i with the cavarly, a number of drummer boys, a band, all clothed in white, who with melodious noices, and loud, made even the 2 " heavens " to echoe with their music, playing " All Abbieannia For ever March." Then the band master saluted starring and his followers, with ten thousand welcomes, and this they did with much shouting, rooling of drums, and volleys of musk-t and cannon salutes.....

This done the soldiers compassed them round on every side, some went before, some went behind and some on the right side, some on the left, continually sounding

as they went(the band going before) with great mucis music of bands, and songs and melodious noises, in notes on high, so that the very sight was, to them that could behold it, as if a great vi victory had been celebrated and the war was over... Thus therefore they rode andmarched on together, and as they marched, ever and amon those bands, even with joyful sound, would by mixing their music with looks and looks and gestures, still signify to starring and his followers how welcome they were into their camps, and with what gladness they came forth to meet them.And now was this company of brave adventurers, as twere in a victorious celebrating camp, being swallowed p with the sight of Calverinian and other soldiers, and with hearing of the grand Abbieanian marches and songs.

Here also they had a good view of the camp, and they thought they heard all the cannons and firearms of the soldiers firing salutes to welcome them thereto, but above all the warm and joyful thoughts that they had about their own reception here, with wo such company, and that for the hopes of a more successful portion of their mission therefore. Oh by what tongue or pen can their glorious joy by expressed. And thus they came up to the center of the camp.

So when they had come p to what appeared to be the generals headquarters, Starr Starring at the bidding of one of the officers dismounted, and show their pass to the e s a sentry at the tent entrance, and being questioned starrings guide said;

"These men and children are come from the christian camps, and have been on the way to spy on Manley and his generals for the sake to bring to an end the disasters that occured in the past."And then Starring gave to the guard a certificate, which he had recieved in the beginning, and it was taken in to the chief officer within the tent, who when he had read, returned it to the guard and said;

"Where are the famious christian spies?"

"They are waiting without the tent sir" the guard answered.

"Well allow them entrance, and return them to him in command this paper."

Now they were readily admitted, and the general arose to greet them.The general recognized Starring immediately and he gave him his hand ga gla l gladly dl gladly andsaid;

"Well,well Starring is it you.Glad to see you.I have been waiting for this opportunity for a long long time.."

Now as the tent entrance had been opened to let in the rent with starring, one man suddenly appearing from no one knows where looking in after them.He had come up unseen by the party the river side, but he had got over, and that without swimming or on horseback through the water, for it happened that there was near the place a boat which he secured, and in this boat he got over.He came alone unseen in the camp having followed close to the party so as to be a part of it.When he had come up to the tent, he tried to look in, but the guar: guard being suspicious suddenly got in front of him saying;

"Whence come you sir, and what would you have.Are you a member of the party?"

"He answered yes."

"Well where is the Countersign .Give it, so that we might show it to the general!"

He thinking it was in paper fumbled in his pcket and handed him a letter.

"I want the counter sign" demanded the guard."It's not written.You should know it and say it to me."

This time the man answered not a word.Then the guard called the nearest batch of soldiers, who took him prisoner, and led him into a tent to be held for investigation.It proved he was a shadower, a man following the party to learn their intention so the Glandelinian generals could be on the look out.He was detected and caught i on time.

While here in this camp t starring learned from the chief officers who convened with him, that they themselves with the help of the Gemini, and others had all went on a special expedition to the region of Abbieann and other places of the great disaster to investigate the conditions after the great explosion especially the conditions following the explosion disaster itself of the Abbieann regions.The distinguished Geminium ne members who were the heads ofthe party are General Hendro Dargar, Whilliam Schloeder, Dingigore, who had sti studied the effects and causes o of every disaster that had occured, and the mst terrible then and the most terrible known forest fires then devastating parts of Calverinia, and northern Angelinia.

The expedition made in late August was the most important and best equipped commission over sent out to study actual disaster effects.Results of great scientific and practical consequen ce had been expected to come from their work, but on their return, and after they had reported the results of their observations to the Abbieannian Government, they were coming to give Starring and his companions all the aid they needed as Dargar said Sterring would not be able to accomplish it alone. This report, forming the best hopes of the governmental aurthorities will they said do a good deal of good good for the cause.

They told Starring the expedition had taken a boat down the Mic-Hollester Run River on August the 18th by special order of Emperor Hanson Vivian, and advice of the Princesses, carrying supplies and ammunition which was to be used in case of necessity.After two weeks trip they arived in Francis Atlanta, several hours after the second greatest flood horror of northern Angelinia occured which exceeded

all floods in the war on the christian side so far. The officer continued -
"In continuing air, or placing such a cp competent expedition in the field so promptly promptly, the gemini societies are rendering the Country and her cause a g eat great deal of good, and which also will be a lot of help to you. It is also from a scientific point of view that the gr general action of the greatest explosion disaster in our country which had so terribly devastated Bengal state and many others and disturbing the whole world in general, should also also be studied by specialists at the earliest possible moment, for all of us b must get to the bottom of this, so that we can find clues to who were really responsible. Never kn in the history of our own country has such a favorable opportunity occured for any investigation not of the causes of the disaster, for that is known, but of who are responsible, so that our cause and government can be made more safe in the near future, and also to be able to punishthe guilty ones in a way no one was ever punished before.

This terrible series of explosions near Abbieannia(worse in force in this story than even thecr ption of Krakatoa) took place thousands of miles from miles from the northern most parts of Abbieannia and yet the vibration was slightly felt there also."

"I suppose" said Starring, that from the present activity of the nation from the effects of such an unusual disaster, and the uneasiness t general throughout the whole world in general, the scientists of Abbieannia also have a good opportunity for investigation. Why they do not be sent to investigate also is a mystery to me. Our governments have full opportunity and authority authority to expend what money can be afforded for these scientific investigations in Calverinian territory. What does it do the Gemini, and others, of good when the Scientists do not help? They are needed to investigate the disasters more than any one else. Are they afraid.? none of the scientific branches of any state governments, were ever sent or went on expeditions to the scenes of any disaster this happening, leaving as it seems the work to the Gemini, and the military alone.I greatest, and great proe protest hotly too. If the Scientific companies won't help why should we do the work ourselves. It is their work to investigate. But the Gemini, and the military, and other investigation societies recognizing the importance of immediate investigation for the goood of the countrys cause countrys cause, have been sent or went of their own accord to such region of this strange and horrid war disturbance, at its own cost,, three of the foremost authorities on disaster occurance. even volcanic scientists have been sent who know most on all volcanic action in the world, but what do they know about explosions of fires and so forth set off by the enemy.?"

"Until thegreat Abbieann disaster" said the officer " occured, few had ever thought that so vast a city would be a thing of the past in a few days. The co coming ofsuch a disaster was never thought of, and the fact that it was for a city a glorious gem in the world, a righteous city to boot, its coming destruction would never have been believed. It was as we all know, inhabatated by the biggest populaion population , ascore of city, with two million p ice could boast of. could boast of, and people from surrounding cities and towns, used all railroads to go to visits in that magnificent city, while foriegn tourists roamed through its wide streets, and watched the unusually righteous and good little children at play or at their duties, a place where no meanness or scoldings was ever heard. Geographers, and so forth condescended to notice big Abbieann more than any city, in the country, it was the summer home and headquarters of emperor Vivian, and also famous for a tremendous and unusual christian victory early in the war.

The name of the city would have been far better than un anything else ever put on the map of Calverinia or her sister states.

It was known to all Calverinian and Abbieannian Railroad managers and presidents n and engineers and so forth, for it too was a great railroad Center like Chicago in the other far away country, and it is marked on the maps as one of the most greatest properous cities in the world, and n n next to vivian Wickey in size. It was no doubt recorded, that before the disaster the locality had been once or more than once, the seat of great circuses, and pasttimes, and so on.. In fact the city owened its existance to some good purpose and support of the nation,, and had existed for nearly a century withouta single disaster. It seemed as if the city of Abbieann might be regarregardod as a city that headed all the others in magnificence in Calverinia. In this respect it would be like many other good cities and towns all over the globe inimpotance importance to the whole world in general, like famous pleasure resorts.

But as we all know Abbieann on the date of the first or second of june this year,. Terrible as all past explosion disaster, or even all volcanic eruptions throughout the world's existance had been, these great explosions whih caused a flood to wipe out a good part of Abbieannia was soon to compell by the terrible t thunders of the disaster the whole world to pay attention to the most frightful and marveous and astonishing disaster ever known to happen or probably will ever happen. The region of Abbieann and Bengal County became the scene of the outbreak of a twofold disaster so appalling that it will be destined to be remembered throughout the existance of the world. "

"But was there not even the slightest evidence that the enemy was going to make such a disaster,?" asked Angeline Nichols her self.

"It is hard to say" said the general. I have heard however that in the spring of this year, there were symptons that the disaster was to come from the fact of other great explosion and flood disasters before this. Other notable warnings were given. From the peredic explosion disasters strange secondary earthquakes had been felt at every given point, and deep far distant rumblings proceeded from the explosions, showing that the enemy was in preparation of something unusual, and that the foe was about to do something that would be a surprise to the world in general. There is nothing known then about the disaster than what we investigators have discovered which we can tell you later, for we are going to take you to the scene and let you investigate first. At first as I believe you know, though the preceeding disasters were of a serious nature, yet no one knew or even believed that any such horror would occur at Abbieann, which is about two hundred miles southeast of Calverine.

In fact the good people of Abbieann city, so far at being terrified at th what rwas in progress elsewhere in Calverinia, or of the news of floods, and forest firen. and depredations of the enemy,, continued to live in apparent security, never dreaming that quite a long distance away but dangerously near just the same secret enemy engineers were working at preparations to start a world fling disaster.

Many others I am sure would have been delighted to have been able to see the people of this good city before the horror came, but not I am sure to witness so terrible a spectacle.

As we all know the months of this dread year continually advanced and passed, it first being April,, and to may and the vogor vigor of the disasters of explosions, fires, horrors a of battles, and raids steadily increased since the first disaster in the late part of 1912. The noises of each explosion disaster became more and more vehement, terrible forest fires started in southeastern Calverinia, and horrid floods carried all before them, and bloody massacres of ch children occured, which also broke all records for massacres. Some of these explosions were presently heard for a hundred miles from their source, but still other explosions occured whose noises waxed louder and louder, w untill the great thunders of the explosions before the Abbieann disaster, now so rapidly occuring, astonishi astonished the whole nation, and there were other symptons of the approaching worse catastrophes of this war. which with each successive week of the months passing by, the forest fires in southeastern Calverinia as we all know continued to spread, hurling unusual quanities of dense smoke also far beyond the highest clouds in the sky.

The winds of fierce gales it is said could not carry this smoke away as rapidly as it was hurled upward by the seas of smouldering and blazing forest fires, and accordingly the atmosphere became heavily clouded with the suspended smoke.

This is the cause of even now of the pall of unusual darkness which hangs over a good portion of Calverinia, and a over the adjoining shores of the Calverinian and Mic-Whirthian seas. And even now such is the thickness and density of these atmospheric volumes of forest fire smoke, that for hundreds of miles around the scene of forest fire dangers the darkness of midnight still prevails at midni midday and all over Calverinia the sun never shines. This is causing many plagues to break our, from lack of sunshine, and crops and other growth do not thrive without the sun, and some bablame the smoke for the lack of rain.

Then the awful tragedy of Heidi Junction and other places took place. Many thousands hundreds of thousands of the unfortunate inhabatants of that city, and other towns and villiages were destined never to behold the sun again. They were presently swept away to destruction in an invasion of that part of the country, by the tremendous flood of that time, which only was exceeded by the Abbieann torrent which came later.

This shows that gradually but q quickly the development of the disaster energy procued produced by so vile a foe proceeded, and gradually the terror and apprehension and suspicion of the inhabatants of every city and town of all our southern Abbieannian states rose to a climax. May had just about neared its last week before the manifestations of a disaster at Abbieann should come. As the days of May passed by, disasters far and near of every kind as all of us know maxed more and more vehement and devastating, and the forest fires ran wild. By the end of May the panic was wide spread, the christian armies frequen ly fled before the forest fires, little dreaming that the supreme catastrophe of our side was at hand.

On the night of May 31th this awful year, the blackness of the smoke clouds now much thicker than ever over the skies was only occassionally brightened by the lurid flashes of fire from the forest conflagration. Fearful was the fifteen minutes of horror midnight of June 1th . Even though the explosion thunders of the sudden blasts had been upon the point of attaining their complete development no one in the whole region thought of devastuting floods that would follow.. At the city of Calverine, more than two hundred miles distant, every one were routed out of their beds, as the houses trembled and shook with the unusual violence of the mysterious secondary shocks, and the windows rattled and broke and fell into the streets as if great explosions every where were going on in the streets, and still these shocks seemed to be only rehearsing for the supreme display. The shocks had by this time continued for about twelve minutes. By fifteen minutes after twelve, there was a sort of overture consisting of six secondary great shocks , which was succeeded by a frightful convulsion of the country for hundreds of miles. whih crashed down many tall buildings in Calverine, and scared the population out into the streets. In that finali efforts all records of all previous explosions

even of volcanic explosions present and past on this whole earth were compleently

completely broken. so great was the force of the explosion, that nearly six hundred miles of country were split into millions of cracks and fuse fissures by the concussion and a large part of the fields and plains in the vinicity of Abbieann was scar scattered to the four winds of heaven. This caused an investigation of persons who to this day are trying to learn from some evidence that might be left of what the Glandelinians might have usee used that caused this awful series of explosions. The most supreme effort cannot be said to detail it properly, but nevertheless this supreme effort of disasters disasters it was which produced, not only the mightiest noise that so far as can be ascertained has ever been heard on this earth, but also the most world breaking ruin of towns and cities ever known of by the concussion, and also a flood that broke all records for a combination of the worst floods of the past the world has ever heard of.

Yet it indeed must have been the loudest noise ever recorded, which could travel from the region of Abbieann to Calverine, and preserve its disasterous vehemence over so great a distance, but nevertheless we Calverinians should and would form a very inadequate conception of the ener energy of this eruption of explosions, if we thought or dared to say that the sounds of the crushes were heard by those merely a little over two hundred miles off.

Indeed for comparison this would be little indeed, if it can be claimed on testimony which we have found it has been absolutely impossible to doubt, deny or exaggerate. Westward from the city of Calverine stretches the wide expanse of the great Calverine County, full of towns and woods. East lies the city of Evangeline St clare a distance of four hundred miles southeast, while Pandora city in Abbieannia City or state I mean is a distance of nearly five thousand miles. It i has been proved, general Sturring by thousands of hundreds of evic evidences, which cannot be doubted under any condition that the thunders of these great explosions, attracted the attention of all the people in Pandora, Abbieannia, who carefully noted the character of the sounds sounds, and the time of their occurance. They had heard them just five hours after the actual explosions, for this was the time the sound occupied on its journey.

Probably general Sturring, we can better realize the extrem extraordinary and immeasureable vehemence of this tremendous series of noises if we imagine a similar event to take places in lol localities more known to most of us, than are the far eastern regions.

If any volcano in our wou w country were vigorious enough for only fifteen minutes to emit a series of thunders like these explosions, how great would be the consternation of the world itself. Yet the report of these explosions were heard by Emperor Vivian at Angelinia Agathia, three thousand miles away, and by Emperor Hanson near Vivian Wickey, where he was conducting the besieging armies. It astonished these great Abbieannian emperors and all the Abbieannians. The sound penetrated to the seclusion of the states governments of Abbieannia at Pandora. Those at far Jonnie Wren Town and Crowley heard it. It had extended to the sources of the Mic-Hollester Run, way up north. It was heard in eastern Calverinia., and it had been heard by the governers of Angelinia State, and Angeline wine. It reached the ears of the inhabitants of Dorothy Gale city further away yet. No inhabitants in Abyssinia were beyond the range of sound, while crews on besieging warships around the sections of the seaward sides of Vivian Wickey also caught the mighty and unusual reverbration. Ot yet, to take another description, let us suppose that a similar earthshaking event took place in a central portion of the European Nations. Let us say for example general, than an explosion occured at Mt Vesuvius. "uch a report might shake cities with bad effects on windows in germany. At windsor the King of England would see the magnificent windows of the building crash out, and the Czar of all the Russes at Moscow would wonder why windows in his city streets would rattle as if artillery was beingdischarged in the stress streets and also hear a hundred strange booming sounds follow each other in rapid succession for fifteen minues minutes. The s sultan at Constantinople would see his houses go to ruin before the shock and lots of his people buried o under the wreckage. It would have been felt and heard by the Mohammedan pilgrims at Mecca with energy enough to scare them intb fits into fits. Or lets say it happens in central United states. Su supposing an explosion occured at a pleace called Mt Hood in what ever state you call it, an explosion as fierce as those near bbieann. It would certanly certainly scare the inhabitants of that state far and wide, and give their cities and towns a dreadful shaking up. The ears of dwellers in neighboring states would recieve a considerable shocks, and they would see the window glass of their houses come tumbling down into the streets in perfect showers, Yet with intensity that would be somewhat less the sound would spread further around, indeed it could be heard and felt all over the United states.

The terrible and sonorous waves could have rolled over and across the vert very Atlantic ocean, they would have been heard and felt with great and telling effect on the shores of all the oceans, even south america would not bee too far to the south,, nor the northpole too far to the north..... If indeed general we

could believe also that the sound teavled traveled from the site of the exlis explosions in Calverinia to the northern coast of Abbieannia, and we can saftly declare that every ear in our Abbieanian states might have listened to the thunder of the awful explosions near Abbieann.. The reverbrations were somewhat audible by the Glandelinians in their own states, therefore can we doubt that the greatest noise that has ever been recorded were produced by the explosions fifty miles northwest of Abbieann.??????

And general sturring, among the many other incidents connected wity wity this this explosion, we can specially mention the wonderful system of air divergent ripples that started in the atmosphere from the point at which the great explosions took place.. We may call them ripples if anything also air, from the resemblance which they can be made to confirm to the circular expanding ripples or circles produced in a pool of water by a boy flinging a stone directly into the center. But it can be more correct to say that these objects might have been a great series of undulations which started from the scene of the great explosions, and spread forth in ever enlarging circles through the atmosphere. The mmental and initial impetus was so tremendous that these waves spread for many thousands of miles. They diverged in fact, untill they put a mid mighty girdle round the whole world, on a great circle of which the explosion region near Abbieann was the pole...

The atmospheric waves with the whole earth now well in their grasp, advanced into the opposite hemisphere. In their further progress, they had from necessity been compelled to form gradually contractingcircles untill at last they converged to a point in the central point of the greater seas at the very opposite point of the diameter of our earth, eighteen thousand miles from Abbieann.

Thus the waves completely embraced the earth. Every part of our atmosphere had been set into a tingle by the great explosion. In America the great waves affecting magnetic needles in all headquarters passed over the heads of the people the air in the streets of every city trembled from the explosion impulse. The very oxygen supplying the lungs of the people responded also to the sum supreme convulsion which took place so far away. It is needne needless to object that this could not have taken place because we did not feel it. Self registering barometers all over the world have enabled these waves to be followed unmistakably all over the world, for it also caused a magnetic disturbance felt all over the world. It was reported that by both the air waves and other disturbance by the blasts that such powerful electro magnetic waves were shot forth by the explosions that the magnetic needles, were disturbed all over the world for many hours.

The superintend of the Abbieannian Coast survey reported to the government that the magnetic needles at the Coast Survey magnetic observatories, at all places on the coast, inthe Alenglglomenean Islands, Catherine Isle, and also of the coasts of foriegn Nations were disturbed on the early morning of June 1th at the time of the explosions fifty miles north of Abbieann. The needles are very delicately suspended and always register automatically by photographic means the mun minutest variation in the direction and intensi dintes intensity of the earths magnetic force. The magnetic disturbance began at the Concentinian City observatory at a time corresponding to about Twelve, twelve , and again at twelve fifteen, Abbieann's local time, and at the Imperial Observatory, at Twelve Fifteen, Calverine time. Reports from that region stated that the explosions occured a little before and after twelve in the morning.

A clock in the city of Calverine was stopped at Twelve oclock in the morning..... As I was told by the aurthiroties aurthorities of any governmental states official the magnetic disturbance was thus almost instaneously recorded at the Angelinia Agathia survey observatories. The needs had been disturbed again and again for every explosion that had occured, and these disturbances were plainly due to the magnetic effects, and was in no sense caused by plainly mechanical vibrations.

It is for our country the first instance th at magnetic effects caused by distant war explosions have ever been recorded at magnetic observatories. Mechanical vibrations of magnetic needles caused by concussions of far distant blasts have also been previously recorded. For instance the Lake gelicia crush, and flood November 13th 1912 caused a distinct mechanal c mechanical viberations of the magnetic needles for at least two hours, ad a magnetic disturbance also was recorded afterwards.. But the distinct magnetic effects of the morning of June the first pulled the magnetic needles aside from their usual direction for many hours indicating a great disaster had occured somewhere..

Yet in explosive violence, , the eruptions of Mt Polee, krakatoa and others volcanoes put together in one was to this great series of explosions at Abbieann but the explosion of fire crackers of small size. Krata Krakatoa was heard distinctly about three thousand two hundred miles away,, the sound of the explosions at Abbieann p penetrated two hundred miles short of 11,000. Krakatoa sent its dust round the globe, the forest fires raging still in Calverinia and Angelinia a is also carried around the world according to recorded statements made.

And such was the eno energy with which the vibrations of these one hundred explosions withinfifteen minutes were initiated at or near Abbieann, that even when the air waves thus arising had converged to the point diametrically opposite

the coast near the Calverinian seas their vigor was not yet exhausted..The waves strange to say were then reflected back from their point of convergence to retrace their steps back to Abbieann.Starting from central Mic-whirthian Seas they again go ahead and describe a series of enlarging circles, untill they embran embraced the whole earth,,.Then advancing in the opposite hemosphere they gradually contracted untill they had again regained the central portion of Bengal County, or near Abbieann from which they had set forth about thirty six hours previously. Here was indeed because of such explosions a unique experience, for the air waves had twice gone from end to end of this globe of ars. Even then the atmosphere did not subside untill after some oscillations of gradually d fading intensity at last they became evanescent....

The explosion also from experience known drove into the upper atmosphere for nearly fourty miles so they say a prodigous quantities of dust and powder smoke, and rained down on many towns and villiages a veritible torrent of debris and earth as if the plains had broken into a volcanic eruption as violent, so that these towns and villiages suffered destruction in the same fashin fashion as St Pierre did when Mt Pelee blew up. Hundreds of miles of air were thus clouded with that rolling ball of smoke, and the winds of the uper atmosphere were compelled to disclose those movements about which only after Krakatoa had we any opportunity of learning.The forest fires ala also sent smoke clouds equally as high all the time they were and are burning, and with eyes full of blank astonishment many of the population of our states have watched those vast volumes of smoke start on tremendous journeys in any direction according to the actions of the winds. And yet like a mighty tempest of fire striving to wipe out our country the "Red Plague is incessantly hurrying witha speed much greater, than any other awful fire ever head of before.Fortunately for us this forest fires have been prevented by the floods from coming within less than twenty miles of our bigger cities.. Angelinia Agathia, Dorothy Gale and other big cities though wrecked by the floods, are thus preserved from fearful and total ~~existiontt~~ destruction that the flames would produce, blazes which whole forests of trees do not even stand before, and which in ten minutes do as much damage to a fifty hundred acre forest, as would the most violent tornado.When this great forest fire makes so much smoke, then for 5y3 first for the first time, and, may also add for the only time,has the smoke ever kept a whole country side in total darkness for months and kept the sun ohi shining all over the states for the same length of time."

"It is said" declared Starring," by many witnesses that these forest fires puts them in mind of the earth being turned into a huge fire mist.Even Abbieann n and foreign aston astronomers tells us that the forest fires might as well be likened to the vast nebulas seen in the heavens.These hot forest fires raging for hun reds of miles around and over the country will I'll bet if they keep on burning prevent Calverinia from seeing much of a winter this coming year.And as I have kept record of, and so as have Violet, and her sisters, there have been since the war commenced about three hundred and sixty five disasters throughout Calverinia alone caused by only the enemy himself.

This estimate includes mostly smaller disasters , and disasters which which within the last number of months have been in a record breaking force and fury. because of the forest fires a ring of terrific blazes a surround Angelinia Agathia or has surrounded her.Starting at the southeastern section of Calverinia in June 1812 several hundred miles south east of Angelinia Agathia, a belt of forest fires had burned their way up the east central portion of Calverinia, extending also to the extreme east, and west, and to a eastern Angelinia state, from there it crossé crosses the Jessica river, and spread along the Evangeline St Claire to and off the city of the same name, thence it follows first the east edge of the November River through the Eastern Kohala forests, the eastern section of the Mic-Hollester woods, and finally extends up tward Angelinia Agathia.

The series of forest fires forming and sweeping in all that region, have in places raged in long ranks or lines many miles wide, and no one knows how many miles long, as along the Calverinian and Angelinia boundary, and near Lake Selicia when Irienstown burned, elsewhere probably the forest fires may have been seperated by long distance es, but nevertheless in time they connected with each other..sometimes they say the line of fires, was either narrow or wide according to how they burned as in central Angeline line, and then again some others broadened in a fire of hundreds of miles in extent, as in western Calverinia, where the worst fire of all is raging.

Within this great stretch of fierce and terrific forest fires, hundreds and hundreds of miles in length, are many big cities and towns, which fortunately through the floods have been spared the horrors of the conflagration.Eastward from this dread point, another branch of fires extends through Central Calverinia.On the broken points between Big Girl Knool and Francis Atlanta, are over one hundred fires burning, many of which are striving to make a junction with each other and are so fierce that they might as well be volcanoes belching forth lava and clouds. .This is the great focus of forest fire horror in Calverinia caused by the enemy and blamed on thevba battles..pound nearly three sides of Angelinia Agathia forest fires rages.In the far north of Angelinia Agathia, the Mic-whirthian woods

are ablaze, and nearly one score or others of forest fires are raging, cutting off all communication with the north..We can also draw the atention to the fact that the gr great centers of the war disasters in western ad and southern Calverinia and in Angelinia State, are converging tward Angelinia Agathia, and Vivian Bickey, , and that these centers of activity, are west and southeast, and either one or both may terminate the whole war..

Theories about too sir, as to the cause of the forest fires and the like, but of actual causes we know little but that the enemy did it. And perhaps the most probable explanation of the explosion disasters can be as follows;

"First...In all probabilities the enemy engineers might have worked deep under ground, forming by laboring crews of soldiers under their instruction instruction great mine galleries.The laboring men gradually place in the unknown kind and amount of dangerous explosives, and as time goes on, more and more explosives are placed,.Then the amount of all these high explosives is constantly increasing, untill the time comes when the ammount desired by those who ordered this vile work to be done is placed..Probably then batteries from an unknown source but at a great distance is therefore placed, with long electric wires.The charge is let go and the whole like an enormous volcanic eruption explodes with the most terrific fury.The proper strength of the exp electric might be applied which would hasten the explosion, but it is doubtful if there was used enough power to do more than this.

The concussion shocks of the Lake Selicia disaster probably timed the explosion that produced that terrible November flood.But in all probabilities the great Abbieann horror is the last straw, it brought the last ounce of pressure to bear on the patience of the people of Abbieannia, once one more ounce than even a steam boiler could bear.The local explosions of Mullencatt and other State districts were also unusual,.Two other factors may assist this process; "The making of mine galleries under river levees, which explosions either violent or less violent allows the river waters to pour out over the land and generate an enormous flood more rapidly than a natural break would have ever been able to do. Of explosion disasters in genera; general I say that the cause is still a matter of discussion.Certain geologists content that gun cotton and T.N.T.N.T was the sole motive power, while others consider that explosives known only to the Glandelinians have been used coming from only the Glandelinian governmental munition works.The view perhaps most favorable entertained at present in reference to the general natural nature of these explosions is that the Glandelinians disguised as Angelinian levee engineer chieftians and the like insert explosives unseen, explosives that go off by time and not of batteries and shock wires.But what ever produced the most conspicious and the most terrible phenomena accompanying the Abbieann explosion disaster is a profound mystery."

"You might be right at that general Starring" said the leader of the Calverinas who e whose name we will mention later."The recent disturbance of the Abbieann horror were explosions of the eruption type if they had come from underground volcanic eruptions as many people believed, and which eruption had exploded through the surface of the earth.But from the smell of the smoke produced from the blasts, the odor was that of T.N.T, Gun cotton, No Nitroglycerne and Dynamite. These explosions were similar to what would happen if a munition factory with as much explosives would havocrashed.The city that factory is in, would be hurled to the sky with all the people with it.We have no volcanoes in our country that have created such a disturbance and they are worse in eruption than Krakatoa ever could ever boast of."

"Maybe if I was there, and could do some invesigation of my own" said Starring I could light upon the mystery.I'd have Masses offered that Our Blessed Lord for the sake of our holy cause would allow me to succeed.I know that those who at i first did not know the true nature of the disaster thought the accompanying shocks were natural earthquakes accompanying the terrible eruption of some of our volcanoes,.None of them have ever yet been eruptive.One man told me some time ago that one of the least of the explosions left a crater in the ground over four hundred feet deep, now filled with water, but the rim of the hole shows abo above the lake.Earth debris fell over the country for many miles around.The people in the neighboring villiages fleeing in terror from their tumbling homes were caught and crushed under the shower, which buried fertile fields of crops.The outburst was proceeded by concussion shocks, and the shocks of the explosions were felt with havoc resulting affects as far as Angelinia Agathia and neight and neighboring cities and heard just as far just as you told me for I heard evidence of that."

"You may have the chances to make the investigations when you get there on time" said the captian."But let me finish first.On our arival four weeks ago to the scenes of Abbieann, our parties were forced because of the nature of the disaster to seperate.I and many others in boat boats when on the flooded site of what we still believed was left of Abbieann, to ex examine the flood itself, and what might be left of the buildings of the flood torn city, while the rest of the party proceeded to thr scenes where the explosions had occured to invistigate to investigate conditions in that section.The expedition of which we were a part had also been advised to enlarge the party if possible, to accos associate ourselves with the supreme Persons of the gemini,, pargar, pinigore, and Whilliams Schloeder who

who arived at Abbieann site of horrors several days after the other investigators. The scientists whom we had hoped for did not arive,..General pargar himself embarked on a row boat, and examined the localities of the explosions as far north as St Anns Point, the north nd end of the Great Mic-Hollester River, making frequent landings at points where th wreckage floes still remaining in the waters were not to think. After landing at a little villiage, or what was left of it from shock and flood he walked or rode on boats , sen through the flood covered sections, making an effort to locate so sight of some parts of the devastated city of Abbieann which was said to appear above the flood at the southern end.

General Dargar according to the ass associated press of Angelinia Agathia, in dispatches from North St Ann was the first man to discover some of the craters caused by the explosions, fissures in the earth beyond the flood, or the innumerable vast cracks.During this trip along the region of disaster, a trip attended with considerable peril, in addtion to his work of investigation, Dargar rescued in his boats many poor persons of violet Lansin who a had been tempted back to their flooded homes by the apparent ending of the flood, and had since found themselves in great danger. On his return to St Ann he issued a brief statement as to his observations, which has been published in many magazines and books and also in the news papers. The immense zone of record breaking catastrophei in the Abbieann regions and pengal counties is of an endless extent it seems for we were only able to go over a short oval space of it, containing only about eighteen miles of thedestruction.

This oval is partly over the river region.We could find no trace of houses of Abbieann appearing above the seas of water remaining even up to that time.The cracked sections of land nearest Crater No One, is bounded by a debris covered rural district extending from Melda Junction to the peak of the Abbieann Lake, as we call the remaining flood, thence curving around to Remingtonia.There were three well marked zones;

"First a complete center of Annihilation by explosion horror only and not by flood in which all life in big cities and towns, vegetable, h man and animal was utterly destroyed.The greater northern eastern and western part of Abbieann city was in this zone.Thirty cities suffered like St Pierrie at Martingue when a volcano on that island exploded.

"Second. A zone of singing blistering flame caused by the shooting of the explosions, which also was fatal to all life, and growths as well, killing all people and animals, and suffocating them with smoke and dust, burning the leaves of the forests, starting forest fires out of the flood zones hich still burns, and scorcing scorching but not utterly destroying the still standing buildings themselves.

"Third. A larger outer, non,destructive zone of fallen earth and other debris wherin rural distructs was covered with great loss of property and crops, and ci ies and cities and towns covered with the debris.

The focus of annh annihilation tn was the closest explosions, midway between Abbieann and Wickey Lansin, where now exists a series of large craters, with hundreds of big cracks, looking like craters of miniature volcanoes now covered with water and extent.The explosions as is evident had also thrown up into the air clay, sand, mud and other materials erupting like volcanoes, probably hurling high into th into the air mushroom shaped clouds.The explosions from evidence had great superficial force, acting in radial directions, as is evidenced by the dismounting and carrying for hundreds of yards the towns on the hills south of Abbieann, and a big churhci in the same locality, and also by the condition of the ruin d houses in the various towns not hit by flood..

According to the r testimony of some persons who survived there was an accompany ing flame. Others think that the debris, and the force of their ejection from the exple explosion made craters were sufficient also to cause the destruction. This must be investig. investigated.It was on the following morning on the sixth of August also that Dargar started on hos horseback from the land side for the explosion cra er No Two.He reached the point nearest on the following morning where he succeeded in gettig a number of photographs.A close approach to the scene was impossible, so he started back in a southerly direction.During those two nights while camping out he made some important observations of flood action, and the results of explosions, and on his return issued the following statement.]

"My attempt to examine the explosion crater has been futile.I succeeded however in getting close to crater number one.It was a large one, as large as that of a big volcano, all filled with water, and she had ever witnessed from a safe point one of these big explosions, might have noted the accompanying phenomena.While these explosions raged no one could livewithin t n miles of them.Following the salvoes of detonations from these explosions, witnesses said the rolls of clouds ascended miles sigh into the clear starlit sky, and then spread in a vast l bla k black sheet to the north south and east directi, over their heads.Through the lower sections and upper sections of the clouds they also said, vivid and a f awful red flashes appeared with alarming frequence frequenc y frequency.They followed distinct paths of ignition, but were not like lightning, and this ay be the indisputable evidence of the explosive oxidation of the powders and T.N.T after

they went off.This is a most important observation, and it explains in part the awful catastrophe.This phenomenon is entirely new in i explosions.He took many phoget photographs, but he did not h situate to ackrowledge hat that he was terrified by the scenes, but he was not the only person so frightened.I was also. .Nearly all the phenomena of these explosiinsexplosions are new to even science scien'ific companies, and they and many of them have not been explained. The floods at that location even in August I was still intensel, acti ne and no one can make any estimations and predictions as to what the flood will do in the near future.

But it was told to me that both William Schloeder and Ginigore under date of August 31th had succeeded in getting to the edge of the fl explosion crater.He claimed he scored a great triumph, for he with three guides went over the ground underneath a portion of the flood.He spent two days also studying the first formed smaller craters on the north side of the explosion area..Then he attempted to reach the main crater, and with this purpose in view he got out over the flood.

The flood in that locatility he told me was very crift and general but amid a thousand dangers, he reached the the crater and looked over the huge crater. Here also he spent some time in taking careful observations.The approach was s exceedingly difficult owning to the water and mud that covered the locality, but the ground was hard.After a tiresome trip, the rim of the crater by best afterwards was reached by midday.There was no trace whatever of vegetation.soundings of the crater was lately made and it appeared to be a dreadful hole over two thousand feet deep.The party with Ginigiore did not venture at any other point to make a rigid inspection of the crater for the ground in that direction though not covered by water looked to be dangerous.Though there was no trace of vegetation there was no change in the topographical outlines of the landscapes on that side, and the far distant forests retained their old beauty.The great mass of flood water that lay over this section has partially disappeared, and the landscape here was probably intact, but near the river a subsidence of the shoe to a shore to a depth of one hundred feet occured for over an area of a mile.The explosions, he says are more violent north west of Abbieann, where the bigger craters are located, than on the western side.One particularly violent explosion as he observed covered the town of St Peter sixteen miles north of Abieann with hedious mud and debris.Many of the buildings were razed as if a tornado passed through.The explosions rained water over the cities further off to the south.There are many other v explosion craters, difficult and dangerous to visit because ove opening on the side of the river formed by the explosion main of a tremendous crater like gorge, and it was the explosion that made this gorge, which may have made the flood.The explosions were almost incessant for those fifteen minutes, and in the towns a hundred milesxaway which were also shaken disasterously the people had been for some time afterthe explosions been complaining of a strange oppresive stench like sulphur from ma ches matches or as ches chemists claim, something from exploded powders, and that they had heard for fifteen minutes a long and appalling rolling thunder noise, a noise compared by the inhabatants to the hollowing roaring of thunder in the clouds at some great distance but infinitely louder.

These sounds had continued in successions of noises, and at the ending of the thirtteenth minute the noise was terrible enough to fill all the population of the towns with alarm and the shaking drove thanfrom the houses into the streets.It was therefore ascertained with perfect satisfaction thatthe main force of the explosion had been exerted within a distance of twenty miles , and that the terrific sounds had been produced by the quanities blowing up. In the hope of allaying the general alarm , priests even at that awful hour after the subsidance read Litanies and Said mass.A committee

A committee appointed to make an investigation, and who prepared an official report from other sources found that a number of strange rents had been torn in the flank of a hill nearest the scenes of some of the mightiest explosions."

Starrri Starring found when he had been with them for a day that these soldiers and their officers were very courteous men, and therefore before taps he told the officers, of his dzng dange ous journey un to this part, which was thrilling and profitable news for the Calverinian generals and their staff.. He told the officers also, whant he saw concerning the conditions of the country through which he plodded, and how unwilling some of the rangers were to go with him on the expedition, insomuch that he was forced to go on it without their guidianship, for he durst not run the danger of that destruction which he feared would come by staying behind in the forestw too long, wherefore he had left the rangers and departed.

No it so happened through the hindering of his own advance, that this Calver inian general had been much hindered and kept back from his wonted movements into those parts which he so desired to reach, and so could not even now obtain an opportunity to go forward, or make further inquiry, of how the country lay before him, that he might make a junction with general Vivian or some one else.Therefore

having met with Starring and his scounting party, and knowing the two girl heroines with them, and having some concerns about the disaster at Abbisann he decided to advance his army thitherward again, and have Starring and his party with him.Therefore he proposed it to starring, h who for the sake of the full accomplishment of a part of his mission decided to go with him, and therefore he took up his lodgings lodgings with the campers which were 10,000 strong.

Next morning during breakfast, the Angelinian and Calverinian general fell into discourse, and the talk happened to be about Gingigore and his travels, for thus he began with the general;

"""Sir" said Starring"What town is that that stretches like a paradize city far below the woods and hills, that lay on the right hand of our camps."

"That " said general Aurand" for that is his name"It is a small but beautiful forest dwelling in the midst of this c " Country of Destruction" but possessed with a very good conditioned and thrifty sort of people.To morrow a number of Scientists are coming from there to aid me and they'll be glad to see you."

"Ithought that was that city." quited Quoited Starring"I when a young man I went once myself through that town, and therefore know that this report you give of it is true.Not in the path of the conflagrations I hope!"

"So far Far I don't think so.But danger lurks for them, and that is only too true. I wish I could speak truth in speaking better of the situation, for the safty of them that dwell within."

"Well sir" quoted starring again, "Then I perciave you to be a well meaning man, and so ne that takes pleasure to hear and tell of that which is good, pray did you ever hear what happened to a man some time in this very city, whose name was John Evans, that went on a long scouting tour about three weeks before the Abbisann disaster.?"

" Hear of him, ay and I also heard of the molestations,, troubles, fights, and every difficulty that he met with in his mission.For what he accomplished nevertheless I must tell you that all our country rings of him, there are but few persons that have not ha heard of him and his doings, and also have sought after and got the records of his expedition yea, I think I may say that his hazardous journey has got many a person wishing to be in his boots, for though when he started out he was believed to be a fool by every one, yet now he had gone and succeeded, and he is highly commended by all, for it is said he recieved a good commission and commands a good army, and there are many more who are resolved never to run his hazards, yet wish they had his going."

"They may "Qouted Starring,"Well think, if they think any thing that is true , that he succeeded well what he went out to accomplish, for he now commands a division , and had has a command to his orders what he has has never had since he became a commander of any division of troops."

"Yes, and all the people talk strangely about him.Some say that he now rides a white horse, that he has a very excellent and splendid uniform, that he has a hat for a commisioned general on his head, others say that the main generals sometimes accompany him on scouting expeditions, and on all missions are become his companions, and that he is as familiar with them, as you would be with your best of friends.Besides, and this is confidently confirmed about him, that once Emperor Vivian, had bestowed upon him already a very richand pleasant headquarters tent, and that every day he eats and drinks, and ro rides and talks with supr superior generals, and recieves the smiles and favors of the very Vivian Girl Princesses themselves.Moreover it is expected of some, that Emperor Hanson himself, the Lord of the Middle Abbisannian country, wu will shortly come into these parts with a vast army, and will know the reason why any enemy can stop him.For they say that now he is so in the affections of the two emperors and that these Sovereins are so much concerned with the awful indignities that has been cast upon Calverinia, that he will look upon all as done to Our Blessed Lord Himself, and no marvel for it was the love the Calverinians had for him that Calverinia suffered, and John Evans revealed a lot.He is coming to morrow to help me, as I have begged the emperor to send him.He'll be a great help to you too general Starring."

"I dare say" quoted Starring"I am glad tohear of it, I am glad for his and the countrys sake.For that no now he is well commissioned, and for that he now reapeth the effects of his work with joy, and for all he accomplished he may soon cause it to be that Calverinia will be beyond gunshot of the glandelinia enemy, and out of reach of the country that hates her.I am also glad for that the news of these things is noised abroad throughout the country.And who can tell but that it may work some good effect on other spies who have not tried their best to accomplish anything.In fact it inspires me to a greater effort.But pray sir, while it is in my momery do you hear any thing of Gertrude Angeline and her own scouts.I wonder what in the cau cause of things th y they do since Violet, and her sisters were frustrated in their own mission by the forest fires hitting Manleys lines....."""".??.,

"Who? Gertrude Angeline, and her boy and girl scouts? They are soon like to do as well as John Evans himself, for though they were forced to leave Manleys lines and flee from the fire as well, they would by no means b persuaded by either the fears or extra entreaties of any one to prevent them from going else where, and follow Manleys army as it retreats, so they are going after him keeping him well in sight untill they can enter again."

"Better, and better" quote Starring."But what.Gertrude. her scouts and all?"

"Is true."I can give you an account of the matter, for during my advance I came near or within sight of manleys retreating armies, and became thoroughly acquainted with the whole affair.""""

"I'd like to hear it "said starring....XZ

"Well This famous girl scout, after she had bid good bye to violet, and her sisters betook herself on the journey to follow the retreating armies of Manleys, despite the peril of the persuing forest fires, and when impeded by a large stream, waited untill the enemy had crossed,(a portion of the nearest division) a long footbridge, then not waiting for the bridge she ran over the river, the scouts with her, some swimming, r some riding across, and some using the bridge for a quicker crossing.They at this time could not hear of what manley himself ad had gone, therefore as she told m later her thoughts began to work inher mind first, that she had lost her first opportunity, and that for the hope of success seemed again broken between her and her followers, for you must know, as she hadagain said it to me" nature can do l ss in aiding a person but intertain the hero and the heroine with many a heavy cogitation in the remembrance of the loss of a good opportunity, making you feel nearly as grief stricken as the loss of loving friends and relations.This therefore, of her lost opportunity did cost her many a tear.

But this was not all, for Gertrude also did begin to consider with herself, whenther her unsuccessful attempt, was not because of the fire, and then the river, whether she would have the attempt to see Manley again or not, and that in such a manner he might have escaped her watchful eyes altogether..... would success be taken away from her for good now? And also came into her mind by swarms, all her efforts, to aid her friends, which was successful, and they now trying to aid her were also not making much progress, and she did so want the worse way to discover the cause of why glandelinia gave forthwarns of her wicked disasters unatural and ungodly horrors to Calverinia, which should have clogged her conscience and load her with guilt before the world .

he was moreover much broken with calling to remembrance with her manyexperiences and sight seeing, the restlessgreans of the disaster injured , brinish t ears of those who lost whole families, children, husbands, and wives and friends, and self bemeanings of those losing property, and so forth, and how could any one harden their hearts, againstall the entreaties of those who were so torn with anguish, and there was not a thing that the refuggees said to her, or did before did before her, and suffered before her eyes, all the while that the horrid burden hang upon Calverinia, but it seemed to return upon her like a flash of lightning, and rent the caul of her heart asunder.specially that bitter outcry of many rendered homeless and with loss loss of dear ones""Has all gone from us" did ring in her ears most dolefully.

When I was with her for a whole I had heard her say to all her scouts who were assembled before b her"Boy and girl scouts hear me. If we do not succeed or if Starring does not succeed, our cause and we are all undone.Glandelinia has sinned and destroyed the holieis of holies of a holy nation, calverinia is in danger of being rendered a country of the past, and therefore we must work hard for even our own homes and friends and parents are in danger." with that all the scouts fell into tears, and cried out "Let's try at any peril.

"Oh " said Gertrude"If it had only been our lot to see Violet and her sisters siststers succeed, than had it fared weel well with out cause beyond what the situation is likely to be now.For though I formerly foolishly imagined concerning the troubles of Calverinia to be over soon, it was only a foolish fancy I had, then also , thought I was overrun with melancholy humours, yet now it cannot be out of my mind, but that fears spring up in my heart, for that yet the enemy can do something more terrible than the horrors of Abbisann, but by the help of the discoveries we need so bad, we can cause Calverinia to escape from the snares of such horrors." then they continued to weep, and cried out,p;;;pp

"Oh woe is those days". The following night gertrude Angeline had a dream,,,, and behold she saw as if a broad parchment was opened before her, in which were recorded the list of all the horrible disasters, with the number of those dead and thouue those who suffered and died,, and the times,, of the disasters,,,,,,,, and this situation she thought looked very black for her and her cause.. Then she cried out aloud in her sleep"Lord have mercy upon poor Calverinia, and help me or Walter Starring succeed in looking for the information we are after.." and all the little girl scouts not asleep may have heard her.....

After this in her dream as she told me afterwards she saw two very ugly and ill hated forms standing by her cot, and saying one to another."What shall we do with this girl, for she strives to frustrate our plans, waking and sleeping.If she be suffered to go on as she begins in her expeditions, we shall see Glandelinia lose her war against the Christianitide.Therefore we must by one way or another seek to take her off from the thoughts of such an adventure, else all the world cannot help it she will learn every thing so she seeks after....."

Now as she told me this dream of hers made her awake in a great sweat, also she was trembling, and getting up she ordered more stuot boy scouts to go on guard duty by her tent.Soon she fell sleeping again.And then she thought she saw Starring before Emperor Vivian, among many generals and other officers, with an unusual yellow parchment in his hand, of which he handed to emperor Vivian.She saw also as if he bowed his head with his face to the ground, that was under the great Kings feet saying; "I have succeeded in locating what you wished so much to know.Here is the paper that tells who were guilty of the flood and other disasters."Then shouted a company of the general generals that stood round about, but no one could tell what they said, but Starring, and the Emperor.

Next morning, when she had risen, and had prayed to God, and talked with her boy and girl scouts for a while, her guard told her that some one wished admittance into her tent, and then she sent the guard with the words;

"If you come to see me in God's name come in." So theman said "Amen" and the guard allowed him admittance into into her tent, and saluted her and said, "Miss Arronburg, do you know for why have come?"

"Instead Gertrude demanded"Who are you sir, and what do youwant?"

"Then he said to her" "I am an Angelinian military Secret Service man, I have been sent by emperor Hanson.It is talked of throughout most parts of this country of what informations you desire to obtain for the good of the countrys cause, and also there isa report that thou art aware of the evil Glandelinia had formerly done to the states, by making all these disasters, and causing such suffering. Miss Arronburg, emperor Hanson vivian has sent me to th tell thee that he is ready to have you continue the mission, and that he will take great delight in seeing seeing you or Starring successful.he also will have thee know that when either you or he even are successful that he will invite you and your followers and he to come into his presence, and that he will praise you all to an honor that will be a surprise..There is Gemini Darh paraga Dargar, with legions more of his companions, over trying for the same goal as you and Starring are doing, and yet they too will all be glad when they shall hear the grand and gloriousnews that you or Starring have been successful."

Gertrude Angeline at this was greatly surprised, and the visitor proceeded, "Miss Arronburg here is also a letter for thee, which I have brought from Emperorr Hanson Vivian."

She took it and opened it,, and the contents of it read as follows,

"I the Emperor of Calverinia and her states, would have you dear Gertrude to continue on the mission, and if possible join Starring if you ever meet with him.You two can succeed better than one.Try and find him."

Then she cried to him"I will do so as is asked."

Then said Starring;

"Gertrude if she does is facing the bitter before the sweet.She will go through many troubles, even probably more than we have already to accomplish a mission of that sort.Wherefore I adfise thee general, to break camp as quickly as possible and continue on our own quest quest as we may find her on the way.We can go through the town over yonder.I got this pass through any part of the country hidden carefully always in my bosom.Also when I have to return when I have secured the information I will have to returen it at Emperor Vivians headquarters, the father of the Vivian Girl Princesses themselves."

"Yes I presume so, but I believe on second thought, Abbieann should be our goal first." said the general.

"But can I stand the nights that may be there still?" asked Starring "You must percieve of late sir.I have been always much affected with the thoughts of the situation in Calverinia and elsewhere, which I verily believe is by nature still very miserable.The condition to the country is a great load to my heart therefore maybe I would not be able to restrain myself if I saw too much .The thought of these things is enough to kill a warm hearted saint outright.But if it is necessary, then let us break camp, and start off, and I can use my own judgement as to my feelings accordingly."

Then did all the others burst into tears of joy for that Starring finally was so inclined.The Calverinias c Calverinians therefore started to break camp, and they began to prepare to be set out on what may be a dangerous journey, over d vas a devastated lands, big floods and horrible sights. But while they were breaking camp, camp, two of the Calverinian soldiers said to Starring;

"Pray sir, what is the meaning of such an expedition?"

"Starringlooked at him in surprise and answered;

"It will do for the good of country and cause. "

"For what reason sir, I pray you?"

"What is it to you. But just the same my purpose is to seek important information from the enemy."

"I hope you don't intend to go on such a risky trip as that good sir.Pray for the sake of those of whom you may still have to command to do not so unwantomly cast away yourselfin such perilous conditions."""".....

"Nay" said Starring, I know what I am doing, and all of my followers shall continue continue to go with me, for not one of them is willing to stay behind."

"I wonder in my own heart" said the soldier, " what or who has brought you into going on such a dangerous expedition, when you could have sent expert spies and agents as well."

"If you know as much about the situation as I do, and about scouting as much as I do, I doubt not but that if you were in my place you would do the same."

Yes."Yes.And pray what knowledge have you got now sir, that works so upon you that makes you tempted to go to dangerous of which no one knows about."

Then Starring replied;

"I have been as well as the whole nation has been sorely afflicted, since all the suffering has come pon the people of the disaster devastated states,, but specially put specially over the awful Abbieann disaster horror.But that which is troubling me most of all, is that most of the country cannot go to the aid of those who are thus rendered to suffer and made homeless, and of Glandelinias churlish carriages to the helpless Calverinians while under their distress.Besides I feel as if I was one of those unfp unfortunate beings, therefore nothing nothing will serve me but go on the journey till it is finished come what may.I was a dreaming last night that I witnessed one of the disasters at its worset ,worst. Oh my soul I felt as if Iwas one of the homeless.I dreamed I saw my mother perish in the flood and was unable to rescue her.All this to go on while those dreadful Glandelinian generals dwelleth in the presence of the whole wicked villeys, and sits and eats with them at their headquarters dinning table, all them of them have become companions to the wickedest kind of persons ever known in history, and I always believe either one of them know something or are responsible for the series of disasters.Only when the secret is known can the horrors be stopped. Emperor Emperor Hanson vivian has also sent me on the mission with promish of honor and higher commission from Emperor Gov robert Vivian himself if I succeed.His messenger had several times met me on my journey and I have a parchment which shows my rights to continue the mission.The Vivian Girl Princesses desire me to do it too." and with that he Jack plucked out the parch rool roll and read it and said to the officers round him;

"What will you say to this now?""

"Oh the madness of any one who has sent you to go out on errands and face such perils and difficulties.You have I know remembered what you did meet withalready ,even in a manner at the first step that you took on your way, as many witnesses can testify.you were fired on from ambush by the two Glandelinian Professional Spies, who resemble Mutt and Jeff, and who knows that they might not yet be shadowing you to get you sooner or laer later.We also heard over and above, how you met with the fires, plowed through a portion of the blazing country known by nickname now as the " Fiery Valley of the Shadows of Death" and many other things.Nor is the danger that you and your followers met with in the ravine to be forgotten by you.So if you who was hard put to it went through all this for a beginning, what do you expect to meet with yet.Consider also you are a general of high commion commission in our armies, and you cannot be spared. Therefore should you be so rash as to cast away thyself, so better send some of us instead, and assume personal command of your armies which you left far away at general Williams camps."

But Starring said unto him;

"Tempt me not, you under commissioned officers, I have now a price into my own hand to get gain for the sake of the cause, and I should be the greatest fool in the world if I h should have no heart to strike in with the opportunity when it presents itself.And for that you tell me of all these troubles that I am like to meet with in the way,they are so far off from being to be me an discoir discourage ment, that they show me that I am in the right.The bitter must before before he before the sweet, and later on that also make the bitter sweet, and the sweet the sweeter.Therefore I am not going to back out."

"Well have it your own way" said the officers, where he goes we must."

Though they tried to persaude him again continuing the mission these officers were nevertheless at a stand, for they did not like to advise him against it but nevertheless they felt for his safty and since they could not persaude him from going

they felt therefore like accompany him at any risk. First they all yearned for the same adventure, so they said within themselves;"If Starring will insist on going, we all will accompany him not only to Abbieann to see the results of the disaster there but will accompany him on his most dangerous journey" Secondly they yearned over the awful situation of the cause of their own sadly devastated state, ,for what Starring had said had taken some hold upon their mind. Therefore they said within themselves again, "We will have yet one more talk with general Starring and If I find truth and a winning of the holy cause of Abbieannia in what he shall say further, ourselves with our full hearts will go with her." Therefore they said to the officer who had questioned Starring;

"Colonel Herdrindes"I did come with you indeed to help you interview Starring this morning, and since he is as you understand taking of himself a probable farewell of his country, I think to accompany him ourselves will be a great help. He will need reinforcements.."

"Well" said the colonel, "I see you have a mind to go off on such a hazardous undertaking too, but take heed in time, and be wise, while we are out of danger we are out, but when we are in ,we are in."

So the colonel returned to his tent, and there he sent for some of his officers , to wit, Captian Hanson, Lieutenant Hanson, and first Lieutenant Cornsee and also Major Henders. When they answered the summons, he told them the story of Starrings purpose purpose.

"Well boys, I went to interview general Starring, and I learned he has been on a secret mission that was quite dangerous. So I asked him what his meaning was by it, and he told me in short(short) that he was bound to get information of the floods camped within the enemys lines. He told me also of a dream he had, and how the King of Calverinia and her states invited him to prolong his mission."

"Then" said Captian Hanson" and what do you think he will still continue on the expedition?"

"Aye, he surely will go, whatever danger he will have to meet with, and I believe I know it by this, for that which was my great as argument to persuade him to give it up and send some one else, for I dreaded the troubles and misfortunes he was likely to meet on the way, is one great argument with her to put him forward on the journey. For he told me in so many words" the bitter goes before the sweet?""" Yes, and for as much as it may do, or does, it makes the sweet the sweeter. He means if he is successful, Manleys secrets will be out, and disasters in the future will be unknown."

" It seems a blind and foolish undertaking, said Lieutenant Hanson, but as long as he does not take warning by his recent perils he went through, nothing I fear will change him now. For my part many of our spies would rest content with a whole skin, and never run so many hazards for nothing."

"The officer Cornsee also replied;;;;

"Away with such a country as Glandelinia, from the world----a good riddance, for my part I say of her. Starring is right in his purpose purpose. Should he give up his expedition when there is chances of his winning in the end, who could live quietly by if he failed because he did not continue. Wherefore for my part, I shall never be sorry for his adventure, let him go and do it, we can accompany him, twas never a good part of the world since the whimsical fool of a glandelinia came into it."

Then the conol colonel added,,,,,,,,

"Dom come put this kind of talk away. "I was yesterday out scouting to see the lay of the the land, w and who do you think I should see, but a force of glandeliniuns moving southwestward. And I dare say, it was a column of troops bent upon going some place. That looked mighty suspicious to me."

By this time, the army of Calverinians were well on its way, and Starring and his followers went along with it,. And as they went, Jennie Turmer and her girl and boy friend being there still also,, Starring began his discourse. He said to the general in command of the Calverinians;;;;;;

"I take this as a very unexpected favor, that you should have me and my followers accompany you, to bring us forth to the views of the disaster regions of Abbieann."

"It is because it would be for good purpose to you, and if it was not for that reason I would never wish to go near the awful location any more. It is a dangerous adventure, full of peril and excitement."""

"But I'll take the chances " said Starring.....

""Well" said general Saunders" " you may cast in your lot with me and my soldiers and Calverinians. I do not know for fullness what might be the result of your great and unusual mission, but if you succeed you'll get a better rea reward than all the gold in gold mines and the like... Nor shall Emperor Vivian reject any proposition you may suggest, though you go only upon the invitation of the Vivian Girl Princesses and not for command. As you say Emperor Vivian has invited and advised you to go, and besides if you wish you can for the time being be a part, of my command, only if you derive good things for your benefit come to Abbieann..."

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"But how shall I or my followers be ever ascertained that we shall gain success by just having a view of the ruins?" demanded Starring"Had I this hope but from one that can tell I would make no stick at all but would be still more willing to go, being helpled by Him that can help, though the way was never so tedious."

"Well sir" said the Calverinian general"I will tell you what you should do. Go with me to the scenes with me to Abbieann, and there I will further advise thee ,and if there you have not met with encouragement, I will be content that you and your followers can continue your route alone as formerly. I will also pay thee for thy kindness in accompanying us far at least, which you also showed me and my troopsin paying us this visit, and lin thy accompanying of us in our way as thou dost....."

"Then" said Starring, I will go with you thither, and will take what shall follow providing it is for my onw good, and Our Blessed Lord grant that my lot at the location of Abbieann may there fall even as the King of Heaven and His Blessed Mother shall have their Hearts pon me upon my me and my intentions."

The Calverinian general was now happy at heart, not only that he had a famous christian gene a general as a companion, but also for that he had prevailed with this general and all his followers to fall in love with a new part of the adventure. ...

So they went on together, and for a time Jennie Turmer began to weep. Starring noticing noticing her said;

"What is the matter, Jen?Why weepest thou."?

"Alas" said jennie," who can but lament that shall but rightly consider, what a state and condition, poor Calverinia, and her states are in, and prtions of our country that yet remain insuch an awful condition, plagues, and suffering everywhere and that which makes my grief the more heavy is, because there is no way to bring help to the sufferers and the homeless, nor any one who can even know what can be done.."

"YesBut crosses comes before the crown" said Starring."And you do for the suffering of Calverinia, as every one else throughout the whole world is didding when the disasters were broadcasted, the world itself mourns, but remember Our Blessed Lord will gather up the tears of the suffering of Calverinia, and those who mourn mourn for the people, and put them into His Chalice ,and both you and I and every one who feels for the sufferers, are reaping fruit and benefit from them. I hope Jennie these tears of yours will not be lost, for the truth has been said that they that sow in tears shall reap in joy, and in singing. And those that go forth and weep bearing precious seed of sorrow for others, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing bringing his shieves with him."

When the army of Calverinians came up to the river, not far from the town they began to be at a stand, for the river was wide and there was no boats in sight. The general in chief percieving also, that notwithstanding the size of the river it was line apparently all its length on both sides with forests, and the situation was worse than formerly.

"But" said Starring" come let us venture to walk along the shore untill we wil find a place to cross. Only let us be wary."

Asthey moved along, they looked well to the steps untill they came in sight of a large ferry boat tied to the shore. This they took, and they had no sooner got across, when they halted for a few minutes of rest. Then the army went on again And Angeline Richard to And Angeline Richse said to Starring;

"Had I as good ground to hope for a grand success in our mission, I believe no amount of exciting adventures would discourage me."

"Well" said Starring"You know your own part of the countrys misery, and I know mine, and my good girl scout, we ourselves shall have enough evil before we come at our journeys end. For how can it ever be imagined, that people like the wicked, Glandelinians that design to attatch such dreadful horrors upon a country, as they have done, can always get away with it. And we who are on adventures cannot but fall to meet with what fears and scares, with what troubles and difficulties and afflictions that can possibly come upon us, and how do we know we may not be assailed by glandelinians also."

After two hours of thus traveling, they all reached the town. When they hat halted near the surburbs the officers bett betook themselves to a short debate about how they must they must find the easiest and shortest route to the region of Abbieann , and what should be done when they came in first sight of the now so called Lake Abbieann. So it was conl concluded, since Starring was a good professional spy, that he should direct the column through when they got there, and therefore they discided decided to speak to him about it as soon as possible. They sarted stared started for the town slowly .Starring and the two girl scouts themselves were greatly tumbled up and down in their minds, and knew not what to do themselves. Back out they durst not for fear of failure, go back the way they came to continue on the adventure by themselves they also durst not, for fear the Calverinian leader should espy them

as they so went, and should be offended with them.At last they thought of going through it all with them, and even if necessary compell the Calverinian leader and his followers to aid him in the mission through the very end.As they entered the town a man came riding up and dismounting from his horse made low obeisance and said;

"Let not you two Christian leaders be offended with me, for that I have to come up to speak to you, as it is very important."

"Starring looked at the man, and then said;

"Where from did you come, and what is it that you would have?"

"The man answered;

"I'm the mayor of this city, and I know where you and your force did come, specially especially from whence you did come, and I know that hundreds of others have been on the same errand as you to wit, to be, If it shall please you and the rest, I will graciously admit you all into the town, and direct you after you have sen been intertained by the rural route toard the road leading toard Abbieann, a railroad that had beenoperating and now reparie repari repaired. and I tell you once again that I am the city's mayor, and I have been informed of you by a telegraph from Emperor ganson vivian," and he showed Starring the telegram.

With that Sr Starring did marvel saying;

"What is my doing broadcasted.Yes he said I accept your invitation but please keep this information from the enemy."

Then the Mayor remounted his horse, and led the way, and said also;

"Let 's hope sir by Gods help you'll be successful in your efforts.Thousands have recently tried what you are doing and did not succeed."

As he proceeded on, he called a pl policeman to lead the way and keep the street clear as an admiring crowd was gathering, and he obeyed many other police also keeping the crowds in place o on the sidewalk, and a ban now accompanied the Calverinians, and filled the air with melodious notes.

Now jennie Turner herself was almost trembling and crying, for fear that the disasters that she knew of would sooner ot later be fatal for the country because of the impossibilities of aid coming to the suffe rers.But when starring had so suddenly recieved admittance for the whole party into the town, then she began to take more heart, and prayed often that our blessed Lord would make direct intercession for Calverinia, and her devastated sister states. And she said as she rode q alongside to Starring;

"Your excelency I have a hunch of mine that the series of disasters will make a fatal one from their results, and that makes me much dejected in mind, for I sometimes think that nothing will bear fruit even from our adventure.Yet sometimes I am very inpationt, to be near the scenes of Abbieann again, for I was one of the witnesses of the early part of the disaster, for each minte during the first horror was as long to me an as an hour, while Heaven alone I presume prevented me from perishing with my compaions who also escaped in the ensueing flood, though the roar of the flood was so loud, that it made us all scared."

"You as one of our girl guides" must keep good heart." said the Calverinian leader himself."Where wa is that little black haired friend you met in that city before the flood.Is she among the lost?"

"No sir" she escaped with us fortunately."

"How did she manage to escape wi with you.?"

"She accompanied us.We were in her home at the time of the first explosion shock.She is often with the Vivian Girls now.At the first shock I felt so faint I could have almost swooned, I felt as if the very life was shaken out of me by the concussion.But when my soul fainted within me I remembered our Blessed Lord and my r prayer came in unto Him."

"what part of Abbieann did you come from when you escaped from the flood.."???

"From the q eastern part sir.I came for or from that unto which section the flood did not come so sudden."

"Did any of the other girl friends desired thee to come with them to that disaster torn place?"

"Yes" said Jennie, and as any one may know we all had a trying experience.I have continuallyprayed for all those that have been victims of such an awful disaster which dis destroyed the city.If and if there is any grace or forgiveness for sins I beseeched Him that I may see Glandelinia brought either to reason, or be punished which ever way He desires best.For my being in the city itself, I did go, even though I was never n invited, as my friends were.They were invited by the Mayor of the city,, and my invitation was from them, wherefore at first I feared I would presume.They coaxed me and I did go.When I at first refused, Gertrude took me by the hand, and led me on.And so I did go.But I never could think, not even believe that so glorious a city, like Abbieann, would be like shesis I like she is now."

The whole party now was brought into the large yard of the Mayors home, where they were recieved by the Mayors wife, and two grown sons, who praised the whole force highly for the purpose of their mission.Then said Starring to the Mayor;

"We are highly sorry, as sorry for Calverinia and her affliction as a Saint would be for his sins, and beg of you good advise, and information what we must do to gain a easy and quick route to Abbieann, or its locality."

"I will grant to grant the permit to have passage, free passage on the railroad I will tell you" or you may succeed in your mission, probably by word and dead, by word in the promish of doing your work right well, by deed in the way you may obtain the information you are looking for.Take good arms with you though as you'll need them."He spoke many good words to them in advise advice, whereby they were greatly elated.He also led them to the top of the roof of a tall building and showed them by route they should take to reach the only open railroad, the famous Mic Hollester and Pandora or Abbieannia, Bondinia and Calverine as it is it also called, and told them clearly that that sight they would have again as they continued along in the way, to their comfort."

So he left them a awhile on the roof, where they entered into talk by themselves.And Angeline Richee herself thus began-

"Oh dear Blessed Lord, how glad I am that we have got this far already."

"So you may well say" said Radcliffe,"but I of all have cause to leap for joy. It is a splendid, exciting and interesting adventure."

"I thought for one time" said Angeline Richee "As I stood in one of of the streets in Abbieann, than when I saw such a beautiful city, and now think of what happenee, that all the labor of the nation had been lost, specially when that ugly flood made such a heavy overwhelming rush up n upon the city.."

"But my worse fears" said Jennie Turner was after I saw that the flood had destroyed a good part of the city before we were out of it, and that we were in danger of perishing with it.Now thought I then" when watching the progress of the destuction "It is fullifilled what is written" when the waters are let loose the land shall mourn.The one population shall be taken away, and the other left unbearably miserable." I had much ado to forbear crying out when I saw the buildings go before the waters " Calverine is undone.Calverinia too is undoe undone.Woe to the nation.And I was afraid to even see an any more,but when we were on that float in the river and we saw the flood bearing down upon us suddenly, I thought also we were were lost.I cannot tell, yet how we escaped, for in that dangerous flood it was a struggle betwix life and death."

"Can you not tell how you did escape" asked Radcliffe."I am sure your prayers for delibe deliverance were so earnest, that the very sound of them may have started the whole of heaven.You know an escape like you and the other girls had was sort of a miracle.I never heard of such an adventure all my life.You and your girl followers surviving through a flood horror, that took the whole nation by storm."

"Alas" said Jennie, to be in my case it would be impossible, how could I tell how we so readily escaped.We saw the water rush on us like a tremendous tidal wave down the river, and that we were helpless on a wreckage float.Yet we escaped across in time.Yet who I say was so fainted hearted as I at that moment, that I i wity with the rest would not strive to escape as we did.But pray, what said Violet, and her sisters about our escape?Were they surprised."

"Why I should say they were, to even hear of you being there.Yet I believed your escaped pleased them well enough, for they h showed no sign to the contrary.But I marvel in my heart that you and your followers had the opportunity for such a tremendous adventure.Had I known that before, I fear I should not have had heart enough to even think of venturing myself in thiscmanner.But you you went through it, and you are out safe and sound, and I am glad with all my heart heart." """"

"I think I will ask, this general gaunders of the Calverinians if you please when he comes to interview us again, why he went to view the scenes of the horrors of Abbieann.Maybe he did so to try and discover something also which would help our armies to get exicted excited enough to drive such a filthy cur as Glandelinia out of Calverinia.I hope he will not take it amiss?"

"Aye do" said Radcliffe" if we could only find out who were responsible for the disasters a and hang the guilty ones it would bebetter."

It was not so long after, when this Calverinian general came into the yard, and Angeline Richee rode up to him for she still was mounted,, and said,,.

"I would like to ask if it does not offend you for the question, wherefor did you go forth to look over the scenes of Abbieann and the surrounding country at the siht of whoen which many foriegners are ready to fly for fear?"

"Well" began general gaunders"That was a particular mission of mine, I still have another section of my force, there that has another commander, he is also kept in close contact with all investigators we know, only my force here you see returned purposely to look for you, and starring and his followers, to get them to come as we are doing this work for you at the request of Violet, and her sisters. Another company is going to come along with us, they are getting ready in the camp which

you see there at a distance, and they will soon march up here.The situation of course at Abbieann has frightened many a brave and honest foriegne tourist from worse to better from the awful scenes he has witnessed, and by the great voice ofthe roaring waters.Indeed those who made the disasters did not do it of any good will to our country or our Blessed Lord, but with the inent intent probably to keep the Calverinians from being able to open the routes to which our armies can use to go against the Glandelinian armies, and that the horrors of the disasters may also make the armies afraid to proceed anywhere through Calverinia for fear of being wiped out by a like disaster.The government tries to give the unfortunates timely help, so that Calverinia is not d delivered up to glandelinia's power to do to the helpless refugees what her devilish nature would prompt her to.My dear girl I tn trow, had you known beforehand, you would not be worrying of these disasters. It will bringevery nation on our side, which is already happening, and therefore shall a nation like wicked Glandelinia invading the provinces of Calverinia, whose disaster making will yet surely turn to the prof profit of our nation, j keep armies from moving against Hanley and his generals.That cannot be done as is already being proved.The government in short time will deliver Calverinia from Ca glandelinia, their darling state from the power of such a licked bullish country as Glandelinia."

"I confess my ignorance" said Angeline Richee, I did not understand properly when I questioned you, but we can in time j know do all things well."

Then Jennie Turner began talking of their journey, as the otherdivision from the camp in the citys square had arived.go within another hour the whole command was marching in parade down the street, being on the way, a band following and playing lively tunes.. The weather was hot and sultry, there was anew no sunshine and this was aken taken for granted of so much smoke from distant forest fires.

Now there was in the western outskirts of the town, in the way they were to go a orchard, and that orchard was city property.Many of the fruit trees that grew in that orchard shot their branches over the streett, and being permitted to, by the one in charge of the orchard, they all gathered up what they could for to eat on the way.The two girls, and Radcliffe were pleased with the teeen trees and with the fruit that hang from the branches, and they also helpled themselves and began to eat.

Time passed , and they continued on their way.No one did know what they were going to meet against on their way, or otherwise the whole column would have stayed together a and would not have seperated.Starring and his own force was some distance, ahead, and as a change of luck would have it, the Calverinians were some distance behind, the two girls, and Radcliffe with them.The former column had not gone but about five hundred yards, when the formost men being in the advance espied coming tward them on horseback, a large party of men, dressed queerly in similiar form of the "Ameria American KU.Klux, Klan but of strange gray uniforms.

with that, two of the men, raced back to warn Starring, who sent a messenger back to hurry on the rest.Not knowing who the party were, the men unslung their shoulder repeating rifles, and Starrings whole force met together, and formed a barricade on the road.Then some others came down to meet them, and Angeline Richee riding up" said to some of her followers"Stand back, do not go too far, but deploy to the rightras you should.The men in the distance seeing the array before them had halted, and Starring taking out his field glasses took a good look at them from a distance.At that moment Jennie Turner and Radcliffe, waxing very wroth at the sudden delay in their advance, came riding up.Jennie said to Starring"While the rest of the force remain behind why not you go forward a little way and engage the leader of the strange men in conversation, and see who they are before there may be a fight."

Starring decided to do so.With Her advide he and the Calverinian general rode forward carrying two standards.St arring then asked in a loud tone who they were, and he recieved an answer that surprised him;

"We are the well known Gargoylian Kurds of Glandelinia, and knowing who you and your followers are, we make no assault upon you for no other purpose but tp to prevent your progress this way.I have come out however to tell you that if you will but grant one small request which we shall ask we will go back peacefully and not start a fight."

"What is that request?" demanded Starring. He however imaginod what the leader might mean, but he wanted to be sure..He recieved answer;

"Stand back, or go peaceably back to t your camps where you came from and leave off from your expedition to Abbieann.Stand back a and be gone, for we have no secrets of that country to lose to you and your followers, and therefore if you refuse we'll do battle."

"Sturring answered;

"We will neither hear, nor regard, nor yeild to what you shall ask. We are even in haste---cannot stay, our business is a business of life and death.If you do not give way, or open ranks we'll attack you o resolves, as I am willing for a good scrap and I don't seem [illegible]."

"If you love a conflict then go to it." said the Gargoylian leader."We intend no opposition to you unless you refuse our pe e petition.Tis another thing also we Glandelinians would have."

"Ay" quoted, Starring,"you would have me abandon my expedition altogether, for I know for opposition against my movement you have come, but we all will rather fight to the death on the spot than suffer ourselves to go back and and abandon our expedition because you say so.Stand back yourselves and give us an open road or I'll order my whole force to charge."

"No" was the answer.

"Starring rode back to his command. At Starrings advi ce the two girls shrieked out to the others to come forward, and the whole rushed forward to attack the Gargoylians, who stood firm with the design to prevail against the Calverinian s but as brave and as fierce as they were, they saw themselves greatly outnumbered and the onrushing Calverinians without a single loss to a man swept all before them lining the road with dead and wounded Gargoylians and horses.

The others also came up to join in the fray, and knowing that Gargoylians had appeared, they made haste to join in the fray, but as they came up a portion of the cargo Gargoylian column had rallied rallied, and the two parties were in a great scuffle.At the coming of more Calverinians, the Glandelinians made their escape over a hill fringed with thick woods, and there threatened to make a stand. A persuit was started for Starring wished to take them prisoners but they did also make their escape through these woods, and disappeared so deep in the forest that they could not be located.Then Starring rode up to Angeline Richee who had followed closely to watch the f fray, and asked them how they enjoyed the fighting.

"She answered;

"I thank you very much, only we have been somewhat surprised, but it was it seems easy to worst them."

So after a few more words, Starring said;

"I marvelled much that you was almost in the fighting itself.You must have petitioned our Blessed Lord for help, for that may be the reason we avoided trouble and dangers, for He granted us a sure bloodless victory as we lost not a single man, nay not one was even wounded, while the enemy must have lost a hundred."

"Alas " said Angeline" I was so taken with our present blessing, that dangers to come were forgotten by us, besides who could have thought that we would in this wilderness have come in contact with a force of Glandelinians.It may be so that some main glandelinian army is close by.Indeed it had been well for us that we had asked our Blessed Lord for help, for it was only to our profit, but I wonder the Gargoylians did not come with a still bigger force than they had."

"It is not always necessary to go through these kind of adventure adventures lest by doing so, they become of little esteem" said Staring"But when nevertheless the want ofa thing is usually felt,,, it then comes under, in the eyes of those that feel it,, that estimate that properly is itis due, and so consequently will be thereafter used.Had we been prrp prepared accordingly we would not neither so have bewailed that oversight of ours, in not looking out for glandelinian enemies, as we now had occassion to do do.So all things generally work for good, and tend to make us more wary."

"Shall we go back to the town again, and get so some more men to join us?" asked Radcliffe."

"I don't think it is necessary" said the Calverinian leader."for in all places where we will be going, you will find no more danger as long as our force is reliable, for in every portion og this region, there is sufficient troops to be found to furnish us against all attacks whatsoever.But I will go back and ask for more help, for it is a poor thing that is not worth asking for.."

Chapter Thirty nine

A NUMBER OF STRANGE
ADVENTURES WHILE ON THE WAY FOR THE REGION,
OF ABBIEANN.

When he had thus spoken the Calverinian general, tward back for the town, and the remainder waited for a time until he should return, and when he returned with the reinforcement the whole column went on its way.Then said Angeline Richee to jennie Turmer ;;;;;

"What A sudden blank is here.I made account we had now been pastall danger and that we would be all right and neverse thrilling accounts more since we apparently had outdistanced the raging forestfires."

"It might be our innocency on that matter." said Jennie Turmer to Angeline,"that might es excuse us all, but as for me my fault is so much the greater, for that I saw this danger of the approaching Gargoylions from a long distance, before we met even the camp of the Calverinians, and yet did not provide for it or even report our find.I am therefore much to be blamed."

"How did you know this befr before we came in with the Calverinians?Pray tell me."

"I will tell you easily enough. Before we set out for the camp I from some high righ rise of groumf, saw a trace of these Gargoylions.But of course I did not think they knew of our intention or that they would try to block our way.This you know ug ought to have made me take heed, and warned the rest of us.But I had forgotten forgotten all about them."

"Well" by this neglect we have on occassion ministered unto us to behold our own imperfections, so our Lord anyway come to our help.For knowing our peril He has follow followed us with His unmasked kindness, and has delivered us from their power and their intention to stop our work has been frustrated. "

Thus now (cow) when they had talked away a little more time, they drew night nigh to a another small town that stood in the way, a town occupied mostly by forest rangers and their wives and families as you may as you may find fully related in the first part of these records of Starrings adventures.So they drew on tward the town.When they were shouhto enter the villiage they came pon a upon a group of people, and they overheard a great and exciting conversation among them.They listened carefully as they approached, and heard as they thought Starring, and others mentioned by name, for some reason or other, as the reader may know there went along, even before them, a talk of Starring and his followers going on this marvelous and interesting adventure, and this thing was the more pleasing to the town folk, for they had heard that Starring was a Professional Christian spy--the spy andsoldier who it is generally said most Glandelinians who know him are so unwilling to meet in open fight.Thus therefore the column halted as Starring heard the good people of the town commanding him, who they little thought was almost in their very midst.At last Starring rode up to the crowd and the leading man said as he saluted;

"Good evening general.With whom would you speak with in this crowd."

"Answered Sir a Starring;

"We understand that this is a town for ranger s and their families, and we have just arived to this villiage on a Ang tour, wherefore we pray that we may be partakers of your villiage for the night being, for the day as you know now is very far spent,, and in such a forest we are very loathe to night go to go any further."

"Pray, sir, whey the gray uniforms of you and your followers, and by what may I call your name, that I may convey it to the Mayor of the town."

"I am general Walter Starring.These are my followers.I have come all the way from general General Vivians lines.These girl scouts are also my companions.The troop of Calverinians are my escort, and are leading me on to have a chance myself to investigate the regions of the devastated Abbieann city and other places."

This man ran back to the crowd, and said to all those gathered,,,

"Can you think who is the leader of that big force of soldiers and others come to the town just now?"

"They all looked and he went on,

"They are General Walter Starring, and their troop, all waiting for loding and entertainment here."

Then the whole crowd leaped for joy.A tall stately looking man came forward and looking at Starring said;

"Are you general Starring that traveled all the way fro from general Vivians camp?"

"I am that very man.I first started out on my journey alone, but now this is my force force, and I am now convinced no way is right bushut this."

"Then for the good of our cause is to be fullfilled I hope, that which is also written of the country, that suffered from war after war and yet never lost, and for which the enemies finally repented."

"So be it amen" said Starring.O"God may make it a true saying for Angelinia and her cause, and grant that I may succeed in finding what I have been sent for and not fail, for in her cause cause Abbieannia is spotless and blaime blameless."

"But why remain out in the street sir.Come forward and share the town hall with us during your stay, we was talking of you and your followers but now, for tiding tidings have b come to us a few days before how you had set out on this aventure with your followers.Come into our bit big town hall.C Come in."

And he led them all to an immense long building, and when they were withinthey were bidden to sit down, and rest themselves, and while they all seated themselves those that attended we upon Starring and his followers, came into the great hall to see them.After a while because supper was not ready, the Mayor of the town himself came to see them. Children of the town came to look in upon the adventurers , and they all smiled for joy that they had such daring friends in their midst. The Mayor himself took Starring, and the two girlscouts and Radcliffe, nit into his significent rooms, and showed them some thin s to remember. Here therefore they saw magazines telling of the flood and explosion disasters, saw photographs of the devastated section s of Calverinia. This done a and after these things had been pondered upon by Starring and his three companions, the Mayor takes them apart aga again and brought them into a room, where there was a man sitting by a round table who was engrossed in a map, and even at their entrance he did not look up, but continued to write furiously with a pen.There also stood another man at his right right side, with a bundle of envelopes in his hand, but for a time the man who was writing did not look up or regard, but continued his furious writing.

Then said it Starring;;;;""

"I somewhat know the meaning of this;

"This man is busy on something extremely important.Is it not good sir,"T.,L

"You are perfectly right" said the Mayor."He is busy writing a report to the Abbieannian government on the discovery of the ruins of the city city of Abbieann of which he had observed.And as you see him rather give heed to try your own lo luck at discoveries when you arive there, for it is believed by many that such a disaster is only a dream, a fable, and that such a thing never happened and that it i is only exaggerated reports.Now as it is also showed you that this man is too busy just now to be disturbed, it is to let thee know that he was successful in his investigations, and he is quite carried away by his work.When his report is finished he will send it on to the Government."

"But" said Starring" his work also shows his own part of the mind..And where you see him rather give heed to continue his work in uninterrupted, than to what any one else might expect of him, it is to show that the situation of Calverinia from the disasters, is but a terror to some, and a probable fable to others, and that things that the enemy can and would do are counted only as thi nge much to be exaggerated.Now whereas it was also showed me that while so busy the man would not look either up and down, it is to let me know that he is so engrossed in his work, that his heart is quite carried away fr m from everything else but his work for his countrys sake."

Then Angeline Richee said;

"Oh deliver Calverinia from future disasters of my Blessed Lord."

"That prayer" said the mayor "Will I hope be answered soon."Give Calverinia a better show is the prayer to day of tens and tens of millions..... Refugees and new homes are the great things now looked for....." """"

with that Angeline Richee and Jennie Turmer wept and said;,,

"It yet seems to be in vain."""

When the Mayor had showed them this for experiment he led them into the very best room on the hall, and big them look around at the pictures, and see if they could find anything profitable there that would would help them in the cayse cause..Then they looked at the pictures, going round the room, but there was nothing there to be seen but pictures and photographs of the disaster scenes, and of refugees, and yet they overlooked nothing..Then said K Jennie;

"Sir I see nothing but pictures of devastation."

But AngelinR Angeline Richeee held her peace."

But said the Mayor,

"Look again, and closer,."

They therefore looked again, and said;

"Here is nothing but a small map with a design as of a spider in the center."

"Is ty there but ne spider in the country in the map?"

Then the water stood in Jennie's eyes, for she was a little girl quick of apprehension, and she said..,

"Yes sir, there is here more than two, yea and di designs of spiders whose venom is far are destructive than that which is in a Tarantula.Those spinders on the map are Glandelinia, and her armies in Cal vCalverinia...""

The Mayor then looked pleasantly upon her, and said;

"You have told the truth."

This made Jennie blush, and Angeline to cover her face, for they all began now to understand the riddle.

"Then said the Mayor.,

"Glandelinia tries to take hold of Calverinia, with her bloody hands as you see--and is now devastating the land with fire flood and explosions to gain her ends.And wherefore is this recorded, but you must know that is is to show you, that no matter how full ofvenom of wickedness Glandelinia may be, you our own country can by the hand of faith, and trust in God lay hold of Glandelinia and throw her out in due time."

"I thought" said Angeline Richee " of something like this, but I could not imagine it all.I thought that Glandelinia and her wicked armies could be compared to wicked spiders, and that she and the armies could be compared to ugly creatures, but but that by this terrible, venemous and ill favoroured creature, we were ourselves to learn how to assume faith in God to help our country bring Glandelinia to a fall some time to come, yet for a time untill now that did not come to my mind..And Yet Glandelinia ha taken hold of Calverinia with her bloody hands as I see by the ma and dwells in the best o part of the beautiful country.Glandelinia it seems has not made the disaster horrors in vain."

Jennie and Angeline looked upon one another and then bowed before the Mayor. After this he led them into a smaller room where there was a number of children playing playing, and bid them observe a while.Soono some of the children went to the window to look out.

"See" said the Mayor, " these children, how innocent they are and what they do, and learn what could happen to them any time because of such foul e enemies as the Glandelinians are.Observe and lok look see what they do now."

So they gave heed, and observed that the children took time to say their prayers when called for supper.

"Now" said the Mayor "Compare, these children, supposing they were your own. "Think well how you would feel if they were victims of flood"..."

"And sir, said Angeline Richee," Pray let us see a little more."

"So he led them into another room, where there was a picture of our Lord hanging upon the cross."Then said he;

"You must learn of our Lord to suffer for his sake, just as we Calverinians put up wrongs without murmurunigs and co complaint c complaints even when wicked Glandelinia devastates us.Behold how quietly He had taken his His most cruel death at the hands of his wicked enemies, and without objecting e suffereth them to nail Him to the Cross.We claim Glandelinia done to Him what she has done to Calverinia."

"After that he led them into a beautiful garden, where grew a great variety of flowers.And he asked;

"Do you see all these?"

"Yes," said the girls.

"Then said he again;

"Behold these beautiful flowers are unusually b divers in stature, in quality color and smell and virtue, and un many are better than others.But think if the enemy came here and saw them, he would devastate them."

Then as they were coming in from the flower garden, he led them into a field which he had sowed with wheat corn and grain and other crosp, and he said;

"Thisground was dung,ed and ploughed and sowed, but what would the enemy do with the crop."

"Then said Jennie;

"The enemy would destroy it."

"Yes, the enemy would" said the Mayor as he led them on tward his house again. "We want to beware that the enemy do not cause a terrible famine in our land."

"Yes, said Angeline Richee."Glandelinia is am an emblem very apt to set forth before the world of her menance, for to sight Glandelinia as as dangerous as a fabled dragon, horrible of features,, color and carriage, the wicked country like the dragon seem also to have a very great love for disasters and fires, and to gobble up her victims, and above all other to acc associate with and be in com pany with other dragons as wicked as herself, if only she can seize all cou good countries and put them unar her power..Glandelinia pretends also that she is to take charge of goodly things, but when she is by herself as the snake, she can catch up and gobble up christian people, she can change her diet,, drink the worse of iniquity, and swallow down the blood of her victims like wine."

They had not entered the big hall again, and as supper was not ready, Jennie and Starring again desired that the Mayor would either show or tell of some other things of profit for the adventure."

Then the Mayor said it;

"Themore devastations Glandelinia causes, the more she desires to make to gain her wicked end, therefore she is more o prone to evil.The more stronger she

she is the more gamesomely she goes forth to try and conquer the christian cal cause, , and the mo more ammunition she has the more she'll blow us up. There is a desire in the Glandelinian Government to conquer the world itself, and it is a comely thing to be thought of, when in God's sight that in her cause is a world breaking crime.Tis easier said than done, is easier for one to say he,ll do this and he ll do that, than to hold out as he should in the end.Every caption of a great ship in a hurricane will willingly cast overboard what endangers his ship.But he does not throwcout the best first.One lik leak will sink a ship, one blunder in your expedition will destroy our cause as sure as a mortal sin will destroy the sinner who suddenly died without repentance.

The proverb is that those that makes disasters upon others will suffer disasters unto themselves.The nation that wars in unfairness, and looks for success is like the man who lives in mortal sin, and looks for happiness hereafter, and yet sows cocke cockle, and thinks to fill his barn with wheat or barley..Such disasters proves that Glandelinia wicked as she is cannot be trifled with, and therefore proves the effects of sin in the world.If Glandelinia loves disaster making, and does not live well, then disaster will always be her company maker..If the world which God sets light by, is counted a thing of that worth with men, then why leave Glandelinia to possess it if she cannot or will not amend.! Every nation is crying against the doing of Glandelinia, but who is there among the nations affected with the goodness of God who takes her part?None?.Nowadays our people seldon set down to eat, that disaster of some kind does not stalk us as prey, and there has been and is more disaster horror than the whole world has need to dream of."

When the Mayor had finished speaking, he led them out into his big garden again and led them to a line of trees, one of which was rotten and destroyed inside, yet it grew and had lots of leaves and whole and entire branches.Then asked Gertrude Angeline;

"What is the meaning of this?"

"This tree" said he whose outside is fair, and which yet is ver rotten inside, it s is to which many may be compared that are the suffering in the garden of God, who like Calverinia suffer for Him.and despite of thier misery speak of God and His Heavely host with their full heart, and in behalf of him Him, whose leaves despite their suffering and ass loss are fair, and their hearts are almost like His, and wish the devil to be tinder boxes for the flame."

About ten minutes later supper was ready, the table being spread for starring and his whole force, and every thing placed that every body likes to eat.So they seated themselves, selves said ther grace before meals.And the Mayor to be more good did un usually entertain those that lodged with him with hymns and music and speeches at meals, so the band came and played..When the supper, songs and music had ended, the Mayor asked Starring, what it was that at first did move him to start out on the mission to discover why the enemy made all the disasters so listed since October 1912.

Starring after some ponder on the subject answered;

"It was no invitation of mine.But I,ll tell how it happened.First, Violet and her sisters tried to do it, and failed, the loss of their efforts came into my mind, at which I heartly grieved grieved, but al that was natural affection.Then after tha for several weeks came the news of so many series of other disasters following closely upon one another, and like a churl I reviled the Glandelinians for it.The guilt of Glandelinia and the horrors of the scenes I heard of and read of came to my mind, I dreamed of the horrors time and again, and finally one day I was talking of it kind of excitedlu t excitedly to my own officers unconsciously in front of The Vivian Girls who overheard me."You are just the man we wished to see" said the girls and they then beseached me to try it myself telling me of their plans to try too.I went after I recieved a report from some source that they did not win.The horrors of the disasters, and the result they might bring in the future if they continued forced me to this way."

"But met you with no opposition before you set out. ?"

"Not right away.I was able to go about nearly fifty miles, untill I came to a stream. Here I was shot at from ambush.Many of my officers fearing for my safty had pried to persaud me not to undertake it, every ne urged me,and tried to do what they could to dishearten me to it, the hardships, perils and troubles, I may meet with in the way, but all this I went through so far and got over pretty well. Of course If I knew the future and knew my mission would be of no avail, I really would give it up now.Many have tried to make me miscarry in my journey, some of the forest fires have troubled me and my followers mch, yet it still runs in my mind, and makes me afraid of every glow I see lest a forest fire should surprise me and my whole force and do us a at of mischief, and to turn me out of my way or force me to alter my course.Yea I tel you sir, though I would not have every body know it, that between this town and another smaller one, we w r were halted by a column of Gargoylian Kurds, but we were the better in the fray, and fortunately came off without a single loss though the fighting was hot."

"Your beginning's is good" said the Mayor, thy latter end should greatly increase. But you'll be soon in enemy territory I'll warn for for all of the Abbieann flood region is possessed by the foe now and many armies abound there which are fierce and more dangerous than a flock of big Blengigloemean creatures are to the enemy.go be on your watch."

Then he addressed himself to Radcliffe himself and said to him;

"And what moved you my boy to follow the general."

"The Vivian Girls had me do so sir."

"I see.And you Angeline.why did you do it?"

"Tr,l Truly sir, my want of experience in answering such questions makes me surprised to have to answer, but it is the same reason.I know the whole country of Calverinia as I do my AN A.B.& C'c and therefore I was asked by Violet and her sisters to accompany him and be his guide.When the forest fire hit general Manlays camp and frustrated our work, and drove us out for dear life, we took a short cut, and here Violet and her sisters knowing you have also gone"Now speaking for a moment to starring," suggested I and Jennie follow you and Radcliffe too, Gertrude Angeline coming to meet us before we reach Abbieann.Violet said she must sent us sir to go to aid starring as his journey at the earlest part near the forest would be dangerous and then they told us how to take the route to find him.We had a hard time to locate him, as hard as if we did not know the country for though we could follow his tracks the forest fires frustrated our evermove to find and join.We could not get through anywhere.I sent Radcliffe occassioanly occassionally forward to scout, and then he would only return and say though he too located horse prints in the roads and trails, yet a forest fire was coming and we would have to beat a hasty retreat.Now I thought, while he was telling these things to me, my heart burned within me, and I said in my heart if this be true , we will be compelled to leave off our hunt, and will have to go back to better places places.so I asked radcliffe further of the truth of these things, and asked him if we should return to the lines and give up the hunt, for I thought I saw no hope of finding starring and his friends, but he refused to give up, he being of a kind that nevers gives up in anything, he is stubborn at that and desperate too.So I continued on with a heavy heart, when suddenly we came upon Starring and his followers unawares.While we were on the search for him, he had found us."

"Your setting out was good, for you have given credict to the good."Said the Mayor."You are a good girl scout who did for the love of Country and God leave the safty of camp and army to come out, and go with a force of scouts on the most risky of missions.The Lord recompense your work, and a full reward be given you of the Lord God of Israel, and aid you to help Starring succeed in his worthy mission."

It took half an hour before supper was ended, and then preparations were made for bed, the little girls going to their own quarters, and the boys and men and officer officers by themselves.. Now when the tow girls were in bed,they could not sleeep sleep for joy, for now that her doubts as to the outcome of the mission was ended,, they therefore lay blessing and praising God, who had such favor for her and her friends.

When the sun rose in the morning of the gloaming, they arose, and prepared for their departure, but nevertheless loathing to have them go so soon, the mayor desired for them to remain for a little while longer, for he said to them;;;

"It is best for you to go in better position."Then he said to one of his servents-"Lead them to Bredring creek, and there allow them all to swim to their hearts content, so they can therefore be clean from the soil which they all have gathered by long and hard traveling....."

The servent therefore led them, tward the large creek outside the little town, and told them what the mayor had said.They were indeed glad of the opportunity, and they surely went in and washed to their hearts content, having lots of fun in the waterrr water, they and gthe children and all, and when they came out of that most,,, glorious swimming not only sweet and cleannn, but also much enlivened and and strengthened in their joints, but they looked better a good deal, then when they first entered the town,.When they returned out of the woods back into the town, Starring thought to himself when he looked upon the girl scouts"Fair as the angels" They were then again interviewed by the mayor, he said to the servant,-

"Go into the vestry, and fetch out proper garments and disguises for these advent urees adventurers."

And he venting in, and fetched out all kinds of clothing, civilian and other more like those worn by glandelinians than anything else, and they all took their choice and put on what they found fitted to a T. The girls choosed to retain what they had but Radcliffe and Henrod put on something new and funnier.When they were all thus adorned, they seemed to be a surprise and a joke to one another, for some even were dressed like strange clowns..The child scouts also stood in

amazed to see into what fashion all their comrades were brought.. As they were then all ready to continue on their journey, Starring and the Calverinian general went before them, the girls also being in the lead, and the Mayor said " God speed." All who followed for a little distance in the town, crowds of people, followed and cried out all sorts of good wishes.

Now they continued on, and as before Starring and the Calverinian general was before them, and after traveling several hours they came to a large glen.Here then they made a pause, to rest and bless God.

"Now" said Angeline Richee"It suddenly comes to my mind, what was once said to us when we first started out to wit, that when we come closer to the region of Mullen town near Bengal County, that we should be more on our guard.What we should guard against of that I know and suspect something, but what else we should meet with we do not know..I sopp suppose general Francis I suppose you know whereof if you please, let us hear your discourse thereof."

"The general looked at her and said;

"Main thing to be is watchful, for if we are watchful success can be obtained by some one for another, that had need of success thereof, not by the persons doing nothing however,, but in the way for another, in which he rightfully has obtained it.So then to speak, to the question more at large, the success that you and the others with you including all those who may help you in the future and the girl scouts also would have attained would be onlt obtained by the help of God , to wit, by Him that died for all of us, and if we all have faith in Him He will obtain it in even a double way.He can do anything to cover you and us during worthy adventures, even though He spilt blood for the saving of all sinners, including Glandelinians also."

"For a moment Jennie pondered, and then she said;

"But suppose He does not see that the petitions for our success would be worthy, h what will He do then!"

"That is almost a doubting question." said the general reproachfully."Anyway we ourselves should know whether a petition is worthy or not, our conscious should warn and tell us that. To pre pray for something not worthy is a sin. He has more right to grant what He might see fit for, even more than you expect or have need of, or that He sees a person needs.Its Up to him to do the granting as is best for any one.petitioning for anything he or she desires."

"How can any one make that appear" asked Angeline Richese.

"With all my heart, but first I must premise, that He of whom we spoke of this moment knows what is best for all of us, and if any pray prayer is a worthy one it cannot go unanswered..As we know the great disasters have two natures, one flood, the other explosion, both plain to be distinguished, also also to devide. Yet without a true cause and responsibility know, they are something which it is impossible to stop the enemy from doing.Into each of these kind of disasters, a strange mystery belongs, and each mystery is absolutely essential to their natures.so that one may easily cause as it seems nature to almost be exte extinct, the other can devastate the whole land.Of these unusual disasters therefore not only Calverinia but her sister states are made partakers therefor so as that they or any of them shouldto looked into before they and their nature are again sent upon us, or otherwise probably they'll come as far as Abbieannia yet.Besides these there is a disaster which is however only one.And this is not only the unusual forest fires as distinguished from flood horrors, nor the flood terror as distinguished from the forest fire, but a series of disaster horrors which seem about to come combine in the nature of many into one at one time, and may properly be called the conplication of Record breaking disasters of a warfare beyond comprehension that is essential to Glandelinia being prepared to the capacity of dominating Calverinia and her sister states.If for instance these big forest horrors would part into several it could orpbably part into worse disaster for our states wherein they retaining into one stretch does not therefore spread beyond measure as yet, if the forest fires parts into a scor of di d different ones, they could gradually form as many big ones that wou would destroy the forest lands of the whole state.The disaster storm has therefore another standard of its own which make their their own performance, or drama beyond what any moving picture could fortell, and that is it it puts upon other sections of the forested country, the whole state would be covered by fire."

"But without our success in our interprize would the cause of country be of any avail to us?"

"No I don't believe so, for the enemy therefore could devastate us into sub mission.These disasters are essential to the success of Glandelinia in her own interprize I'm sure, and it is by their effects and the nature of them that the extent and frequency of them justifies Glandelinia for her success, and is for that purpose efficacious.The knowledge of the day of our land gives capability to the efforts of Glandelinia to succeed, and the nature of every kind of disaster that sweeps over land and sea and hill and through the forests gives full prr proof to the results if we fail to do the work for which we are ordained. So t here then

here is a nature of the procaols greatest of all disasters so far, and that is of the horrors of Bengall County County, for the calamity is can calamity without parallel, here is a disaster that i wipea out a nuape number of biggest cities in our country, for it is a perfect disaster without the said otaia of nature ...g again here is a nautre of the disaster that no one can explain, its strange force, like a hundred volcanoes, the nature of the disaster, which no one knows of, yet is perfectly devastating throughout a good part of the state.Here then too is another nature that the explosions, as force, extent of shock and vibration, has no explanation with reference as to the effect, and therefore no one can justify its true cause.Hence it is called the Mystery explosion.This explosion which blasted cities like a volcano did on Matrinque but a hundred of them and in the same fashion with hot cloud and flame has made more devastation byshock resulting flood and force, than anything known since History t started recording the events of the world, for the law only does bind historians to do so much in historical facts and no more, wherefor no one knows why the explosions occured, whether they were actual strange volcanic outbursts from the level plain orwh or whether they were explosions caused by the enemy.Now Bengal ha county had two disasters explosion and flood.And thus Starring, Angeline, and Jennie, and the rest of you that are here do the country a good deed by making this effort to learn whether the enemy did it no or not, but it was my idea that since you starring are a good investigator and a famous scientist, you should first for facts learn whether it was a convulsion of nature of explosions committed by the enemy. With repeated petitions for help from heaven God will lead you to the true facts, for it is frequently disputed that the disasters are natural and not from the enemy himself.

But again to in order to gain success for the interprize, there must be something paid to God as a offering or price, as well as something prepared to cover us withal.This sin of Glandelinia had delivered her up to the just curse of a righteous law.How we ourselves can be u justified by seeking redress, making Glandelinia pay Abbieannia g a goodly price for all the harm she has done, and this by all she can give up if she wishes to recieve quarter for her transgressions against Calverinia.As Abbieannia also wishes to save the slave children so Glandelinia in price to recieve quarter must surrender all these in general.And in the future also to save herself from destruction she must cover her polluted and feformed and deformed country with righteousness.But our success comes not without God's help.We must never cease to pray for success."

"This is the best information.Now I see there was something to be learned by our being aided by God in our interprize. So let us labor to keep this in mind, and let us and our followers remember it also.But sir was not this that made other scouts and spies successful in their interprize, and thus do some fo goofd good for the country."

"Yes it was that, no on other means am sure, and therefore gave a proof of the virtue of this that we all are suffered to carry burdens with us if we wished to succeed."

"I thought so" said starring" for though my heart was lightful and joyous before yet it is ten times more lightsm lightsome and joyous now.And am persauded by what I have felt though I have felt but little as yet that if the most bravest man in the the world was here, and did see and believe as do now, it would make his heart the more merry and blithe."

"There is only one comfort " said the Calverinian general, and the ease of the burdens of adventures brought to us by the sight and consideration of these but a an endrared affection f r for such adventures.For who in the world can if he does once but think that success comes, not only by his own efforts, but by his faith in the aid from above?""""""

"That ess is true" said Jennie," yet it makes my heart bleed to think that all of Calverinia should have to bleed because of the enemy,.Oh thou unfortunate State.Calverinia you deserve to have a goodly name in history.you deserve to have the best place in the whole Abbieannian Nation, thou hasepaid for the freedom of child slaves a hundred million times more than the best of them are worth.. No marval that the news of thy affliction made the water stand in the eyes of violet, and her sisters,, and which made them so desperate to find out how the enemy did this,. I am persauded to wish they had succeeded, but the fires inthe forests have frustrated them.Oh Angeline Richee, that violet, and her sisters and gertrude angeline were here too, yea and Mildred Maxwell too. surely , too they could share goodly in our adventures, nor could no the fear of one or the powerful efforts of the disasters to come, prevail with them to go back to the camps again, untill their mission had been accomplished."""""

" Well" said general Saunders "T you speak now in the warmpth of your affections, will it, think you, be always thus with you.Besides all the horrors of these disasters has not been yet communicated to every nation throughout the worlddd as yet bit, nor to every one who would have chanced to see them.There was some who

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stood by ,and that saw the floods of Abbieann run its course over large sections of the country at the start, and yet were so far off, that instead of lamenting, they laughed over it, and instead of coming to the aid of the stricken, did harden their hearts against the s the sight of misery.These were Glandelinians.... So you my daughters have a great mission for the sake of your country to perform. R Remember it was told to you, that God will help a worthy cause,,""""..

They were still continuing on, untill they were come to a place where there were a number of big trees growing, and behold two men were hanging from the branches.Angelino Richee and the other girls were for a moment horrified, but the Calverinian general said;

"These two men were Glandelinians of bad qualities, they were hanged for attempting to start a forest fire in this locality.You know the penalty in all parts of this country for starting fires is death.They were for starting another big forest fire themselves, and who ever they could persaude with, they made follow their wicked incendarial ways too, and withal taught them to presume that they should do well at la t last and succeed by great fires by driving all christian armies out of the country.They were caught in the act of starting a blaze blaze in a glen, and now as we pass by here, we see they are hanged for even the attempt to make a forest fire..."

"But could they persaude any to be of their opinion.."

"Said to be successful" said the general.They made many follow in their foodsteps.There was a Glandelinian ciz i citizen, that they persauded to help them.They also prevailed with two other men to aid them in their foul o work.Besides they brought up an ill report of the situation in Calverinia, persauding others that the christians made the flood themselves.They also brought p an up an evil report of Calverinia saying the disasters were only exaggerated and were not occuring at all.They also began to villify the christian generals, and to count the very best of them as meed meddlesome, troublesome bus busybodies, further they would call the call the cause of our country ,as more wicked than that of Glandelinia the comfort of the people of the nation as lazy, the chirs christian Catholic religion of Abbieannia a thing of no purpose."

"Nay" said Starring"If they were such, they never shall be bewailed by me,They have but what they deserve, and I think it is well that they hang so near the highway, that other glandelinians may see and take warning.But had it not been well if their crimes had been engraved upon some board or iron or brass, and left here even where they tried to do their mischief, for a caution to other glandelinians.!"

"go it is as you might percieve if you will go closer to one of the trees!"

"No not " said Angeline Richee, I" let them hang, and their names rot, and their crimes live forever against them.I think it is a high favor to the country that they were hanged before they started a blaze blaze or other wise maybe we our selves would not have been able to come hither." Thus they went on till they came at the foot of a high hill.There was a spring close by, and Starring dismounted to secure a drink.

"Lo" said he"This spring sometime before I know was clear and good, but now it is dirty and muddy, which we cannot use therefore."

"But Jennie said"How did it be spoiled.It looks like it was done on purpose.!"

"It is probably done because glandelinians are trying to frustrate our progress tward the place we intend to go" said Starring."But the water will do if it is taken up, and put into a vessel that is sweet and good, for then the dirt will sink to the bottom, and the water come out by itself more clear."

Thus therefore, Starring and her his friends were compelled to do.They took it up and put it into their canteens, and so let it stand still till the dirt was gone to the bottom, and then they drank thereof.There were two byways that were at the foot of the hill.After investigating them a little distance Starring came back and said;

"These are dangerous paths, and for some reason or other these paths are stop stopped up with chains posts, and a ditch, and yet there are it seems many who will chose to venture on these paths, rather than take the pains to go up thr up the hill s.It is a wonder they can get into these paths without danger of breaking their necks.They will venture yea, if at any time they choose a closer directioj, even if rangers do happen to see them, and call unto them, and tell them they are in the wrong way, and do bid them beware of the danger, but they I suppose do not harken.If you look a little farther, you may see that these ways are made cautionary enough, not only by these posts,and ditch and chains, but also by being hedged up, yet they will choose to go there."

"They are idle, they love not to take pains, uphill ways is most unpleasant to them.So it is fullfilled unto them as it is written" the way of the slothful man is a hedge of thorns.Yet they will rather choose to walk upon a mure, than to go up this hill, or round about it on their journey.Generally the shortest way leads to danger.."

Just as they set forward, and began to go up the hill, starring spied a envedpp thitk ev envelope thick and large lying upon the ground.

Starring picked it up and opening it, while the column had halted it read it over and was surprised by its content .

"It(s a long letter" he said written by some one whose name is not on it.But I'll read it aloud so all who are within hearing can observe;

"To Hanson Vivian,
Chief general of Abbieannian and Angelinian Armies.
Your Gracious Excellency;

"I sent in my firm and truthful report of my investigations of the recent horrors at or near Abbieann, State of ~~Cottingtt~~ M Bengall or County County. I had previously made a number of visitis visits to the region as far as I was able to make explorations and was somewhat familiar with its topography and geology.My researches consisted of twenty days study of the County of Bengall, from August Ith to the Twentieth incl s inclusive. Most of the time was spent to studying the effects especially the strange physiographic effects of the volcanic eruption like explosions, the nature of the blasts,, t and the ejacta blown up by the explosives, and the procuring of evidence from eye witnesses concerning the facts of the catastrophe, and whether it was a natural phenonenom or caused by the enemy.I and my followers traveled most extensively over the surface and margins of the unusually large area of the distaster by foo foot, on boat, and horseback and circumscribed the river shores with boats.

During my stay, I was placed under repeated obligations for courtesies extended by the many refugees I met with.In the present article of my statements I have endeavored to present a good statement of the actual events of the greatest of all disasters known.The time has been too limited for me to completely describe and intrepet the data collected.As soon as I am able I shall present some further remarks of my final conclusions on the phenomena in all mazagines I can place such statements in.It is also but just to remark that the accompanying article in this long letter does not pretend to be a complete or final presentation.I will state as follows;

"The Lord rained fire and brime stone, and the smoke of the country went up as of a furnace---From the Bible. This seems with Calverinia.The present year of our unusal war seems to be one also of unusual, disaster and forest fire horrors. In Angeline Vine,, Angelinia, Calverinia, Bengall, Mullencatt and even Guatemala County Calverinia, and Avyssinkile disturbances of unusual severity, accompanied by great loss of life, flood and expl explosion and fire horror, while the regions of southeastern Calverinia and central north Angelinia State are also suffering from disasters of marked violence.Yet it was reserved for two great disaster, that of Lake Selicia, and Bengall to give us an exhibition of sudden and deadly violence and to awaken a world wide sorrow and sympathy for the sufferers of these disaster phenomena.

As we all know your Excellency, the first news of the flood outbir outburst from the Bengall region to reach the good safe parts of Ab i Abbieannia was a dispatch August Ith from the city of Pandora, to the Sacremento Journal of Abbieannia State, announcing that Calverinia was being devastated by an unusual flood from an unknown point from the north, a flood begun by an explosion several months earlier, and which within a short time was destroying more cities and towns than any other flood combined, and a report also of a rumor that Abbieann city was hit, and has entirely disappeared. It was not untill July ninth however that the frightful news followed, announcing that the beautiful and large citybof Abbieann with all its inhabitants had been annihilated on the preceding day of the flood by the force and shock of a terrific series of volcanic like explosions that blasted towns and cities for miles around like Mt Pole did to St Pierre in the island of Martinquq.

As horrible as are unusual explosion disasters, they are always exaggerated in the first reports, and the whole nation at first really laughed the news to scorn, saying it was the greatest joke of all ever heard of, and refused and were loathe to believe that a city of eight million inhabat inhabitants had been swept into eterninty i within fifteen minutes as was described, and then the remains of the city, with all the bodies in the ruins being swept away to no one knows by an ensuing flood.Sitting in my office where at the time I was preparing a long deferred report upon the na tur nature of floods of the past, to be published by the presses in two cities the news was made known to me by reporter of the Pandorax Daily Herald, who asked me to give him some information, upon the nature of of explosions of the past, andcwhether they were greater than eruptions of volcanoes or not.From that moment untilll I started off for the region to see ifthe truth was there, I was besieged by all kinds of reportsers and correspondents for information, but I could not give any.I had no information to give.

9-2-06

On Agud August Feiet, the officers of the Geminian Investigation Committee requested me to accompany them on the expedition for not only to investigate the region of unusual calamity but also on a relief expedition, which was to sail on the following morning.Being a dangerous trip at first I hesitated, but finally finally not wishing to be a coward, I after having a years Masses said for me during the meantime joined the river shipp, and on the morning of the thoid was well on down the big Mic Mic-Hollester River, headed for the scene of the disaster..... We had hardly settled ourselves on board this river man-of war, for we need such a ship because we heard the region of disaster now is in possession of Glandelinia. armies in many plce places, when we began to speculate concerning the conditions which we would find awaiting us when we reached the scenes of Bengall County first.. Every where down the course of the river we saw desolation for many miles desolation seeming never to come to an end.Immediately following the news of the unusual catastrophe at Abbieann proper, tward where we were literall, heading, the report were full of accounts of many startling phenomena. Among t ese these may be mentioned the rumors that the top of a hill had been leveled by the concussion, thatva whole town had been blown away by one of the explosions, the top of a hill from another, that no volcanic eruption of all volcanoes going off at once could compare to a single one of these explosions, that the region of the river by being drained by leveled levees were rivers no more, that the entire norty coast coast of Lake Selicia near the explosion region had disappeared, that the level of the lake has sunk one thousand feet, that up north few streams of water were flowing and that the configuration of the landscapes in Bengal County had been changed from the shocks. Finallybas we left Mildred Greensonia town the afternoon papers pre printed rumors that Mildred Greenburg city had been devastaed by flood, so that for many days we sailed in ignorance of the still worse conditions than even reported awaiting for us.

From all parts of Abbieannia also came notices of accompanying phenomena that seemed impossible but which happened. .Craters as big as those of volcanoes were found where the explosions had occured.Some craters were seven miles wiue,.The earthquake shocks produced by the explosions were reported from Sacremento "Abbie aiina Abbieannia State to Glandelinia,, red sunsets were really seen in distant parts of the land where forest fire smoke did not obscure the sky, floating bodies and debris picked up far from the scene of the record breaking disaster. Even recently it has been reported that the surfan surface of Bengall par County had caved in since the disaster, which we ourselves actually seen with our eyes, and that those who first discovered this unusual fact, was coming to Genton city the State Capitol of Bengal County to see if h it had suffered a similiar subsidence.We ourselves went there, and there is no trace of the city.We were horrified. How glad would be the fortunate result if we could only have found that most of these reports had been only founded upon imagination, or over excitement and over enthusiasm, but this is not really one third told..Two floating islands are in the river, and one almost crashed into our boat.

It will be impossible for me in this letter o to take up each letter or rumor and dissect it specifically, but I shall lengthen this letter for your benefit and shall endeavor to present every fact which has come under our obser vation or been recorded by me from the lips of witi witnesses, la leaving to the end the presentation of deductions concerning the immediate cause of so world record breaking a disaster,

We all know by now, that hurricanes of forest fires, plagues,, and terrific massacres, battles, buring of cities and towns, and other war dramas have played terrible havoc with the whole states of Angelinia, and Calverinia, but the awfulll awful calamities resulting from such dreadful explosions, and floods were some of which they hardly dreamed off.....As we soon when we reached the Explosion territory , within the region of Mic-Hollester Run, and a portion of the Lake Selicia pegion, on the southeast corner of Bengal County, two of some of the most serious of the explosions were the most appalling and destrucive the world had ever heard of or observed.Near Mic-Hollester North Bend, ten miles west of Lake Selicia, and one mile of Hihi Adeleheid, the scene appears as if the whole country side had literally erupted.This explosion was a most fatal and far reaching cataclysm being equaled only to the eruption of ten thousand times the probable force of the well known volcano Krakatoa, excepting this former is not an eruption as the nature of the region proves.In the town of Adeleheid II,000 persons were buried by falling debris in a single moment,, and from the concussion of this and succeeding explosions as the scene is from a height, ruin was wrought within the whole region as far as we can observe.The crater caused by this explosion is several hundred feet deep, and is partly f full of muddy water. The crater is fenced in by almost steep banks.It is two miles wide and six long... some force this explosion must have had.

The second scene of explosion is near St Vincent De Paul town, where the terrific mine eruption was double to that between Mic-Hollester North Bend and Adeleheid city, for it buried the whole territory for scores and scores of miles

in debris, and from the scenes there it is doubtless on that occassion that the concussion made some monsterous landslides as seen in that locality where many unknown numbers lost their lives.Though the explosions occured at midnight the thickness of the clouds as some survivors I interviewed told m darkened the sun for an entire day and spread over two hundred miles of land and over ruined towns and cities.The volume of shock changed the whole configuration of the landscape. split up hundreds of of miles of land into innumerable fissures or cracks, and leveled whole forcest forests from the concussion.

Of course you r gracious Excellency is by now surely aware of the general features of this great national tragedy which took place in June .This article,,,, of the li letter will point ouid so far as can be learned from the reports of to day the essential features of the great catastrohpe and their interpretation. As witnesses said to me the people of the destroyed city of Abbieann looked upon their part of the state i with pride and love....The charming ravines, rivers, and forests and rolling hills were the homes of myth and legend of religious worship and the big rivers pleasure reso rts resorts.That because of explosions the waterways here would visit the city with disaster, the inhabatants could not believe.But the people now gone, had as witnesses told me felt the shocks of ogn other far distant explosions.During the first greatest horror at Lake Selicia there were some shocks that vibrated Abbieann, rather unusual occurances in this history of all parts of Calverinia, although some of its ne ighboring states are quite given to real earthquakes but of no severe nature.

The explosions at Lake Selicia in that fatal October or November 1912 startled the city,, and when day broke the pwopl people found their hourstops and streets covered with mud, grass, twigs of trees, ;ayers of stone clar, and even sand and gravel which gave the city the aspect of having been visited by a strange eruption which might have vomited this strange ejecta, and this debris covered all the country between Abbieann, Wickey Lansin, Violet Paul, and i Irientown.The city of Abbieannia however was not inu injured by this explosion.soon the scene passed and Abbieann forgot the intimation which the wicked enemy had given of what was to come in the future.

Just when the present explosions of such force came no one can tell, but many who survived told me that before the terrible blasts, tha there had been all day and part of the night of May 31th a series of smaller booming of a far distant nature rolling like thunder.A woman living at the town of St Trease which alone survived stated that on May 3 Ith at seven oclock in the evening, she heard sixteen district shocks or reports in a long thundering roll in the direction of Lake Selicia which were so great that in her home the dishes from thrown from the cop cupboard shelvescand broken, the house rocked, and the furniture danced the tango and highland fling. These your Excellecy as she said were the first effects of the present series of more disasterois disasterous explosions that destroyed the big city and many others and let loose such a record breaking flood.

At the same time others said they had seen a great cloud of powder colored smoke tward Adelheid Junction, and from that hour untill the catastrophe at Abbieann smaller explosions had occured.These were noticed from seven to eight thirty. At eight thirty several children of the town of St Trease observed a roll of smoke rising from a distant plain from a high hill they stood on, and in the slowly gathering darkness the cloud was a remarkable black mixture of cloud of different black shades. Another eye witness had discovered what should have been an alarming fact that strange men had been seen in the region several days before, just at the time when the distant landscape many miles away had been emitting strange clouds of smoke for three minutes, but the smoke seemed to have b en been produced so normally that even those who were always inclined to looke on the dark side of things seemed not to even think of a coming catastrophe.

For a strange reason or other, in many near by towns there came borne on the wind a blizzard of dust, for a moment for those outside in the streets breathing became uncomfortable, eyes were dust filled, and some chocked.At this time ominous rumblings were heard at Abbieann, and white clouds rolling upward spread over the sky.At that time strange fine dust fell over the i city.Rivers began for an unknown reason to swell, and some streams became raging torrents, carring carrying debris and dead fishes in the current. At eight oclock at night the first series of real alarming shocks occured, and debris of trees and gravel and grass and even flunks of water fell on the west side of Abbieann.Coud thi could this have come from the explosions many miles away.After this date it was continually noticed that columns of debris and earth had been hurled up by a blast ten miles north of Adelheid.This occured at eight oclock but its effects did no harm to any city or town.The rivers were of a dark hue, and as shocks repeated and fearing it was of a strange natural phenomon phenomena many began to depart from the town.When it grew dark flames accompanied with rumbling noises lighted the sky causing wide spread terror.On thi c this hour the first railroad line

disrupted north of Abbieann at an unknown distance from the w city.A rain of of debris torn from the earth began for a few moments, and the action of the river prevented river craft from reaching Abbieann.After eight thirty oclock the strange incident ceased, and a calmer state prevailed, although some smoke clouds still seemed to rise near the city of Adelheid.

Strange to say, however a stream of muddy water as witnesses told me flowed out of place over the landscape, and reached the big river,, Micholleater in three mu minutes, and in its r ush the strange flood swept from its path, plantations, towns, factories, cattle, farmers poultry, and hundreds of people over a breadth of of fourteen miles wide and six y miles long along the Mic-Hollester Run branch.

At the junctions of the river stood the town of La Palos one of the finest villiages in that section.It was completely entombed in muddy water.Church spires alone coul. be as observed above the flood.It is estimated the people of the whole town had perished, but the officials give a somewhat smaller number.And this your Excellency,before the main and horrible disaster..... At the same time a most remarkable phenomenon occured during the rush of the muddy water tward and into the Mic-Hollester River.The river first apparently slightly receded, all along that section for a distance of about two miles, and then overflowed elsewhere with g gradual strength covering a large landscape not far from Adelheid and swamping the city in some places to a depth of three feet.This created a general panic, and the terror stricken people were said to have fled to the hills, though later the river resumed its normal course without doing any great damage. At that time the most terrible detonations were heard hundreds of miles to the miles to the northwestward , at short intervals, and continued untill midnight when the main and most frightful crashes came. In Abbieann city at this time the electric lights for a unknown reason failed, but the city was lighted by strange flashes of from from the far distance.Terror stricken the inhabitants of other towns thinking the very earth was breaking out into volcanic eruptions rushed for the hills scream ing and wailing.

It happened that at seven thirty oclock the railroad lines from Cav Calverine to Abbieann and Wickey Lansin was swept away to the west. Gemini Mendi who published a news of the disasters of the south, noticed that the river Mic-Hollester at this time was furnisheding furnishing a hundred times the volume of the greatest power and carrying even stones and rocks weighing many tons, and even ships could make no headway against the current.But this occured before dark,,,Some refugees from Wickey Lansin stated that on the hour of Seven fifteen most terrible detonations broke from the direction of the straustraight north at short and irregular intervals accompanied by dense powder smoke and lurid flashes which are seen in distance explosions.

This was awful so early in th the evening but when darkness came on it appeared much more terrible.This awful phenomena was so terrible that even in Abbieann people in their night clotges carrying x crying and frightened children, and lighted by any sort of lamp and candle they had caught up in their haste ran out into the dark streets wailing and screaming and running aimelessly up and down the streets. the mental strain becoming unbearable, and refugees from towns near by go on board ships and started off for the north for safty.At quarter to eight, the distant explosions apparently were in full sway.The detonations were heard as I was told as far as Calverine for half an hour, and thick clouds overshawoed the whole northwestern horizon line.The town of Handon was abandoned because of the awful concussion, and debris fell in Abbieann.Debris fell even in Wickey Lansin. a foot of earth, grass and all kinds of ground and other debris was reported even in the Lake Selicia Region, and the majority of same debris fell in Abbieann.People who survived former disasters were departing from Wickey Lansin, on foot to neighboring villiages, and by river steamer to Calverine.At this time all telegraphic and wire communication between a hundred cities was interrupted. There were six main line trains leading to Abbieann city, all of wh which were eventually broken or destroyed. The hour before the end, was one of horror in Abbieann and elsewhere, though the strange distant phenomena did not seem so vivid as before.Detonations like the heaviest parks of artillery were heard from seven thirty to quarter to eight.People as far as Pandora(Calverinia?) heard detonations as of artillery firing in their streets..These even reached as far north as Calverine, and as far south as Francis Atlanta.

Similar detonations were heard even in Mic--Hollester City but these were believed to have been from some other source.At that moment the telegraph operator at Adelheid recieved a message from the operator at Wickey Lansin saying;

"Great concussion felt here, don't know how long I can hold out. Many buildings have fallen.Great horror raging in Abbieann.Buildings falling there as if from an earthquake." simultaneously the Counsel at Violet Paul sent a message to the railroad telegraph office, and was informed that all railroad communications were broken, great concussions were shaken shaking down cities and towns a elsewhere. before this untill midnight the frequent detonations had apparently ceased, and the Mayor of Abbieann in the town of Wickey Lansin at the time tried to stop the panic

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whih which the strange disturbance caused. He declared that probably some big battle was raging near somewhere, that the danger they feared would not incr use that there was no great volcanic activity anywhere, and sent a large detatchment of soldiers t ally th ally the panic, and help those who wished to leave to get the earliest boats and trains and other cars still ra running, and later he himself went with his wife and children to Abbieann, where they too were killed, when the great disaster.

At about twelve twelve, June the Foist, the steamer Gertrude then approaching Abbieann, and her fate,,, reported strange flashes all along the distant horizon and the sky was red elsewher , and something like rain was falling, aloth although the night was fair, and the moon and stars bright and clear..Indeed the rays of the rising moon had hardly descended over the eastern hills,, back of Abbieann on the midnight hour of June the Foist, when at fifteen a after twelve , as witnesses tell me of other towns a great series of most terrible apparent eruptions occured raging half an hour at different points in a perfect rolling fusellade, and not only suddenly destroyed the city of Abbieann and its probable eight million five hundred thousand people, all river craft and ships in the river anchorage, and all the country places within a region of fifty miles, but devastated many towns and villiages in almost the same fashion as Mt Pelee destroyed the city of St Pierre so many years ago.The phenomena of these series of most enormous immeasureable explosions so far as I have been able to ascertain then were as follows;

The witnesses.....Witnesses of these terrible events were indeed numerous, but there were not many of them who survived.Of these I personally interviewed the captian of the Steamer Gertrude, Captian Horne, and his engineer and so e some others, who witnessed the event from the river side, and about fourty others who observed it from the landside mostly soldiers on guard in a camp of troops near by.I have also carefully preserved the printed reports of many other witnesses. Some of the witnesses of the first supposed eruptions because of the darkness could only see a portion of the phenomena. Six persons at Mt Salisbury whose stories are the most intelligible of those from the landside could see the explosions but intervening hills and forests obscured their view of the river and the city itself itself.This also was the case with many others, who lived northeast of Abbieann.The witnesses from the ships could see the sequence of the apparent eruptions, but as the edges of the des dense black masses of smoke approached them the cloud itself overspreading land and river cut off their full observation of what was taking place in the city which could be seen by observers from the shore side, though of course they heard the awful noise of falling buildings.All of the witnesses on the ships many of them frightfully shaken, and injured were too busily engaged just then in securing their own safty to devote their attention to the strange phenomena exclusively.About twenty twenty have given unusually intelligible and accurate accounts of what they witnesses. These were the crews of a steamer called the Anna.I was associated for some time with the latter for a week upon our return on the ship.Many other witnesses have noted most important angle facts.

Another man who did not like to give me his name, but who was a farmer near Abbieann, and whose miraculous escape from the city before midnight, informed me that the needle of a large aneroid barometer batometer hanging in the house at which place he was visiting fluctuated violently, and this fact determined hm him to leave the city.These fluctuations were undoubtedly disturbances in the air from the other distant explosions heard before the destructive blasts came. Professor Hansonia who was an astronomer of the Abbieann observatory at the time of the unusual catastrophe was on his overlooking plataus about fourty miles from the city.He told me he heard an immeasureable roar of detonations, when the disaster took place, describing it as a hundred thousand volcanoes erupting in one places with all their force at once.Jeanie Evans, a foreman of the Meldorn farm equally as far from Abbieann, but northwest, also told me that there was a roll of the most frightful and lowest detonations he had ever heard in the direction where the apparent eruptions came from.All witnesses agree that Abbieann and many other towns and cities near her were overwhelmed by the concussion, and by terrific landslides that buried many villiages with an unknown loss of life.Great clouds from the explosions also wrecked and destroyed towns, which travled with great rapidity over the cities nearest the crash.One witness said he saw a great series of black clouds boiling upward in great balloon balcon balloon or mushroom sh shapes with numerous rolling convolutions, dissipating above, and floating away in great horizontal ribbons. preceeded by tremendous flashes.According to the engin eer of the ship called the Gertrude, was looking at strange glows in the sky tward the northwest, and suddenly noticed there were about fourty miles away about a series of enormous apparent eruptions, big puffs of smoke coming as if from hundreds of volcanic eruptions at one time which mushroomed and spread out, and accompanied by a deafening thundering rolling sound, which shook the ship and tossed the river into great waves.Then after a noticeable interval interval, there

there was again a second series of apparent eruptions a hundred times worse than the first, and whih lower portion of the clouds did not ascend but suddenly fell and rushed down tward the ship, and the city of Abbieann in ten great horizontal puffs. No one could tell what caused this part of the freaks of the explosions, but on seeing this which was known as one of the first fatal apparent eruptions, the crew of the ship ran down into the engine rooms.One of them with the Enginner Engineer when all was quiet again took nerve enough to return on deck, though strangely burned and suffering as they were, and saw a third and apparent more severe eruption at a longer distance which took place about three minutes after the second one.There were quite a number of others after that, at which the engineer described the very landscape seemingly to open over an area of twenty to sixty miles, at a point probably fourteen miles northeast of Abbieann followed by a most terrific eruption of flame and smoke accompanied by a most immeasureable roar that he could not describe.The captian of this ship had a clear view of that locality but not of the city of Adelheid, and of the nearest explosion. However he saw a most big and dense column shoot up and sideways from the surface of the earth full of fire to the very top, which spread out like one of the biggest of thunderheads seen at the approach of a du distant thunderstorm.The cloud was full of fiery flashes, which even soared above the cloud and fell like fiery rain with a great hissing.Then e was terrified to see the cloud coming forward tward the river still retaining its fiery color, and he ran for to go below deck.He declared the cloud did not go up in the air however like a volcanic eruption, even though of course it went very high probably thousands of feet but not like a volcanic eruption and it spread like a ball or cauliflower, and then burst into columns like clouds of smoke viewed in explosions .Three women i on deck at the time saw the immense column of smoke issue from the surface of the land at that distance which as they claimed at the lower parts did not rise but settled down in a fiery rain like a cloud of fire works display tward and upon Abbieann which suidenly became obscured in a dense cloud of dust and a terrible roar of falling buildings startled her.

Strange indeed was the composition of the cloud.. It's visible compo i composition was of course a most dense mass of fire heatened powder smoke which everywhere filled the air mixed with dust, dirt, sand clay and debris of all description all of which was heatened or caught fire from the tremendous flash of the exploding materials. Besides this, explosion made powder heatened gases, and superheated smoke were apparently presented as will be shown. A ton of heatened sand was found in the officers cabin on the Gertrude.From fifty to six hundred tons fell upon the docks of the bigger ship known as the St Ann, less than a foot in all the bigger explosions fell on the streets of badly shaken Adelheid.These were piled highest against the northern section.Examination proved it all ground debris, and fragments of trees and stones.

The immense clouds as seen approaching from the source of the apparent eruptions were dense, opaque, and of the varied colors produced by the blasting of high explosives added with a brownish black color.It's size and density was so great as to obscure the whole sky over the scene and to cause more total darkness of positions it enveloped than the night hours did.The cloud not all of smoke but debris also was heavy, and the lower parts which travled alon the earths configur ations driven by the forward forces of blasts destroyed everything it touched. Owing to the heaviness of the debris either shot upward and then falling, or shot horizontally, houses, estates, forests, and people on the higher elevations beyond Abbieann and other places were spared, except from the concussion, as well as forest and towns in the extreme northwestern section of the County and elsewhere. The lower part of the cloud was forced by the vibration of the blasts to advance horit horizontally through the air, at the speed of a mile a second, following the configuration of the landscape, and besides the progressive motion its con volutions surged and rolled.Many said the cloud rolled vertically.From the con cussion in the lower lands forests were prostrated, big landslides buried all villiages for nearly a hundred miles making as it is termed mountains to walk, and all fallen trees lay in one direction.And the path of the explosion clouds was from north to southeast, and the cloud came against a strong southwest wind.No one can ever I believe interpret the phenomenon.Either the cloud was hot or full of flashing fire and burning sands and dust and debris.All witnesses in towns and villiages and on the ships spared testified feeling a great heat even even when beyond its margin and great fires in forests broke out..The debris of dirt and even ground was hot for hours on the ship known as the Gertrude, and still warm about two hours after the disaster.

.The flaming debris falling upon the St Ann and other ships were suficiently hot to set some ships on fire, to cause ignition of the rops and rope and bedding to ignite woodwork, and pitch pint tar timber on the ships forward deck.

For hours the smell of powder was in the air.

Other witnesses eight ten miles northeast of Wickey Lasin felt a hot blast of powder laden air.Others on the margin of the explosion disaster testify to the

hot air and smell of powder in the air.Others have personally felt the hot blast of air from the explosions.In addition to the hot debris, some say there was an invisible heated substance in the cloud of smoke and debris which penetrated clothing without firing it and yet scorched and burned the human skin beneath as attested by the burns of many survivors, and others.It is possible that the explosions dug deep enough to touch water and shot up and forward superheated clouds of vapor or steam.

There as was plenty of testimony that the cloud of the destructive explosions were from the ernormous flash of powder inwand incandescent.Indeed all parties who that fatal night witnessed the cloud from the front and advancing and rising side testified they saw for a few moments during the uproar fmus or incandescence in it to a most terrible degree.There indeed is positive evidence that the cloud at the under section was aflame or incandescent.The engineer and some of the crew of the ship called the " Gertrude" who looked up through a skylight says he at first thought the heavens had taken fire even though his point of view was the outerrr the outer side of the destructive region. There is plenty of great evidence that from the heat of the flame resulting from the ernormous explosions that flame developed in portions of the clouds during the outbursts. All persons who witnessed the terrific explosions from any side of the region of destruction testify to seeing great sheets of flame develope within and under the clouds and and even far above them suggestive of sudden ignition of the ejected inflamable materials probably thrown up by the force of the explosion.The Mayor of Adeleheid city saw a sheet of red fire in the air following after other phenomena observed by him.

He said that in the city of Abbieann, not all of it but the extreme north side behind the smoke clouds there came sheet after sheet of flame, stating that at the time of the explosions he saw the heavens clouded with flame which descended like fiery rain in all directions with a fierce hissing roar, and then five minutes afterwards there was total darkness.He said other terrific explosions occured of more greater viol violence, and then a great cloud apparently seemed to settle over the northwest end of the city, there was a roar of falling building,s followed by a sea of flashing flame and he put his hand over his face to shut out the awrulll awful sight. He said;

"As I looked I saw an immense cloud roll upward and forward, followed by a earsplitting roll of thunder, and after having run from the shaken scene for a few hundred yards, I saw a most blinding flash over the northern part of the city. As I looked terrified as I was. there was a blinding flash of fire, and in a moment that portion of the beautiful city was in flames, while the rest was roaring withfalling buildings which finally obscured the scene with great clouds of smoke.The flame seemed to travel like lightning over that portion of the city from west to east but it was not lightning and most of it descended like a fiery spray.It looked as if something shot up with the black clouds had been ignited as soon as they been ejected."

The Mayor of Wickey Lansin but who was not in that city but in the country about ten miles north of the city saw a flash of flame within two seconds after the clouds had erupted from the ground.Many others testified that the cloud itself was not visibly afire, at the time of the explosions, but that the heat of the flashes of blasting materials inflamed all objects ejected by the force of the explosion that could burn, as well as fragments of trees and so forth, and hurled this over the north part of the city.Many said that all these blazing things when they fell set the ruins on fire.The ensusing flood the next morning had carried the fire down with it for that reason there being so many big wreckage jams and windrows afire for many weeks after the fierceness of the flood had spent itself. Tremendous displays of strange bolts and flashes were seen at the city of San Pedro Junction and San Antonio before the flood within and far above the clods clouds during the explosions.

The evidence of these flashes is indisputedly testified by many witnesses.I myseld have personally witnessed the phenomena in other big explosions already recorded which I happened to witness. Many witnesses in describing the current explosions that flashes of all kinds more like a tremendous firew fireworks display and like bursting bombs moved the length of the sky , along the horizon and overhead at all points where the explosion occured, and that the noise was too severe to describe, saying that the whole world was noise.Thise This phenomena was produced during that intense darkness for several minutes with a most beautiful and thrilling horror.Great sparks shot along the horizon also in every direction. Others distinctly and voluntarily testified to me that there was much display of fire works like display in every direction during the explosions, during the catastrophe. Though destruction of life was heavy in Adeleheid city there was no positive evidence of death from shock or concussion, nor is there sufficient data to say that there were no such kind of effects.No fulgurities even were found, no splintered trees, no shattering and most buildingsthough burned were

wrecked by concussion or shock. .The ironworkof tracks and some buildings were bent by combustion heat of the burning city.R The only apparent phenomena reported where some of the flashes were like lightning or electrity was the alleged report of a survivor who said he found a ton of commercial iron bars standing against the walls of a shop that had been fused and somewhat injured and some parts melted down..The telegraph office in Adeleheid city and its contents were burned, and that some fragments of the apparatus were thrown a hundred yards.The office was believed to be burned by the hot contents of the cloud, but surely the throwing was not due to this cause.Many of the bodies looked as if they had been struck by some unseen objects, but this could not be proven.

Important studies of the results of death in the city of Adeleheid by officials of the gemini in the the vinicity, this town having escapeed the ravages of the flood, being on too high an elevation to be reached by the torrent..It is certainly an interesting coincidence that the marconigraphs on some of the boats and in towns were made useless during the disaster. The Superintendant of the Abbieannian Coast Guard, Mr Hanson Mic -Hollester reported that the delicatly suspended magnetic needles at the many coast and geodetic survey Magnetic observatories --and ae situated at Hundondon, Abbieannia State, and the other at Borne southern Angelinia state--were violently disturbed, beginning at about the time of the unusual catastrophe at Abbieann and Bengal County is reported to have occured. The Magnetic disturbance began at all points at once, at a time corresponding to twl twelve thirteen, Abbieann loval time.This disturbance was also registerated in many foriegn countries, and in the Bl lengiglomean andcatherine isles.

There was direct oval oral testimony of explosion powder gas in the cloud and air, all silverware in the ruins of many towns not hit by flood were blackened. most of them resembling black junk, gilded picture frames and other objects were blackened like ink, and silver platters picked up in the ruins of houses were black and corrugated.Bronze silver and images made of real gold were likewise blackened, but the blackness could be removed from the gold.In fact every metal relic suspe susceptible to powder fumes and sulphur discoleration showed its blackening effect.Even twigs of many trees showed the sulph sulphurous coating from the smoke of the exploded powder.

The presence of the sulphurous powder gases was reasonably sensed. and and it was worse than sulh sulphureted and hydrogen gases of volcanoes..The deputy mayor of Selson Town told me that the captian of the Gertrude picked up fragments of exploded shells in the ruined streets of Wicky Wickey Lansin on the afternoon of the catastrophe.Th The whole region was filled with sulphureted smells for days after the explosion, as testified by many, the smell of sulphur of powder being so strong that survivin horses would stop and snort, and some of them drop and die from suffocation.Many of the relief parties and rescueworkers in the regions not flooded were obliged to wear wet handkerchiefs to protect them from the strong fumes of powder sulphur.One of the very few survivors of Abbieann city who arived in Calverine on August the eighteenth, and whose name is MicNallie claims to have escaped from Abbieann to a ship in a raft, and that he was picked and that he was picked up by the Gertrude.He said the air was filled with mud and falling debris, and the sulphur fumes in the smoke was so strong that breathing was absolutely difficult. The d deputy Sheriff said that when he approached Abbieann on the night of the explosions there was afterwards a most terrific ofor or odor of sulphur and smoke in the air. Governer Evans of Bengall State said that in his city there was little sulphur smell but the smell was like something dry like steam with a itt little sulphur. Steam clouds were seen by many others rising from the erupt erupted clouds which no doubt was produced by sudden heat of the water.Strange it seemed but steam may be inferred, and the burning of persons bodies through their clothing without firing their clothing indicated the presence of steam, and the great rain of wet mud and stones and clay and fragments of trees and fences which followed the catastrophe from the cloudless sky might theoertically be assigned to the condensation of the steam with the ejection of the clouds of dust blown upward with the steam during the explosions.

Also one of the most tremendous destructive forces on record wasepresence was present during the explosions.It uprooted forests of trees, destroyed many villiages and towns far south of Abbieann, threw all the people out of their houses, made the river momentarily change course, overturned river ships and boats, destroyed their rinn rigging and for many miles caused tremenedous landslides. It is impossible to concieve that the force was initial from the explosion blasts, fourty miles distant from Abbieann.

Whole walls of buildings in north Abbieann which was too high to be reached by the flood were thrown down, foundations were uprooted and displaced, pedestals with statues standing head down, rigging and upper works blown off all ships in river streams and small lakes, hulls keeled over, and ships literally hurled out of the water upon dry land by the force.Hundreds of big buildings were shaken down or torn asunder, and thrown great distances..The Statue of the Sacred Heart and of the Virgin as observed by me on the upper cliff on the north side of the city

was thrown to the south withtheir heads being to the north, but not damage in the least, not even scratched or discolored by the flame. in the cloud. ,Many parts of the woods southeast of the town which were too high to be reached by the flood on foothills were thrown southeastward and against the cliff, although others in the north side of the city were apparently rooted sufficently to to withstand the blasts..Against a cliff near the no southern part of the city h which was swept away by the flood are are hundreds of strange rocks thrown there apparently by the explosion. However in the cliff line ubi above the city many trees are seen still standing with their branches and scorched foliage foliage, and a green roofed building preserved there , with furniture and fol ago foliage intact showing the line of explosion fire cloud did not reach there..

The sh cshock was felt as far as Calverine, eight hundred miles to the south or northwest, and Angeline Junction nearly a thousand miles to the southwest where many people reported in letters that they were thrown down.

According to Engineer guns of the ship Gertrude there was a great horizontal disturbance in the water of the river caused by the strange aerial force produced by the explosions.This struck the port side of the ship, her head being on shore. She keeled to the starboard, so that the bridge got under water, and water came into th. the hold through the fiddlers.

.The wave lifted the Gertrude, so that her anchor chain broke, and she was enabled to escape.It also took several of the crew off the deck, but the return return movement brought them back to a buoy, from which they were rescued.This return wave tore up the river beach. In the south end of the remaining portion of the city of Abbieann which was too high to be reached by the flood objects were blown southeastward by the force of the explosions in the northwest, the north and south ends of building buildings being blown in.The Gertrude at Buoy was struck by force from the northwest, other ships were destroyed by force off the west and northeast, trees and forests of them in the vinicity of Adelehedi were blown by force from the northeast and southwest, all trees of the slopes of the Calverinia hills tward the roads to Francis Atlanta were bent by force from the west and east, and many other points was destroyed by forve from the straight north and south. This seems to have been near the north end of the remaining portion of the city where destruction was greatest, the strange effects decreasing radically in all directions.

Among the evidence of force are the fact that in the smallnorthern part of the remaining higher sections of Abbieann the b i buildings were absolutely pulverized. Not a vestige of many little villiages near the city were left, and not a piece of the buildings of these towns could be found.

Also a return force is absolutely evident by the south end of buildings of all explosion torn towns blown northward, and by the testimony of witnesses..The engineers of the ships said that the force had the strength of a most wild tornado ,and noted that it went out, and then when the explosions ceased came back.All who felt it, teofied that they were blown abour as if a hurricane was raging.Evidence of great earthquake like shock was also noticed to an unusual degree, and the buildings bridges and eary earth embankments within a ~~mile~~ hundred miles of the zone of explosion disaster, which showed disturbance also to disasterous and most appalling effect. survivors similarly located testified that at first they thought there had been a most violent earthquake.

Also many witnesses on the perimeter of disaster testified they were not suffocated by heat, sulphurious fumes or powder gases, but could get no air to breathe.These worus to its effect is the testimony ofhhundreds of witnesses from the ship officials to the survivors of ruined towns and villiages.Even the engineer of the ships that were in the zone of disaster stated they could get no air to breathe on deck after the explosions untill they went below..

Governer Evans of Bengall State said- " It was not at all hard to breathe untill all was nearly over, then the wholepopulation felt as if they could get no air. The engineer of the ship Gertrude insisted there was more noise than any one could describe to save their lives, a most terrible deafening roar that that injured his ears a good dealSome describe the falling objects and flame making a hissing noise like escaping steam from pipes.I have heard evidence of the most resounding explosions ever known on record for the testimony concerning noises was inquired for throughoutly. All witnesses testify to the sudden and instaneous instantaneous conflagration of the north part of surviving Abbieann, all other cities and towns nearest the blasts and of whole forests.Mn Many noticed that the seas of sudden flames swept rapidly from northwest to south.All combustible materials in all places was destroyed, but in the southern and northern edge of devastation large forests of trees stand which were only singed of their leaves and twigs.

And the whole catastrophe, outside of the fires, from the first tremendous world record breaking explosion to the main and final most frightful convulsions, was over in less than fifteen minutes mani minutes, lalthough the forests even now up here are still burning.Immediately following the terrible destruction there was still more strange to say according to witnesses a tremendous rain of

wet sand , mud, clan clay and torrents of water.This mud and wet debris plastered all objects upon which it fell with a thick coating of wet slush, houses ships, lans landscapes, and heads of human beings.The landscape was everywhere coated with an envelope of this strange mud from the sky.This rain of mud continued for one hour after the explosions.Accompanying the rain of muddy debris, was a shower of rocks of all sizes.These stones were undoubtedly those which had been thrown higher in the air from the force of the explosions than the other ejecta and which with a long trajectory came down last of all.These stones of small and large sizes falling on the soft plastering of the landscapes, rolled down the hillsides, striping the plaster with their parallel paths as if it hand had been raked with a lice comb.

Death was an accompaniment of any of the terrible phenomena of the apparent series of world breaking eruptions of explosions described, and without the slightest doubts occured in thousands of ways and in different degrees of sudden ess and horribless.Many were killed throughout the region by inhaling hot fumes, others burned by the same on the ships, others burned by strange steam, still others killed by force,and killed by flame. All of course did not die suddenly. Nearly all those who were wounded were burned burned survivors of the ships and the eyes of the injured were not affected, and the eye lashes were said to be intact, on the other hand remains on shore and in the towns were horribly burned to the quick.Many children were found who moaned for water, but who were una bunable to swallow because their throats were scorched on the inside.

It is not believed that the inhabatants of all towns died of asphyxiation in the position in which the disaster surprised them, for many were found in positions indicating flight in search for shelter.

The captian f of the Gertrude told me he saw many people running along the river edge for several minutes..In the town of St ann a woman was found dead in the act of putting on a hat, a man was killed while lighting his pipe.

Another eye witness told me he saw in delehsid a man holding a struggling frightened horse of his deliverywagon, both being killed in this posture. The man at the pi piloet house and steering wheel on the Gertrude was killed almost instantly where he was sitting, for he never moved.The First Mate was giving orders when killed, and yet near by some children and their mother and father were only burned and recovered..It is also stated a man who died on the same ship was burned badly and internally.

The effects of the proceeding explosions of that fatal and most fearful Midnight of June first, and of the results and awful floods which had taken place and raged for many weeks and months sin ce the day of the great explosion catastrophe notably that of the main flood, all of which devastated large parts of Calverinia and northern Angelinia are so intermingled, and their results so terrifying and so conglomerated that it is difficult to distinguish them.The area of devastation as seen by me and my followers, represents mainly the effects or results of the force and concussion of all those fifteen minutes explosions.As a whole this lim immense area includes all the country, between Abbieann and down south further than jessica Angelinia bounded by the north and south, and along all points near Angeline Vine state, previously mentioned in all the n vspapers and in the description of the configuration as constituting the most ernormous and immeasureable and horrible amphitheatre of death and destruction.

This area practically as discovered in my many months of t trav weeks of travel and by eye witnesses includes the country between Bengal County and Bengall State all portions of southern Calverinia on the south, and all of the Central part of pf of Calverinia and the section of the Lake Selicia Region, with the addition of southeastern Calverinia and wesern Angelinia State, added with Angeline Vine State. The whole of this area, both the inclued sections of either state and state and and territoey was envelopes in the tremendous flood.This flood had covered a confined and well defined zone, reps representing the the area of the main catastrophe.Yet in the area of the explosion outside of the flood zone the whole of the explosion area, both the included valley and the faces and summit edge s of the escarpment and landscapes is enveloped in a smooth compact casing of gravel and md plaster, resembling a coar coat of black gray cement.This cement also covers a well defined zone of the disaster area, the shower of mud and gravel following the explosions.It may be noted that the mud was the unusual feature of the results of the ernormous explosion, and was extensively found in all sections of the explosion area.

Between mud rivers made by the flood of mud in the streams south of Wickey Lansin is wreckage of buildings hurled about in all direction by the blasts of the explosions. Along this bluff extends the remains of what was once a most magnificent and costly highway and also crossing it a portion of the Yellow Brick or Big Girl Knool Rad road.Their surfaces is now covered a depth of many feet from the landslides caused by the concussions, and obscured here and there by fallen trees and buildings..In the debris there are numerous bodies of animals, cattle horses, hogs, chickens and birds of all kinds, with large numbers of numbers of occassional human remains.

All the houses of the many millions of people of Abbieann are destroyed, three quarters of the lower sections swept away by the enormous found floods the other sections thrown down by the concussion and blasts. Outside of the big city in the area above the flood line there is not a visible sign remaining of any of the towns of the numbers of thousands of people t who lived in them ane and elsewhere.

For all these section the only term for good and complete description is absolute annihilation of both population and buildings.. while two quarters of the number of hourses remain in Abbieann and only in those sections where no flood reached high enough the annihilation of population extends northward to as far as La Polama City. Among the many country towns destroyed of which a few I was at and which I can name are El Verso, EL paso, Moreaun and Tolldon. Over this entire area the vegetation is entirely denuded by the force of the blasts with the exception of a few larger trees standing in the unflooded sections of Abbieann, from Wickey Laisin southward, stripped of all leaves and twigs and even bark, only the trunks in most cases remaining not even the largest branches. On the edge of the hills above Abbieann a large forest with part of the foliage singed remain standing in the area of destruction.

. In deep valleys especially in the gradients of the valleys and of the headwater ravines, forests of trees still stand untouched but badly shaken from their roots by the concussion. In proted protected lateral ravines, other vegetation is still green though trees are slightly standing inclined in every direction from the effects of the concussion. The vegetation on the summit of higher hills nearest the explosions strangely enough was killed or blasted and singed, but in the deep valleys of the Algrove stream entering the Mic-Hollester river southwest of the city of Abbieann, trees were not affected though partly inundated by the flood.

Along the stretches of the river vegetation was blasted as far south as Wickey Lansin twenty miles southeast of Abbieann. Still further south the trees are green. To the north near Loucher city as far as the north branch of the Still water creek all forests is also denuded or burned and blasted to an altitude of three hundred feet or more.

Nearer Mic-Hollester Town dead forests and other trees are broken down three or four feet from the ground and lie to the southwestward. The whole region of all this explosion horror had recieved a sprinkling of the destructive force of the explosions. This mud is not conspicious or discolering however, except within an area or two coyons the wreckage covered region close to the explosion area.. The quanity and extent of mud and debris and dust and foliage and rock wreckage wrupted erupted by the explosions cannot be estimated, nor is it material at present to do so. Many creeks are filled up so with debris of earth earth and mud that they are absolutely and terrifidly obliterated. What was the lower valley of the Creek Babbly for miles down is so filled up from landslides that now it is a convex elevation, build up by the great slides from the adjoining hills. The river Palto northeast of the city, and the St Anna have been the site of mud torrents from the effects of the explosions.

. The river Know is still flowing mud in intermittent gulps from the region of Crater number one which is full of muddy water. elsewhere are there many conspicous mud streams near Adeleheid and La Palo, presumely from the other mud filled craters above that town but it is not proven. Two other mud rivers outside the area of devastation are elsewhere mentioned.. One mile south of Abbieann there were two small gullies or canyons in the bottom of which there were two flowing streams now these canyons cannot be found, where they were there is nothing but a lake of water to a great depth. Besides the mud streams there are many great stretches of blasted rocks scattered all about. On the mouth of the St Anna Creek is a statue thrown by the blast and where the rivear border is extending from the deposited mud and gravel. A small islet one hundred feet long, and twelve feet from the shore has appeared above the water to the north of the mouth of the St Anna. From the River stretch down from Abbieann to Wickey Lansin there are many strange and large and small triangular bights in the river beach on both sides and enlargement of the mouths of smaller streams entering the river cut by the force of rebounding waves. The mouth of the Creek Johns has been deeply incised and pre present new vertical cut bull bulffs, some thirty feet in depth, which renders the crossing of it utterly impossible. The probable movements causing these strange brights consisted of a strange ater movement of the water from the shore and a return wave. They were naturally caused by strange explosion within the air and not by any movement of the bottom of the sea.

The waves were observed at Mildred Greenburg. It has been reported from Mildred Greenburg that at the time of the explosions there was a strange commotion in the river as if the waters were boiling over a large area, or as if two big waves had met. However this report lacks any verification. It is also rumored that tward the north the hill known as St Anna ridge had broken down from the concussion that a town at the edge of the summit is gone having probably disappeared in a tremendous landslide. One man informed me that several officers had measured the alt

8-335.

ae altitude of Mt sanders had found that its side had broken down into a big slide, and that a portion of its summit had lowered sixty meters by the concussion of the tremendous explosions. Again a part of the hill is ruined and they tell me that during the flood Lake Selicia was a sea. The configuration of the landscapes around the rivers show serious change. Every hill, valley, scarp, precipice, or other surface feature of the relief as laid down upon the map of thirty years aog. is absolutely beyond reco recognition. The worse worse changes however are the destruction of vegetation and the veneering of a small triangular area within the region of mud showers, so that it is converted from a green carpet of woodland and grassy country to a barren desert like that of volcanic regions.

Of the total area of Calverinia, besides Bengall state, about 2,167 miles have been seriously affected by both explosion force, concussion and worse od of all by the ensueing floods. The ejacta from the explosions have consisted of limestone, clay, gravel, sandstone and also granite, together with sand and water. At some places along the rivers in the vinicity of the explosions there had been some evidence of subsidence and elevation of the land, that has been recorded and recognized by me. There had been produced by the explosions serious concussion earthquakes resulting from the rending of the earth by the eruptions. Within fifty miles south of Abbieann, the brodugo bridges, road houses, and trees show signs of the concussion. Eyewitnesses testify thatthey felt a sensation as of great earthquakes, and also a force in the air which tended to knock them over.

And on the other hand there have been terrific jars and tremors from the tremendous explosions felt at Calverine, and these were of sufficient force to rock buildings and break windows.

Will this be stood for by our surviving people of Calverinia. Ack the thirty hundred thousand dead, the sixth of Abbieann moudering dead population, which either moulder beneath the ruins remaining or swept to heaven knows there by the flood.

SECOND C SECTION OF LETTER.

THE EFFECT OF THE EXPLOSIONS.. IMPORTANCE OF STRANGE FLAME, AND MAGNETIC PHNO PHONOMENA. CHOICE OF THEORIES. OF THE CATASTROPHE. EXPLORATIONS OF WHAT WAS LEFT OF ABBIEANN.

In giving sebe some of the descriptions of the effects and the phenomena of the usual eruption like explosions, I your Excellency have almost forgotten the main part of my story the enemy who might have caused all the trouble. First I have observed that far across the weird landscape from the far distant summit of a long high hill the distant forest fires produced by the flashes and singing heat of the explosion clouds still sends forths its frequent bursts of flame and smoke coulds rising in great thunder heads to apparently tweny twenty thousand feet above my view. At night the summit of that ridge is aglow like a seething hell. But to go back to the explosions. I went first to one of the craters said to have been dug by the blast, and observed that outside the rim of one of these gigantic holes that existed after the explosions one can see plainly a built up pile risen a hundred feet or more, and largely composed of tremendous blocks of stone. stone sand, gravel and dried mud which have been thrown aside and accumulated around the edge of the crater during the descent of this debris.

I never saw a volcanic crater so large, not even in the biggest volcanoes of the Hiwait or sandwitch Islands. Down the dreary western slope of the Valley Fairyknoll one can see the smoke of another forest fire some three thousand feet up the slopes of a high ridge, and not over ten miles northeast of Abbieann. While the first fire sends up its great seething balls of cloud, which floats away like the immense thunderstorm clouds,, from this lower slope may be seen another and larger wreath of smoke which also lingers near the ground. In all the fires I witnessed which bars my approach to Crater no number two the columns of smoke ascended whole while the smoke from the other blazes rose higher first and then floated off horizontally or followed the contour of the land tward the south.

The fire is far from the crater but I cannot approach it for the heat is terrific.

Still nearer this crater an inky black river of mud follows a str stream from this crater tward the big river. Where did all the mud come from? And the mud does not always run but occassionally near its head great fountains of mud shoot high into the air, and then the stream flows onward with a great gulp and movement.

Somewhere on the hillsabove Abbieann there was another slowly descending mud stream. Around the northern edge of the hills near Adeleheid on a portion of the Big Girl Knool road there was another mud stream which material for a time had flow a down to Seconf Point which was partially burled beneath it.. Still to the eastward was another mud filled crater, which is situated twenty miles east of Abbieann, and was first seen by one of my followers. It occurs in the bed of the Central river itself, and the water of the river is full of mud. Great clouds of

smoke immence in size were noted on July the fifth from over the horizon in the northwest. These clouds appeared to show themselves themselves intermittently but with increasing size and magnitude, untill ult July 16th, and are still continuing to appear at frequent intervals, reports having been announced that southward immense forest fires are devastating the country. Even up to now there is continued traces of the immense flood since the deadly explosions on the midnight hour of May the last. Some places the flood forces still continue to exhibit themselves, and will not avoid away for months to come. I noticed on August the Fifteenth a great black canopy of cloud continuing to rise and spread along the far southern and southeastern horizon which spread out over the sky to the opposite horizon causing darkness even in the middle of the day making it hard for me to make my inves i investigations. Or the evening but early of the same day a great cloud of smoke rolled up continually in the southwest, and was witnessed by all of my members. This cloud from the ... its appearance was timed and rose up to the zenith in three minutes. I took photographs of this cloud, from which others made a sketch. One of the witnesses told me that the last three of the explosions were the most violet of them all and occured about Twelve Fourteen. The clouds floated over Mildred Greenburg and caused a panic among the people of the city. This was accompanied by many detonation, and it was said that in the city of Mildred Green burg heavy showers of stones of all sizes fell upon the roofs of the buildings. The falling sounded like hail and tore the leaves from all the trees in the streets.

The explosions were accompanied by total darkness over Abbieann and neighboring cities and towns, after a great explosion of flame, one half of which soared up to heaven and the other half toward Abbieann and surrounding country. Many others stated that a wave surf followed the concussion, and stones fell on the decks of all the surviving ships, roaring down like a severe hailstorm. According to many this explosion leveled many buildings almost to the ground in Adelheid and buried the dead in the city of able Abbieann bena beneath a shower of debris. Many who witnesses the blasts thought they were frightful eruptions from the surface surface of the ground and that the flashes were accompanied by lightning effects believes to be the ignition of gases under ground. An account of this horror is described in many papers already. Another told me he had seen a outburst of incandescent sand from the surface of the earth, and that vast quantities of mud and mud and even molten lava flowed out of the craters in the ground and that torrents of it overspr a overspread the region. I investigated and saw no evidence of lava pumice or anything relating to volcanic eruptions, and no volcanic gases either had traced itseld.. Reports of other seirexseries of of explosions have continu d up to the last few weeks, and will probably continue for a time untill something is done to find out the cause, and means tak n taken to stop these horrid disasters.

It is now evident that the destruction of Abbieann viewed from a broader standpoint than human and other disaster was but A general drama and episode in a group of more than general phenomena constituting the great explosion disasters of Bengall state, and that the great explosion of disasters it is but a episode in a series of stranger events than by mere natural occurance as many believe which have beentaking place since the war began.. Let us your Excellency for a time forget if possiblev the catastrophe, and consider when whether it is a natural phenomena or a disaster designed by the enemy.

That from the nature the country side for one hundred and thirty miles have collo collasped in long fissure like lines in connecting with each of the thirty six ernormous cr craters, something by this is mighty mu suspicious. something putting me in ,i mind of mining galleries underground by human labor, and also that the country for five hundred and sixty nine miles is terribly split up into millions of gigantic cracks and fissures like shivered glass, that a whole country side is sunk by the convulsion makes me think that something is pr peculiar in the whole range of disaster.

"1. Th Where Lake Selicia used to be , ever since the explosion disaster and flood, there is now an inland sea, and the water despite the old time gap refused or refuses to drain out but increases every day. I witnessed this change.

"2th that The Calverine Hills rising to a height of one thousand feet above sea level is devoid of all its scoptor slopes which crashed down in the most terrific landslides every known carrying its forests with it and burying many towns. This according to witnesses went to destruction in fifteen minutes time..

"3. That the flood which occured came from a mysterious source, for though the explosions leveled the levees of the big rivers, the rivers waters never reached Abbieann.

"That the material thrown up by the explosion is rock, sand clay and debris of ground trees and limestone.

"4 that the explosions are not of any such thing ... disturbance as many try to say.

"5 that the explosions occured within less than fift minutes and occured at many different spots and not in one place. The resulting geology of landscapes as shown after the disaster, proves that the disaster for

even its own nature,, and that the present floods still remaining as I have viewed, instead of receding are but the recent maximum of the worse flood that ever was recorded in the world since the Fourty Days rain made flood in Bible times, which in many places have continued through a long interval and is still in view. The explosion made flood of last October preceded similiar lengthening horrors, which had as we know resumed to some extent with the coming of spring, and had almost affected a similiar area. The first important deduction then is that the present horror at Abbieann is only the redoubled repetition of horrid events which have taken place time and again, at different spots throughout Calverinia since last October, and that the results of the explosions and the floods succeeding have been altogether the same, though the former in lesser violence, the worse probable next to the June horror being that of the Arronburg Ruver River disaster which flooded Angelinia Agathia and hundreds of other places.

So far as recorded, the flood symptons is the same as it was the date of the horrid October disaster, no re new kind of results have been recorded, but merely same symptons in different degrees of violence over and over again. The second principal features of floods, is the opened explosion made outlet of the great Lake Angeline or Selicia, which made a flood of record breaking force for days. The fact that there were serious earthquake like shocks for every explosion horror recorded, shows that the explosions were more exceptionally severe than they were either recorded or known, in fact no vio volcanic eruption ever recorded in the world were as severe as many of the slighter explosions which have taken place from October up to now with such deadly earthquake like effects, without which nothing was at first really known to full conditions.

No evidence as yet has been dec deduced showing that the present explosions was produced by the enemy or not, or by accident or design, neither is there except in the craters any condition which yet enables us to hypothesize a deposit of materials which would show the cause and so forth of these great blasts.

The c confo configuration of the landscape, the repetition of the floods one after another at different locations., the absence of many well known creeks of times gone by, the failure of many towns to reconstruct, indicate that the natures of the disasters taking in also the forest fire Plagues , indicate indicate that something in the country of Calverinia and Angelinia, is wrong with either one of the State governments for not taking means to prevent the repeat of such calamities after the first and most horrible October one. The floods of June this year which even now is still in progress over wide territories has been one of most progressive intesity for many months. The waters of Lake Selicia despite the gaps fail to drain out because recieving the waters from the still remaining floods and all the same territory flooded by Lake Selicia before is still under deep water.

Conspicious activity succestive suggestive of intense flood waters was first observed since the beginning. The strangeness of the floods of this one with the others before, and explosions of a similiar but different varities of force throughout Calverinia, to say nothing of disturbances reported in other areas throughout the war zone, is strangely almost positively suggestive, that the causes of such horrors succeeding ne after another was not the c development of strange volcanic erupti eruptions under ground as many believed, but upon the contrary the nature of the explosions and their results show that they resulted from far any natural means, and if the enemy cannot be blamed or proofs cannot be forced from the foe, then we will have to take the matter as that of natural causes whether they were or not, as there is no other outlet to the mystery.

Finally as witnesses declared there accompanied every explosion the strange phenomena seen in volcanic eruptions except electricty, gases and magnetism, but some do declare that there was such occurance, which while not probably really ocuring, yet such news have been conspiciously brought to our attention, and should lead to important deductions upon the origin of the magnetic storms that followed every explosion, and whether the nature of the earths interior under ground had anything to do with it or not. The strangest thing of the Bengall Terror was that the 7,678,888 people of Abbieann city were by the concussion, flame of explosion and other horrors exterminated withina few minutes, death result ing from being caught under falling buildings or killed similiarly like the people in the city of gt Pierre by volcanic activity, the town on the upper landscapes set on fire by the sudden eruption of the explosion cloud, and flame, and the rest with all the slain carried away to heaven knows where by the flood.

This is the investigation by many of the death caused by explosion also in Adelheid town which was the same in Abbieann. The fatal clouds of the nearest explosions came from the North Bend of the Adelheid River, fourteen miles north west of the city. The flash of the explosion singed the cities and leveled the ground itself around it from the hillsides by concussion and set fire to forests and buildings and changed the course of streams.

The smoke coming from the cloud were sulphurous from powder and other explosive material added with posionous fumes. There were unusual forces accompanying the explosions of great destructive nature, l something like that of Mt Pelee but reaching a greater distance than twice the extent of the island of Martinque which left much evidence that heatened powders within the clouds exploded from

terrific heat from the blast after having reached the air. The unusual explosions were accompanied by a terrific and strange fire works like do dispaly display.A unusually great magnetic storm accompanied the explosions which were recorded all over the world and which indicated a connection between them and the explosions. In connection with the magnetic phenomena it is of interest to note that many others presented a table showing the relation between explosions of such nature, and those occuring during battles, which were absolutely the same and had the same effects.That does sound suspicous does it not your Excellency. One is r was during the four battles or four days battles at Delight's junction or Eva Crania. Of thirty eight explosions at Cedernine, seventeen occured near Hendrick Junction and fourteen near Nelkingburg and had the same effects of concussion and blasting things to destruction and death,.The maximum of number of explosions occured during battles and vice versa.There is evident that flame accompanied every explosion. All the evidence indicates that the fatal explosions were always different in places.All the circumstances show evidence, and much is strong in evidence that the destruction of towns for every distant blast was caused by the far reaching nature of the blasts, and their effects.

The foregoing data and essential facts concerning the great catastrophe I have not dared t interpret, nor do I wish to ov observe the understanding of the events by individual interpretation and hypothesis. Nevertheless it may not be presumptuous TO suggest that conflagration, death, and fatality in Abbieann and other cities may ultimately be explained by either of the two theories.

1.. The heat blast theory. This hypotgesis assumed that the unexploded powerful powder were sufficiently heated by the flash of the blast to catch fire and fire the air and cloud and debris hurled up by the explosion, and became sufficiently hot to have inflamed the city and neighboring places and destroyed the people by singeing, suffocation and asphyxiation. It does not however account for the forces exerted radically and horizontally, nor the fla . flame

2.. The strange aerial-explosion theory. The explosion of powders within the explosion erupted clouds after their tremendous projection into the air would also account for all the dreadful phenomena observed by many witnesses. The t strange aerial explosion which there is evidence that it really occured was most probably aportion of the unexploded portions of the powder that shot into the air and caught from the flashes, but not science is still unable to solve or state whether this can be true or not.The discussion of unexploded powder catching fire in the air involves a line of scientific specialization which I do not possess, but as golden and as mysterious as was the great secret as it has left its terrible traces and clues which the detectives of science may follow up if they come to do it.Metal surfaces of all kinds of objects in the ruins still left can be examined and analp analyzed for traces of blackened pwder smoke/ .Even the finer debris and dust thrown by the explosion will be submitted to investigation.And then there were those fright ful fireworks display and bolts.What of them, and their own igniting power?

See several days later I headed for where the unflooded sections of the higher elevated portions of Abbieann la buried in debris, and explosion thrown wreckage an and dust and mud.Vast cloud banks shrouded alike the terrible explosion region and the silent victims a distance off.A few smouldering forest fires were visible where the once beautiful forests and towns had been, the sullen glows of the last smouldering embers. The morning had just approached when I approached the city.On nearing it I first came to a scene beyond a desolate ridge, where smoke in large clouds and volumes was rolling upward in dark colored sheets and wreaths, and beyond could be seen, the gray blasted eastern slope of thenearest of the nearest stretch of the Vivian Hills.pounding a promontory, the desolate silent city was in sight,, where Abbieann but a few months before was embowered in magnificence and beauty, but elsewhere for the site of the main city the and eye must needs be strained, or field glasses used in order to distinguish the outlines of gray ruins rising up through what appeared to me a sea of water stretching as far as eye could reach, with wreckage floating as thick as log jams here and there, and this is August, the water nearest me stretching against a background of barren blasted slopes where once grew the fairest forests of this portion of Calverinia.In the central portion of the waters not a single house appeared above the water, and it was still flowing southward at a rate of abouth ten feet a about ten miles an hour.

To get to the high portion of the city I with my followers had to chance a trip in a quay over the slowest part of the flood waters. After perilous work and difficult travel, in which we had to work like mad to avoid collision with parts of houses protruding out of the water, or grounding on something under the water, we came into the roadstead in front of the higher part of Abbieann, and the quay boat was made fast to a wreck of a wall.Boats were lowered and quickly filled with with men eager to study in various ways the evidences of the great disaster before studying the flood itself..I gave command that all who went ashore should r turn to the boats when a blast from the quays h whistle should sum on them and that no one no one should bring off objects of value from the ruined city. Therefore I take pleasure in recording that these command s was obeyed with alacerity as well as the second.Our visit to the city was repeated and our explor ation

of the ruins extended for five days but it is not necessary at present to be precise as to dates.While rowing from the Quay to the stone quays along the river front of the dead city, we passed much wreckage and even spars of some of the ships that went down on the terrible hours of midnight June the First.So far no attempt had been made to raise the sunken ships, probable a great number.The ruined portion of what was or is left of the city lay before, us silent, desolate, and covered with dust and debris thrown from the explosions.I could not see a single person in sight, and not once during those five days did we see a living thing during our clambor over ruined walls, and through deeply debris filled streets, and while walking along the edge of wrecked elevated train structures still standing, except ~~tttttttttttt~~ our compat~~ttttttttttt~~ the members of our squad.

It is unecessary at this time to attempt to describe in any detail the scenes that met our view as we passed in gloomy sorrowful silence over the dust mud and rubbish beneath which thousands of human b beings lay buried and probably decomposed to the last by this time, as this has been already well told in many newspapers. We glanced aside in horror in passing the grim remnants of what on the big mid night hour were living but sleeping men and women and children.We could not aid in the work of c cremation going on some places, and avoided as far as possible the gruesome sight still lingering.On passing to the higher portion of the city however where the soldiers had not as yet performed their sanitary work, the piles of dead almost skelontons now could not be avoided.....

The best general impression of the present condition of the once beautiful city of Abbieann, was by me and my followers obtained from one of the high rises of ground to the extreme northeast end of the remaining end of the city, termed St Marie, where formerly stood a colosal Cathedral. Near the f vacant ruins of this great cathedral is the wrock of many giant forest trees, their broad buttressing roots still anchored into the ground, and their blasted branches lifted like appealing arms tward heaven seeking help. Probably long ago from beneath the deep shape shade of those wide spreading trees, any one could have glanced over the once immense and peaceful city, with its almost New York or Chicago Like scenery of trees and houses and yet twice wider streets, and then beyond to follow the green slopes of the Calverinian Hills to beyond the fields of every kind of crop known on the market, upward to the dense forests of hills and mountain sides and level plains.Any person who may have last saw that fair est of pictures, of beautiful city landscapes, verdure covered slopes, and the vast cloud filled sky-- on the morning of the fatal disaster, were swept away never to be recovered, while one even now on the days of my visit here, bodies of them lay still under the ruins with many others, heat shrivled and decomposed corpses, partially or entirely buried beneath the seemingly universal sheet of waters, or ruins of fallen buildings and under explosion thrown debris.....

This most beautiful of pictures which no artist can concieve had been blotted out, even some parts of the beautiful rivers, and the rugged mountain and hil forested slopes which were all asmoke.At my feet lay the portion of the dead city far above the still remaining sea of flood waters, silent and gray.Beyond where stretches the water, here and there in places on its probable shore lines buildings in ruins showed somewhat above the water, and jams of wreckage floated here and there. Not a green thing was in sight.Not a tree was standing, not even on the far away mountain ridges leading down to the partially destroyed city of St Joseph, and even those were scorched withered and bla blasted.Beyond lay a sea of wreckage covered waters. It is impossible almost to convey in the proper number of words the appearance of such a sea of wreckage covered water, the absoe absolutely plantless landscapes, the scenes of terrific forest fires in the distance, but in this location a far as eye can see there was not a thing at all left alive, and not a tree left standing, after the explosion blasts, forest fires, and floods swept over this territory. As is evidenced here terrific firesefo and flood followed the hurricane of hot blasts and flaming clouds and the rain of explosion debris and flung house debris buried what the fire did not consume.

Maybe the flood I witness here will never go away. Never before in the history of man had such complete destruction been wrought on such an ernormous area.

Gazing down into the silent streets from the heights of St Marie I could trace their course and see the beautiful plains and hillsides and plateaus the city had been built, but now no conspicious objects were in sight.Even the big cathedral was a mass of ruins.Farther northward, where the higher sections of Abbieann extended beyond the bold hi heights on the landward side of the flood, where formerly rose the most beautiful buildings of all and beautiful parks and gardens, the houses were level with the ground except smaller buildings which were partly wrecked and some buried out of sight in the debriscof the others.

Even the streets were completely obliterated in the debris, and probably the reason for the worse ruin and deeper covering of debris of the northern than the southern part of this highest section of the city, inc is that the former was was at the margin of a sloping plateau like surface, leading tward the Calverine Calverine hills, where the concussion was worse, and som of the sections were even almost buried in slight landslides, while further south sheltering heights intervened and the area of which debris could be thrown was much less extensive.I feel

however your Excellency, that from reading so much of this long letter already that you are familiar with the desolate pictures, which Abbieann and her surrounding present as any one who viewed these scenes themselves, but I may wisk to ask not only you, and all the generals but many others as well if it is really true that all the destruction was done first by the explosions within the space of a few minutes, and and the lower sections of the city and all its neighboring towns swept away in less than three quarters of an hour by the big floods, and how this most exceptional event in the history of all disasters, came about.whether it was a mysterious freak of nature, or whether the Glandelinions,,,, were responsible.. The evidence of many thousands of eye witnesses, who were near the border of the devastated area, on the shore ofrivers, hilltops, or on the ships in the rivers, or who survived among the ruins, and all other places facing Abbieann is conclusive that the more than seven to eight million people as the estimate is who perished with the city, and many other places died within the space of a few seconds, or perhaps two to three minutes or shoter. shorter.

Indeed your Excellency I t it may seem safe to predict that probably the most of them met their death in less than one half minute after the nearest blasts of the explosions shook down the buildings of the city and neighboring towns.Most no doubt as I believed died under the ruins, of of those injured being drowned while pinioned in the wreckage when the flood descended upon the city... As to the precise nature of the explosions the members of your own commission, I believe differ the opinion ,

It has been stated in many various newspapers and all nazagines throughout the state and in all history and new story books and novels that the inhabat inhabitat inhabitants of Abbieann were mostly or all killed only in the ruins of fallen buildings with the injured drowned, while the population of Adeleheid city and other places were asphyxiated by strongely noxious gases, or killed by the explosion of ignited powders shot up with the clouds.Or was the cloud it iself really heatened by the flash of the enormous explosions?Many say the cloud destroyed like a harricane, putting me in mind of the volcanic eruptions of St or Mont Pelee only on a hundred thousand times bigger scale. My own observation and the best interpretion that I or my followers can give you placed upon the testimony of surviving witnesses many even children Catholic priests and nuns favors the opinion that the general cause of death was a blast of mysterious flame, charged with many explodions in explosions in the forward rushing cloud, the cloud which did not ascend.

Powders shot up from the mines probably in part becoming afire from the shoots of explosion flashes, were no doubt present as all evidence shows everywhere I sp f go- as the odor of such powders, which reminds me of T.N.T, guncotton, Nyiro Glycerne and even dynimite and other dreadful charges was still noticed at the time of my visit, but the part that such hurled up powders might have played must have only been secondary.In order Your Excellency to be able to judge the conditions where everything was destroyed by the explosions themselves it is necessary for scientests to be sent my conscription to investigate and learn what took place on the outskirts of the dreadful fire storm from the explosions.

The people on the borders of the unusually devastated areas, or who were in the heart of the disaster area and escaped, were in all instances injured to a slight or severe degree, and it seems evident the injuries were afflicted by hot or flaming dust or powders, which on touching the skin adhered and burned, and caused among many even the dread diseases locked jaw. These burns resembled those when you touch a red hot iron, and even resemble scalds, but destroyed deep into the ~~tttttt~~ flesh of the more seriously injured.

In all such instances the hair on the burned portions were totally destroyed, , but where the bodies were covered with thicker clothing they were more seriously injured even unto death by the clothing catching fire. Whatever it was, or if it had been ignited power or dust, yet what ever it really was what struck the injured people it was hot enough to ignite their clothing, and those w o they said had inhaled the hot pwders, death had been almost in an instant.The condition of the dead in towns north and southeast of Abbieann and in Adeleheid favors the conclusions that this deduction shows what there took place..While the awful inhalation of smoke charged with ignited powders and dust may seemingly be accepted as the prinicpal cause of death in these stricten striken towns, it must be admitted that in Abieann and other places too the manority of people were no doubt killed, by falling walls, by nervious shock, and by drowning in the floods that ensued. The blasts which swept over northern Abbieann on the first hour of the June Morning, passed through the city with explosion force.This is demonstrated by the manner in which great forests near the city were uprooted, the strongest buildings thrown down level with the ground, elevated structures for trains torn asunder or to pieces, and the streets torn away.The direction in which all these objects were swept, was a little tward the southeast, and southwest together, or directly away from four gigantic explosions nearest. The most conspicious evidence of the strength of the four blasts which wrought this strange mechanical destruction is furnished by the tallest buildings, which were swept from their upper sections and hurled several blocks to have their ruins scattered among other fallen buil.ings. All evidence collected in this connection cannot here be present, but it indicates that the blast which wrought the havoc referred to pass over the city with explosion

force. Though it too is a big city, Adeheiei Adeleheid gives a much less loss of life than any other city on the explosion area.As has been reported by the Mayor of that stricken city the number killed was about 34,567.Many more were injured than of any other surviving city. Yet the region around this neighborhood was more thickly populated than elsewhere, but nevertheless there were no cities comparable to Abbieann in size, but was is significant no one in any neighborhood of the explosion disaster had been warned of the coming catastrophe, and if they had been suspecting any such disaster probably not onethird such a loss of life would have occured.

PART THREE OF LETTER.
EXPLORATIONS IN NORTHERN ABBIEANN.
THE DISASTER AT ADELEHEID.
PRODUCTS OF THE RECENT EXPLOSIONS OF THE SITE OF OTHER PLACES.
REPORTS OF VESSELS AS TO THE RANGE OF EXPLOSION THROWN DUST AND SMOKE , AND DEBRIS.....
END OF LETTER..

The destruction of Adeleheid was due to blast heat, materials and rocks hurled by the eruptions, stones and earth, and so forth , but the sudden blast charged with burning and exploding powder swept more down upon this city and her neighbors than it did in Abbieann.The area in which the materials thrown down and about by the explosions was about twice as great as any territory covered by the eruption of Krakatoa. and extends in a belt some six to seven hundred miles wide across the northern section of Bengall state leaving however a narrow strip of verdure elsewhere but blasting everything every where else like My Mt Pelee did at Martinque. I reached the northern extreme part of Abbieann on the morning of August the 14th and later the same time through the courtesy of the Calverinian Governner who had immediate charge of the distribution of the relief stores for the refugees, I was enabled to reciever some helpers who aided me in a trip on a boat northward on the flood waters to the extreme devastated northern areas of Abbieann and her suburbs. A landing was affected without difficulty and the country around northern Abbieann carefully examined. While proceeding carefully forward on the boat calls were made at ruined and blasted villiages, and an opportunity was afforded of seeing ruins similar as at Abbieann and Adeleheid, yet as fully desolatead as Abbieann, and her sister s cities.

.Near the shore of the flood waters where a town of some four or five thousand people stood before that fatal night of June first we sadly walked over the barren wind rippled and rill cut surface of devastated and badly cracked land with a huge crater looming two miles in the distance. This town as in the cases of thr the northern portion of poor Abbieann was situated at the margin of a broad sloping upland from which the debris was swept and piled deeply on the flat land to the leeward.After inspecting the towns Courthouse, a strongly built built structure of stone and concrete, which which was completely destroyed, I pressed on with my helpers to the bluff overlooking Mic-Hollester Run River, and had an obstructed view of the deeply filled valley of that once beautiful stream, and of the forested slopes of Gertrudes Ridge even to its still smoking and blazing sides and summit where forest fires set by the explosions still raged.Never have I in my life gazed on a more stranger or more instructive scene. We had caught the very effects of the explosions at this location.

On the slopes about us still stood the denuded smoking thrunks of trees, their sides facing the crater in the far distance stripped even off their bark and scorching with the heat of smouldering fires about them, showing that the wind during the hot hurricane of fire had blown from the dir ection of the conflagration.The hills about us were covered to the depth of three or six feet with smouldering and smoking forest debris, and so terrific was the heat we could not dare an exploration in that direction.To the northward, we saw the effects of two tremendous landslides.

One of the many interesting sad sad features to claim attention was the wonderful manner in which the layer of burned forest debris had been cut by the rills origining originiting on it from heavy falls of stones.The rills and gaps were like channels through the smoking debris.The steep sided trenches with well markad terraces were leveled into slandslides by the explosions.Among the larger features of the recent horrid changes that especially attracted attention in which the sloping sides of the Mic-Hollester Valley, had been thickly covered with raging forest fires, and the way the furious flames were endeavoring to burn through to their own right of way.

The smo e smoke from these blazes formed colo columns that rose for thousands

of yards into the air. The volume of smoke was so great that at some point the entire landscape was obscured and the upward rolling clouds ascended like those seen during terri terrific volcanic eruptions.The roar of the flames could be heard a mile or more.Explosions of some kind at times occured in the blaze that had at times such enegry that black clo columns of earth, and flaming embers were shot upward like geysers to a height of fully a hundred feet, and would occur for several minutes.

A similar phenomen phenomenon was witnessed by me near Adelaheid, and was again seen near Wickey Lanain, and in each instance the cause was the explosion.The upper part of the Mic- Hollester River was somewhat displaced from its former bed by the concussion, and a landslide, mainly the vast landslide which precipitated an immense unmount ed debris into its channel,.The debris had checked its flow and for a time had held back the water and acted as a dam, the streambed downstream becoming dry, but as the pressure of the water had increased, the dam had given way, and the large flood of water black with material in suspension, had rushed down the previously dry channel, and became a flood it its own to join the bigger one .A similar behavor of some streams near Abbiesnn, and also those near Wickey Lansin was or had occured.From the heights above the ruined Courthouse, the entire country side was in full view during our visit, and like elsewhere was without life... Nota green sprig of anything was visible, but more utter desolation could be observed than it takes words to describe.

And over all of the devastated region lay a thick sheet of either water, raging forest fires, or a thick sheet of gray smouldering debris, or the wreckage thrown by the explosions. The newly added fires, which so recently formed a part of the disaster horror was being rapidly spread, and taking its place in regions that would in ammount of tree. destroyed cause an immeasureable loss. Every spread of the flames this way or that, caused per half day hundreds of thousands of acres of trees to be burned. The spreading of the flames which had been going on since the explosions with such a rapidity that within these few months hundreds of miles of forests may have been denuded from the hills and mountain side valley and plain, makes for northern Calvorinia another record breaking forest fires.Outside the devastated area where the fall of explosion debris was not quite so heavy and in depth did not exceed an inch or three, it had already at the time of my visit been partly sunken into the softer ground.

One of our trips in the flood waters, was precipitous, not that we hurried to go off b cause we feared more explosions, but own owing to the factthat in our excursion tward the north part of Abbiesnn our boat struck an object in the flood but under, and all we can say is we regained the shore wet to the skin and our boat broke into two places and sinking.We were comeplled to compelled to walk around in our wet clothing, and worse of all there had been no sunshine for days because of the sky overcast by smokes of forest fires, both near, and distant. We in our wet clotging continued northward along the shore edge of the flood, passing as near to the floods edge as pu prudence would permit, and we had splendid views of the very blasted and utterly desolate mountains closest to the explosions.

This part of the country of Bengall state or county is remarkably rough, and before the catastrophe presented a paradise like scenery.

Wecould see far up the slopes of Calverine Hills where beautiful forests once were in presences like immense waving and rolling green clouds, and birds haunted the shadowy recesses, but now all was smoke and fire and desolation.Not a trunk of a tree remained in all the stern oppressive landscape to suggest the loveliness that had been blotted out so suddenly and terribly. Here we passed a town where many were killed when a landslide buried it, and obtained a full view of a great forest conflagration which though about probably twenty five miles off we could feel the heat to an uncomfortable degree, and the wind was from us to thr the fire too.....,.

Out trip here was indeed exciting.We had to avoid the fires of course as no one could live within a mile of them so fierce is the heat.On t returning o to Adeholeiheid we found the work of discharging the relief stores brought by boats still in progress and through the courtsey I of the Mayor I was enabled to make another trip on a new boat in company with one scientest and my own companions, and this time to Adleheid and then through and into that town which is situated somewaht somewhat southwest of Abbiesnn but on higher elevation. Ariving at Adelaichid a Landing was affected by means of a stronger line which we pulled on to shore.The landing was no vel and to a degreee somewhat exciting and perilous. some distance out from the town on the shore of the flood was a mass of grounded wreckage.The shore boat manned by strong men who well understood the situation, was loaded with relief supplies for the hundreds of refugees in Adelaheid.The boat was rowed to the wreckage jam, where after many unsuccessful attempts, the rope cable leading shoreward was grasped by strong hands.The water of the flood here was rushing past heavily, suring past the almost immovable wreckage jam, and passing with a heavy roar.By means of the long stout rope the boat with her provisions and living examples of the people

from the same lands was drawn with great difficulty,without however being almost captized to the wreckage jam, and held there, although surving up and down with each oncoming wave of the floods rush as if it was trying to dance a strange sort of back and forward steps.From the shore near the Ejam projected a rude drrrick derrick made of boards taken from the jam at the end of which was a pully and over the pully pulley passed a rope from which I could see suspended a large cage like box about fourteen feet square.The derrick and cage had been made hurriedly for the purpose of embarking many of the people injured during the late disaster, and by no means seemed an attractive instrument or vehicle in which to be lifted from such a crazily acting boat.The ascent was made however with many dips and small disasters in on in which once I recieved a good ducking, and a board on my heat, and a jam in the mouth with something else, and a bang in the ear, and other uncertainities and minor accidents too manny and funny to relate here attending it awakened the keen st sympathy for the sufferers who descended by the same neans an hour later.

A few minutes later I was viewing the ruins of Adelaichd, with two teeth missing, from my moth, a black eye, a lump on my head, a bandaged hand and a swollen something behind my ear.

It was a fine start.

From some hhp hop hospitals many of the recovering patients who were buried by the flash of explosions on that horrid night were taken to the end of the wreckage jam, lowered into the dancing boat, and conveyed to a flood ship where they were then taken on board as gently as the unusual circ circumstances would permit, and placed on mattresses on the deck.All of the wounded were suffering from burns on the hands, face, neck feet and elsewhere, inflicted by hot flames.Of the injured of Adelaheid numbering I believe five thousand, all suffered from burns from the nature just referred to, e cexcepting others injured when caught in the wreckage of falling buildings, or strock by flying explosion flung wreckage.

At Adelaheid the fact that a terrible disaster had reciently recently occured was impressed on my mind even more forcibly than durinbduring my visit to the wiped out city of Abbiesnn.The beautiful Abbiesnn city was so completely devastated by flood and fire that very little remained to proclaim the tail tale.But for the presence of some of the bodies in the ruins still remaining, the ruins might seem to be two cen u centuries old.

At Adelaheid however although the town was only partially ruined, and loss of life was only less svere, the strange dust stones and broken fragments of trees and ground turf piled high in the streets, the shattered windows and roofs, the blasted trees and tee telephone and eletric light poles, th the absolutely barren landscapes adjacent, and the still smoking forest fires far beyond, all appealed fo more forcibly to the imi imagination and assisted in enabling any visitor to picture what had occured. The people who had survived and been exposed to the great peril still thronged the streets, many weeping or mourning their lost loved ones or property, In the outskirts of the city, refugees were crowded in houses not even sufficient for their shelter.

About the doors of storehouses groups of eager applicants were recieving government aid but here no acute suffering was visible, except the most sad sight which were of the injured persons, although their wounds had been well call cared for by the physcians early on the scene. sadly leaving the half ruined town, after having my black eye, and other minor injuries attended to, I hurried inland with all my followers, three of which carried cameras to visit the stretch of the Aronburgs Rin river in that location and get a view of a typical example of the region on which the descent of explosion thrown wreckage dug from y the ground had been heavy. Our tramp took us across previously cultivated fields now buried some four feet deep beneath all debris , and across small streams of no hot and warm water. The view tward the volcanic lke pall of smoke from forest fires, and northward along the flood coast, where many plantations and estates had been wiped out, although depressing in the extreme on account of the un unusual devastation that had been wrought was highly instructive as an example of the explosions effects.

.It was in this region that great loss of life acc occured.In one town which we visited we visited all persons had perished.The woodwork of many of the houses were not burned, and no other seeming evidence remained of the death dealing agency, except blackened walls and strange blackened burned dust on the floor, which was extremely fine, and had a depth of about four inches.The windows of the houses which faced northward were badly shattered, the glass being broken by rocks and stones which evidently passed through them from the outside, and their frames were indented in such a manner as to show that the flying stones and rocks must have struck with great speed and force.This interesting observation taken in connection with other facts dh shows that the wreckage hurled upward by the tremendous explosions might have strune strangely enough rose through the layer of the atmosphere atmosphere affected by the eastward blo blowing winds, and on reaching the higher region of the at, atmosphere where the winds might have been blowing east to west,

were carried well to the eastward and westward of Adelcheid but on falling were swept westward by a new trade wind, noscented it is to be prepared by an indraft toward the explosion areas and given such a slant that on striking the many windows refered to they passed through and entered the rooms withi,, within, In the region of Adelcheid the rain of debris, dust stones water and ground turf and masses of trees was similar to that which fell on Abbieann and other places, and in general the material is more course.Indeed throughout the desolated area rough, angular rocks very large in size, some five to six hundred pounds to six tons in weight fell in vast quantities and at a distance exceeding five miles more from the dust clouds descended so abundently that even at Mildred Greenburg , 112 miles from Abbieann they also fell. At Pandora, and again even at Calverine, each distant about one hundred fifty miles from the explosion area, I had recieved reports that rocks and stones and dust fell to even a few inches. This is a minimum measure of the depth depth of the disasterous shower of stones on the devastated area and the average thickness of the strange deposit is several times as great.

This material it must be remembered came down, in a terrific shower, and not only were the stones that fell on Adelcheid larger than those which descended upon northern Abbieann but what can also be instructive, stones of all classes are very conspicuous on the desolated fields.The greater part of the debris, consists of sand clay, and limestone and soft earth and grasses and plants of all descriptions besides fragments of trees, sandstone and granite and much of it also was reduced to dust by the force of the expanding explosions.In addition to all this, the fields are strewn with angular masses of different rock or more compact rock, which was torn from the deeper recesses of the earth by the tremendous force of the explosions.Those fragments of different rock are much more dense than the accompanying fragments of other rocks. Those that fell on the desolated area were somewhat heatened by the flashes of the explosions, and retre retained the heat when striking the ground and capable of igniting houses and shrubbery.In probability these heatened rocks and flashes of the explosions set off the forest fires I see raging.

This brief account of the mateir material which fell on Adelcheid will I believe show the main cause of the loss of life, and the destruction of houses, vegetation, ec etc, on the landscapes.The majority of people killed, as elsewhere, in the opinion of physicens, and others early on the scene lost their lives from the inhalation of strange hot dust or powder, flaming flashes, and being scalded by steam charged with heatened powder gases.On the outer margin of the regions of destruction the explosn ex losions must have shot up mud and water from the river for I found mud adherring to everything within view as if mud had rained down. Casulaties also resulted from the rain of falling stones, crashing roofs and wallf walls of houses, and as had been frequently stated, heat from the flashes was intense and frequent, and is supposed to have caused many deaths.

After returning on the boat to Abbieann, visits were made to more interesting places which I was told was slightly not so badly injured including the beautiful parks. We arived there at noon on the third day after leaving Adeheleid.There was at that time a slight trace of sunshine, but the vast columns of smoke rising from the forest fires which rose probably to a height of fifteen to twenty thousand feet was still a blot. On passing the main site of Abbieann we had only a view of what the raging waters would permit.All this scenery of disaster may seem interesting and worth exploring for by many , suppose, but it has left to me a forlorn melencholic feeling, something of a feeling that tells of a sad occurance a dreadful event of the past which the world itself could not atone for.This long letter Your Excellency I trust will serve to show the members of the Gemini at least in a general way the nature of the observations we were able to make for the sake of our Cause, but I trust it will in time be followed by a critical discussion of the very characteristic explosions which desolated such large portions of country and split five hundred miles of country with fissures, sunk one whole country, destroyed vast forests, and made seas of water where cities and towns had been, and devastated such otherwise large prtions of charming lands we had hoped to visit.

As I know, soon after the disaster around Abbieann the Abbieannia Weather Bureau itself had sent to the Abbieannian Geological survey for examination of a bit of the dust, and rocks of the explosion debris collected aboard a river steamer twenty miles from the scene of the nearest explosion to see whether it was of volcanic material or not, so the real nature of the disaster could be proved. To this was added later some of the erupted sand and mud which fell on the roofs and streets of Mildred Greenburg, and the source of the material, whether from the locality of Abbieann, or Adelcheid.Therefore when I recieved from General Pendro Burger for study the material which he too collected at Abbieann north during his investigations for the Abbieannia Geographic Society, I recieved much pleasure in searching for the source of the dust. Headro Pendro pargure collection embraces many specimens, most of which came from the region of Abbieann.All the specimens

resulted from explosive forces. Not one particle is lava, pumice or anything brought up by any kind of volcanic eruptions. The rocks of the blasted regions thrown up by the explosions are remarkably simple, and belong to all kinds of rock, granite being the leading ,and Limestone and Sandstone following. The region from Abbieann past Mildregreen Mildred Greenburg is composed largely of thos blasted kind of rock. In the prevailing rock of the collection, sandstone is the main kind.In closely allied specimens, something relating to marble, and even coal, and peat comes in. and increases untill in a few of the specimens it shows the rock belongs to the granite and sandstone type.

To illustrate the strange products of the explosion activity of Pengall state previous to the explosion horror of that fatal midnight, with the hope of finding evidences of what the eru eruptions really were, examples were also collected of materials found stuck to the ruins of many buildings in any ruined town or villiage not touched by the floods, and also that among wreckage found in Abbieann and Wickey Lansin, and even from Mildred Greenburg Junction.The other specimens embrace boulders from Adelcheid, fragments frok from Grantlin and many other places, and sand and clay.All of these were good examples of all material but entirely lacking the proper materials so well known as lave or colled molten magma. so no the rocks look the colof of granite n and sandstone, and only on a second closer look one percievos that from some strange cause many of these rocks are peppered full of strange holes or marks.The rocks very in color.Most of the structure is of course limestone. From the river shore near Abbieann is an interesting specimen of black sandstone.In addition to this fragments of granite were obtained at twenty other localities.All specimens differ from the others. There is only the slightest trace of quartz.

But every evidence of these stones, with ground dirt, found, , Pendro regards as not from any marine or surface eruption or volcanic activity, for he also says, an eruption that would break out at one place, last a second, quiet down and break out anew continually at different places for fifteen minutes if happening would be an unusual case indeed.Yet if there could be found any such rocks belonging to those that would give evidence of volcanic activity it might have happened, and a strange thing indeed, but there is no sign of any molten like rocks, neither is there any trace of fieldspar,hypersthen,, magnetite,, ground mass, phenocryst, plagioclose,, andesites or other such volcanic rock. There is neither pumice scoria or any other kind, the rock fragments are generally normal.

There is sure sure evidence that the explosive enegry in this section was far from the cause of volcanic activity as many believed. The strangest material consist of merely ground dust, the color being the usual gray,be gray of dust seen in a country road. The s Riversteamship the Nic-Haner was in the river harbor of Mildred Greenburg about a hundred miles from the place of the nearest of the explosions, and sand and dust and rocks came on its decks.The color of the dust was similiar as elsewhere. From dust found of different colors it is also believed the force of the explosions might have pulverzied the rocks and ground dirt.A vomparison of the material ejected by the blasts discovers under the microscope certain difference between the two kinds of dust, but chemical analysis which deals with a larger quanity than a thin section and which recognized small difference by means of analyses being made proves the dust was from ground, and roadbeds and sand from river shores or from sandstone.

There is a small amount of marbel, and only a small ammount of harden stone of which m name cannot guess.Most of the greater portion of the finer material which fell on the decks of surviving ships was derived from the sudden pulverization of solid limestone and granite by the explosions. Boulder stones, and even house bricks and fragments of concrete are also present, mortar and forest debris debris also, but at least half of the mass if sandstone, and the particles are too fine for discrimination with they the naked eye, but under the microscope are found to be dust of limr , lime and other stone, mixed with a larger proportion of ground dust, except that the proportion of the ground dust seems larger at the greater distance and this is to be expected for the brittle and lighter ground dust pulverseizes and floats in the air more easily than the mileral particles.

Many exploded rocks were picked up from the remaining streets of the ill fated city of Abbieann.It contained stone material of all kinds, and the largest pieces of which there are many are composed of cement stone and cobble stone.In this rain of exploded debris the fine and light were carried down with the larger fragments fragments but it is evident that much of the finer and lighter material was shot up by the explosions to gra great heights above the large heavy fragments to be spread far and wide by the upper currents.Far beyond Abbieann, the dust had f spread so that it fell even in Calverine.

Specimens were obtained from Francis Atlanta, and a river vessel far southward, but the kind of material as well as its movements noted by observers indicated that it came mainly not wholly from the region of Adelcheid.They are all the same and were treated together.In color they range from gray to white to buff and reddish brown.....Under the microscope,, it is seen to be made up very largely

or clear black sandstone. with others of loud cloud like appearance. They are about equally n m numerous.The clearer ones generally show the nature of regular cliffs stone, and look like those of granite.The clouded material when crushed is found to be sandstone.Traces of marble occur ge but generally they have appeared to have been removed by the force of the explosion. ven salts are present.The material appears to be anything but volcanic.

If we Your Majest consider now the most complete analyses, those of Pargar they appear chemically to fall into two main groups,, granite, and sandstone, and therefore I can assume that the figure given for these stones is correct, and means tyet that we have here a proof of cases that the eruptions could not have occured from any underground sources,, and that the fragments of debris from every blast is equally alike.Therefore that the eruptions were volcanic as many believe is highly improbable, and I doubt greatly that the explosions came from any kind of natural causes. In most other respects analyses show these facts frombthe condition of the explosion j ejecta, likewise the high granite and limestone.

Therefore how is it posible that these eruptions could come from volcanic disturbances, and should have ejected from the same vent as many times at the same time, and fallen with such disasterous effects upon Adelcheid.?

Even had this happened it seems beyond the bounds of the possible that an explosion would occur like this from underground eruptions.Is it an unwarrented suspicion that the activity was volcanic.It is hoped that this point can be made clear by the editor of newspapers, and the chemest who madethe analyses.

As to so many statements the announcement in science implies that the explosions came from strange underground activity of volcanic origin but there is no proof whatsoever that this is so.The interval evidence of the analysis itself pints most points most strongly to explosions as the source, and I and general pargar shall so regard it untill proof to the contrary is forthcoming.The wreckage left by the explosions is given in the original publication as such, without any statement to the contrary .The reason why the materials thrown up by the explosions is that because of what they consist, especially fine sand wet and dry and ground earth and dust, clay, and limestone and even mud and some portions of erupted quicksands, which were blown high into th the air.

If the above inferences are justified we find then that while the ejecta from the from the explosions are of the same material from the same craters and they do not vary in the composition, and between the sje ejecta they do not show ant any difference by which it is to appear easy to distinguish the product from or of one crater from that of the other.

Possibly, as I have already admitted further careful investigation will not near out the conclusions above suggested, but the evidence in their support are so strong at present that reog geologists and chemests will do well to put them to further and decisive proof.The any analyses aff afford room for speculation in other directions also.If itbistrue as said If it is true as said, that the deaths in cities not totally leveled by concussion resulted largely from strangul ation from the fumes of the explosions and blasts of power and powder gases, the source of this gas is not far to seek, for there might have been liquid explosives contained in quanity which blown in the air would act as deadly hot fumes.

In many places the testimony as to powder fumes of deadly nature in the smoke and dust clouds is overwhelming and the odor of posion gases under favorable conditions, perceptible miles out at sea itself, but it does not appear to have been formed from volcanic eruptions, as shown by my analyses, which further accounts for the nature of the explosions.It is not my opinion necessary to assume the prior existance of pwder sulphates in the explosives powders, for while there may have been such in soks some there might not have been any in others. In making further ala analyses chemests should be particular to ascertain the condition of the rocks, andvn and not be content to report it simply as probable erupted fragments of magma without further comment. Work of this kind is surely worth doing well, especailly for our cause, or it were better to be left undone.

It may be here said that in the analyses showing much limestone and granite, and ground dust and earth are absolutely a fact.The exact error due to the fe ef effect of too quck an examination causes difficulty in correcting, and ascertaining ascertaining the total and right ammount of rocks, which serves as the bases for calculating the rocks.

I could allude to one real disagreement between one analyses reported by the chemest of the Geographic Department, and that by the Geological survey. this relates to the presence of real pumice and scoria. Fither we of the Geographic Societies have overlooked traces of lava because of some inherent defect in our method, or the Geological survey has counted as lava something which looked like but was not that element.I may su say as the result of our experience for many years, that I looked for same and found no trace of pumice or Scoria, and that hundreds of analyses have been made without finding any trace of lava .Dargar

mentioned with some reserve of finding much copper slate, and other kind of mineral in his specimens of dust from the elevated part of what is left of Abbieann.This observation I believe to be quite correct.I also found it in sixteen specimens from the crater edge near Abbieann.We seldom report it because of the opportunities usually present for its introduction from outside, but my personal belief is they that it is as unuversally distributed through rocks as any one of the other metals, though of course in very small ammounts.Some of the points refered to in this unusually long letter your Excellency may with great advantage be dvelth upon at a greater length in a future letter or publication, when further data are available, for examination and discussion.

From the decks of the ship called the peechnut, about fifty miles south of Abbieann the captian claimed that by half past twelve, the sky overhead became overcast, and tinted a strange sackcloth black color, and that what surprised him still more fine whitesh gray dust dust began to fall at about one oclock or later. He suspected a volcanic eruption from some point, and reported such things to be, Therefore on my reference to a chapter longer for the letter, I can give an account of the reports of fine dust, which fell on vessels on many rivers of the country within a radiance of the explosion territory and which came from the region of explosions.One captian reported to me thus,

"I was astonished to find strange dust coming upon the decks of my ship, and believed there might have been a tornado somewhere which clouded the sky with so much dust that it settled down to where my ship was . I bottled a sample of it.On my arival in Sacramento In Abbieannia and hearing of the supposed volcanic eruption near A Abbieann, I concluded it came from there although we were six hundred miles northwest of that region.

The experience goes thus,

I had arived withthe ship near Mic-Hollester City, in Calverinia, some five hundred miles south of Abbieann, the weather being fine and clear.Between Twelve and fifteen minutes after twelve midnight, I and my crew were awekened and aroused by many reports as of the heaviest artillery firing violent volleys incessantly, and conc consternation started as my crew thought the enemy was firing upon our ship. We started full speed ahead, but shortly afterward, while the ship was cutting through the water a strange dense black cloud appeared moving down from the north , from the direction of Bengall State, five hundred miles north of us, and gradually rolled and moved southeastward, and spread.Within three hours the whole sky a was overcast, there was a strange smell of exploded powder in the air, and two hours later a shower of strange dust began to fall, and it grew as dark as erebus.Believing now it was the cause of a far distant volcanic eruption that was unusually sudden and violent we headed southward, the weather being so dark that we co ld not distinguish anything at a distance of fourty feet.At this time the dust was pouring down and speedily covered the decks to the depths of one third of an inch.About twenty miles from Mic-Hollester City the dust was so dense as to cause more total darkness/.For hald the half the night the dust contonued to fall continually and tward morning it commenced to clear to the southwestward, and the early morning stars were occassionally visible.We steamed through this strange rain of dust for a disaste disa distance of one hundred miles in a direct line from Mic-Hollester city to pandora, and at a low estimate a little one two inches of strange gray dust fell on the decks.All that time the wind was north. "

From the ship called the Mayday the reo report came from the captian as thus;"The only unusual thing noticed during the passage was the strange action of the river water, glowing fashes in the far distance, and the discolering of the river water, which was a dark grayish tint, which appeared at first to be to me volcanic ashes, but which on examination showed to be some strange kind of oil. elsewhere the water assumed its natural blue.

Ye t I did observe that a little past midnight a heavy bank of cloud started rising in the northwest, and wit within three hours covered the whole sky.At the same time a strange fine white colored substance started falling, which by morning covered the decks to the depth of one inch.The wind during the incident was northeast, and blowing strong. During that time I heard a very loud booming like rolling thunder continuing for fiteen minutes, in the north and northwest, and the shower of dust covered rigging, deck and smoke stacks.The cloud was like that of a thundestorm coming up at night, with chagneable temperature, sometimes warm sometimes cool; the moon having a strange reddish color.And a violent vibration was felt throughout the ship for about fifteen minutes, as if going over the top of a hill, supposed to be the effect of a submarine eithwquake."

Yours truely.
J.E.

It's surely intensely interesting, long as the letter is" said starring.This "This letter if not exaggerated shows the nature of the disaster, but as it is only a duplicate of the real copy which I can tell by the carbon nature of the writing it would not do me no harm and keep it untill I can present it to the governer of Calverinia.But let's go ahead.We have delayed long because of the letter."

They set forward and begun to ci continue up the hill, and on up the hill they slowly and laboriously went, but before they got up to the top of the hill panting and sweating, Starring suddenly ordered loudly "Halt" and when they all obeyed, he said to G Jennie who was near him "I dare say thin his is a breathing exercize hill, but did see something suspicious over yonder."

"I don't see nothing yet.," said" Jennie," but have the others sit or lie down and we can go forward and scout."

"Not as yet said Starring."We cannot sit or lie down here now, for only a little little aboe above is the top.If you girls fell feel tired I&ll have some of the men to help you alo g."

"No we can make it" said Jmnie."But your saying that you see something suspicious has b me on the alert." a d and he saw she had drawn her pistol and so had Angelin Radcliffe and even the Calverinian general."

Starring signalled a command, h h which only soldiers and th girls could understand and they deployed into columns and at another signal seperated a little more and then moved forward more cautiously.However when they had reached the summit, they were very willing to lie down, for they were all in a pelting sweat.. They were de loyed as before, and the officers commanded all to be on the lookout. "This is strange," said Jennie."But of this hill I have heard much, but this region I have b never seen before.But let us beware of being caught naping, for it might cost us dear.There is appearance we are near enemy territory.They say you know that parts of Bengall county is in enemy possession now."

"No2 Now " said Starring to Radcliffe." what do you think of this advanture so far."

"Sir" said the boy scout,"I was almost beat out of heart when surprised once by the fires, but I thank you for accompanying me and the girls and trusting us as your guar guardians.And I remember now what violet, and her sisters have told me, namely. "That the way to heaven or success is up a ladder,, and the way to defeat or perdition is down a hill.But I had rather see the adventure through than abandon it so soon."

"But " said Jennie with intent to k joke a little; "But the proverb is, to abandon a dangerous advanture is easy."

"Yes" said Radcliffe," but in that case the day comes, when in my opinion, desert ing a arty because you are ar afraid of excitement will result in disgrace and destruction."

"Tis a good boy scout " said Starring."You have given us a right good answer." Then the girls did smile, but the boy scout did blush..

"Come" every one," said Angeline."Let's all eat a bit, while we remain here to either rest ourselves ourselves or keep a look out for the unseen danger.For we have now plenty of provsions you know."

They all thought it a good advice, and they all had a share of the things they had recieved in the camps.

"I thought we all had something worth while" said Starring."

"Yes" so we have" said Radcliffe" but it shall be as I said it should, when at first we came together after you found me, that all of us should be a sharer in the good things of the camps."

Now when they had eaten and drank, and had chatted a little longer, and koe kept their eyes and ears open in the meanwhile, Starring said;

"The day will soon be wearing away, so let us prepare to going."

They all rose up to continue the march, and the girl scout being the guides went before, but Jennie forgot to take her bottle of smelling salts with her, so she sent one of the soldiers to fetch it, and he returned readily enough.

Then said Jennie;

"I think this is a suspicious neighborhood.sir what is the cause of your suspicions."

"So Starring made answer;

"I t is because I'm sure I observed a sudden and strange movement o in the bushes bushes and as there is not the slighties slightest breath of air I was suspicious. We must all keep wakeful and not allow ourselves to be caught unawares.We must all watch closely in every direction as we continue on, for I do not like the discovery.If our purpose for the expedition is known we'll have lots of excitement I'm afraid, especially if we are in enemy terro territory."

When they had reached half way down the other side, they percieved a large glen, and before it tward a road, a column of troopers in gray galloping out of sight, and Starring just in time caught sight of a yellow flag with the words; written on it.

"Let the Christian dogs that see this banner take heed,
That into Glandelinian territory they do not go,
Lest is heeding not, and into here they speed,
They'll regret meeting us a dangerous foe."

This was indeed a startling surprise for Starring and others who had seen this,, and Starring said;

"We are probably in the territory of the enemy already.This bet would be enough to make raw recruits afraid to continue on such an adventure.For I my part I'm tempted to attack them.What you say Angeline Richese."

"It is like like the saying or the wise"Said she" the first attacker is generally the surprisor.But what time shall be given us to overtake them."

"I'll try." said Starring, "I'd like to capturethat insulting flag at least."

So Starring issued an order for all to mount, and two of the party rushed off in two directions to intercept the Glandelinian cavarly while Starring and the rest went on ahead. Starring was a strong powerful man, and so he and his followers were not afraid of a Glandelinian cavarly squadron of any size, and no one yet in his band were ever glad to cring behind, but were always the first to meet an enemy. Now as they came upon the roadway where they had seen the Glandelinian cavarly, they heard the noise of a fray, and knew that the other two parties had successfully intercepted the Glandelinians and was driving them forward tward his band.

Now halting his column Starring drew his sword, with intent to barricade the way of the Glandelinians, in spite of the fierce charge they might make as he was wished to capture their horses and what supplies they had and their saucy flag... Then there appeared the foremost of the retreating Glandelinian column.

Then said Starring. "Come forward boys, do not let the Glandelinians pass us, go into them hard.We are going on adventures but it is well for us to have a fray once in a while.I'll do us good. We have come forth to withstand these rebels and to that end will back our purpose."

"No to say the truth by reason of the fierceness of these Glandelinians, and of the grim carriage of their horses, Starring advised the girls for their own sake to go to the rear, as he did not wish them in the fray.The Glandelinians came thundering on, panic stricken because of the sudden attack by the two columns, but Starring and his men were ready for them and let go a resounding volley of pistols that staggered the Glandelinians, and they started retreating for the open spaces.

"Stop them" shouted Starring."They are going through the glen, and this is the q way they must not go, for if they do we won't obtain our wish."

Starrings men galloped forward.Then did the carbines and pistols of both sides roar so hediously that the din excited the girls themselves, but the Glandelinians though three to one against the three attacking parties were routed in panic, Starring outrifing outriding their captian, and giving him a downright blow, knowing him off his horse, while a sta stray shot brought the horse down upon his knees.Some other soldier captured the yellow banner, and a revolver besides.

The loss on both sides, however was slight, being mostly in horses, Starring lost two killed, and five severely wounded, the Glandelinians lo killed, and one hundred wounded.Leaving the Glandelinians to take care of their dead and wounded, Starring and his bands took off the captured horses, and plenty of weapons and ammunition and a few prisoners besides.

When the conflict was over Starring said;

"Come now, every one and follow me through the glen, and we can get out of side before the noise of the conflict bring s other glandelinians to the scene."

They galloped through the glen taking the prisoners with them, about fourty. About two hours later they came in sight of a small forest town, while on investigation proved to be friendly, and they soon were riding into it with their prisoners, but they made the more haste after this to go thither, because of the glandelinians it is dangerous traveling in the daylight. So when they rode into the town there arose a hubbub among the people who came running out to see who were coming.They did not stop however untill they came to what Starring knew to be the Sheriffs office,, and he readily dismounted, and the sheriff before coming on the ouide cried ouid,

"Who is there please?"

But when Starring answered "It is I, the sheriff somehow or other seemed to know his voice and came out, for Starring in his earlier days had often come there for Starring knew this town and many of the people.,hen the sheriff came down from the upper prtion of portion of the hou house, he opened the door, and seeing Starring with his large party said;

"How now general Starring"What is your business here in this town at this time.? I thought you was far away within the christian lines?"

"I am out on an advenar adventure of a most important kind" answered Starring. "I have brought my column of troopers, and three child scouts along.I had been here some time ago, had I not been tempted to attack a squadron of Glandelinians a little way down the road.But I and my troops captured their ammunition and a number of horses.since the region is teeming with Glandelinians I thought it best to come here and give you warning.You know there's no telling what they'll do if they come upon this town."

"I am glad you have come to warn us." said the Sheriff."Will you not go in and stay till morning."

"Not

"Not 12 "S

"Not I " Said Starring."I w ll return to my command immediately and guard the town till your population can retreat in safty taking what belongings they need.No telling what might happen.The two girl and boy scouts may remain with you during the night however if they so wish."

"Oh sir" said the Sheriff "I know not how unusual you are so willing to leave our town in your possession, yet you are so faithful and loving to your own townsfolk ,you have so often fought so stoutly for us, you have been so hearty in conselting of us, that we shall never forget your favor to s us.And we'd be foolish to fear hen when your column is here to protect the town."

"Then said Angeline Richees ."Oh that we might have the company of your men citizens to our journeys end.How can such poor women and children in this town hold out in a exodus when the way is so full of troubles without the guardianship of our commands.You all need a friend and defender untill you are safe in a good strong hold."

Then said Radcliffe;

"Pray Mr Sheriff, be persuaded to go with us, because it will be better.We'll all soon have to leave as if the enemy comes at o in strong force we would have to go and they'll burn the town.And the way is dangerous as it is and you going along without an escort is an sucide."

"How about it" asked the Sheriff of the Calverinian officer, for Starring had ridden away.

"I am at general Starrings commandement" said general Saunders. "If he should allow us to be your guide quite through, I will willing wait upon you.I will tell him your desires to night.However at present I must withdraw, and so my good child scouts alive for the night."

Then the Sheriff, asked Jennie of her mission, and she said;

"I came from General Vivians command.We are after important information from the enemy."

"How" said the Sheriff " are you after information."

She told him then the whole story, and she then addied- "I and this girl here and the boy are guides as we know the country and the lay of the land but the troopers and their officers do not.He(pointing to Radcliffe) is the best of uscscouts, and our favorite friend."

The boy blushed as she said this...

Then the Sheriff rang his b ll for the maid, and there came to his response a young white uniformed girl.And to her the Sheriff said;

"Go and prepare rooms for my three guests, and tell it to my wife, that three of general vivians famous child scours have come to spend the night with me."

She obeyed the command, andcw and what a noise for joy and gladnessthere was among the household, when the maid but did just saw the first few words .Every one came with the greatest haste to the front door, the Sheriffs wife and children also, for the three child scoutsestill stood at the door talking to o e one of the towns policemen.Then said the Sheriffs wife.;

"Come in my friends, come in, you girl and boy scouts of that best of all christian generals, come in with all that are with you.Q"

So Jennie turmer led the way in, and they o followed the maid, who led them into a very large and most neatly furnished room, where they were bidden to sit down of which they ouetyed obeyed.The sheriff then saluted them with a kiss, for he really understood who thet they were, and he said;

"Weo Welcome, ye servants of the greatest country, and ye vessels of the grace of our Blessed Lord, welcome to us."

However it was now somewhat late, it was growing dark outside, and because the two girl and boy scouts were weary with their journey, and also overexcited at the sight of the second fight with the Glandelinians, they desired to make make preparations to go for rest as soon as possible.

"Nay" said the Sheriffs wife,"It is better for you to refresh yourselves with a supper, for we have suspected of your coming, knowing you were in our location being informed by a city constable, and therefore had had supper prepared for you half an hour ago.

They therefore had the supper which was prepared for them, and then when they had ended their grace after meals they desired to go to bed as they surely did feel tired and sleepy.

So the Sheriffs wife led them up to a bed room prepared for the two girls, and the one for the two boys,,,.While they were at rest, Angeline and jennie for a few minutes talked about some things that suited their fan fancy..

"Little did I ever believe once, that when important things are needed to be learned that we would be selected as the party." said Jennie.

"And I even as little thought of lying in one of the beds belonging to some of the Sheriffs children" said Jennie as we do now."

"And much last less did I ever think of seeing our adventure through so far without hinderance, and yet now I believe we shall be successful in our undertaking.."

"Hark did you hear a noise?" asked Jennie .

"Yes I believe it sounds to me like it is music from some band, maybe to celebrate our coming. "

"We can surely give wonderful music" said Angeline Richees. I like music also in the house, but there should also be music in the heart, just as there is music in heaven when a sinner repents."

Thus they talked for a short time, and then they went to sleep.go in in the d following morning, when they had reawakened, Jennie said to Angeline Richee,

"What was you saying in your sleep last night?I suppose you was in an exciting dream."So I was" said Angeline Richee "And an exciting dream it i was, but are you sure,,, I was talking in my sleep.?

"Yes you spoke excitedly and loudly, but please tell me what your dream was like."

"I was are dreaming" said Angeline, that was riding all along in a forested valley, and was bemoaning of the sufferings of our states, and of the news of the war progressing with favor for the foe.Now I had not ridden on my way attn long , when I became conscon conscious that many were gathering about me but in hiding probable to watch me, and to hear what it was that I was saying..As I realized that some unknown parties were evesdropping on me, I also heard sounds ad as if some werelaughing at me.with that I sll slyin slyly drew my pistols, n and advanced cautiously tward the spot .....As I did so I happened to look in the other dire direction, and saw some one coming on me o tward me on horseback with such speed that the horse might as well had wings.. He came directly to me and said;

"Angeline, what ails you.Do not go there.It's an ambush."

When he had heard me explain my suspicions, he took hold of my horses reins and said; "Angeline come follow me."So he rode onward and I followed till we came to an open clearing.There he made some kind of a single, and in a moment I was surrounded by Angelinian soldiers.So I awoke from my dream, but did I talk loudly in my sleep.

"You sure did" said Jennie," and well you might tak talk in your sleep, to see yourself get off so well when almost running into unseen danger.And you must give me leave to tell you that I believe it was a good dream, a good dream of warning. and as we might have almost find the first incidents al on almost like the dream so we must be cautious to the last.God speaks once, even twice sometimes a dozen times, and yet man does not percieve it.He sometimes speaks in a dream, or in a vison of the night,, when we are in the deepest sleep.God has often visited many when asleep, and God has spoken also to our hearts when asleep, either by words, by proverbs, by signs, warnings; as well as if one is awake."

"Well I am glad of my dream" said Angeline" but however you know we are not suppose to believe in dreams."

"I know that" said Jennie, but I think it is now time for us to rise, and to find what me must do.I see the enemy as yet has not come near the town.Thank God."

"Pray if the town invites us all to stay for a while, let us willingly accept the offer, so we may rest long to be fit for the continuation of the journey. I am more willing to stay a while here in this town."

"We shall find out what they will do" said Angeline."B t if the enemy does come we couldn't stay and the town would have to be abandoned."""""

They were up and ready in a few minutes, being fast in dressing, and then they came down.And the Sheriff asked them how they rested, and they both said it was very good, and as of the best nights l dging they had since they became girlp girlscouts in the arm m army.

Then said the Sheriff-

"If you two girls will be persuaded to stay here with your companies for a while, you and they will have what the house and the town can afford."

"We will be willing with a very good will." said Jennie. So they consented with a purpose o to stay there untill Starring and the Calverinian officers desired to go on again.And because the sherff wished to see how Angeline Richee had profited by their adventure so far, he asked leave of her to question and her and Jennie.Jennie gave free consent.Then he began at Angeline.

"Are you sure Miss Richee, that no n one can tell who are responsible for the big disasters.?"

"It seems that way but I'm suspicious." answered Angeline."I'm sure though I cannot give evidence yet that the Manleys had all to do with it, backed by the glandelinia government,..

"Good girl.And can you tell what really exploded.Were the explosion s volcanic as some believe or did the enemy do it?"

"I firmly believe the enemy made the explosions of all disasters."

"Good girl still.But how do you suspect that the enemy could be responsible?"

"By the nature of the glandelinians."

"Whom among the glandelinian generals do you suspect.???""

"John, Manley, Husbaum Manley, His father Johnston Jacken Manley, and their staff."

"And can you suspect who ordered their making ?/?"

The "The Three Fayleys.."

"But if that is the case do you suspect where the Fayleys might have secured all the munitions for the making of all those explosions.It is proved the explosions or explosives could not be taken from our own side?"

"By manufacture in his own country."

"How did it be transported here."?

"By slick methods unknown to us."

"And who are really responsible do you think in another sense?"

"The Calverinian Government from overconfidence."

"And who could have saved Calverinia from this awful hell of devastation?"

"The Calverinian Government, back by those of other states if she had been more vary and and watchful.The Government did not think the enemy could go that far, or dared."

"But how could our State governments save her in time?"

"By fortifiying every point of such danger with troops and artillery, and keeping soldiers in strong numbers on the watch day and night."

"But how could this save Calverinia?"

"By also strengthening all river dikes,, and keeping away all persons from the territory that cannot give satisfactory answers, or show the proper passports and passes."

"And how do you know that could save Calverinia, since the enemy also is crafty?"

"By strengthening every such point of danger, where levees are, having all our standing armies not used on the fields of batle battle to guard every river levee and dike, to fortify dams and lakes, and to keep every one not known away if necessary by force."

Then said the Sheriff" You are to be commended for thus knowing and giving such good advice.I suppose I need not ask Jennie these questions, since she too would give me the same answers no doubt.I will therefore continue to apply my questions to you. What is the worse disaster do you believe happened?"

"It is much disputed" said Angeline. Yet either one of the disasters are unusual so made by thw wicked Glandelinian Generals, but as many said, and wrote, the Abbieann and Bengall State flood and explosion horror was the greatest."

"What do you suppose the Calverinian Government can do to save the rest of the stae state from such future disasters."?

"Why such future disasters if they come as great again as Abbieann or the others ,and result in so mighty a flood, than non none can pull out the state from the effects of the horrors as already known,would need the assistance of every country around about us to pull us through, and therefore I think that none can pull us out of the clutches of gthese disaster makers but Our Blessed Lord, and that God is so good and loving to men that I know in the near future He'll help our Government find a way and means to pull Calverinia out of the quicksands of disaster, and aid Calverinia to recover from her miserable condition."""""

"What is supposed to be done by the Calverinian Government saving the state?"

"We cannot tell yet but that Glandelinia, who has brought Calverinia into this state of suffering and ruin, and misery can also be made to atone."

"What would be your design in saving of Calverinia from these disasters in the fuu future?"

"I have stated it before."

"How?"

"The strengthening of every levee, to have them guarded by troops and artillery and fortifications, and to have scouts watching all approaches night andday night and day.This success woulf glorify our cause , and we then could Glorify Gods Name all the more, ask more for His grace and Justice, and the overlasting protection of all the Calverinian creatures....."

"But who are they that must do the work that will cause Calverinia to be saved from future disasters?"

"Those that accept to do the work in behalf of Calverinia's Salvation."

"You are a good bright goil scout AANGELINE RICHEE, you have learned your mission well, and you have harkened good to ha what your teacherschave instructed to you in your girl scout school.But are you willing I should questen you further?"

"If the Glandelinians are responsible for those disasters, what may her purpose be?"

"Violet, and her sisters o told me Glandelinia hopes to davastate Calverinia, so she'll have a clear way to carry on her war to success."

"What is your opinion?"

"That Glandelinia knowing that Calverinia is a place, blessed by God, desires to devastate it to spite Him, because He dwells here in spirit in all our Holy Catholic Churches."

"Why is Calverinia now called" Hell".??????

"Because by th se disasters she seems to have been turned into a state, most wofeful wosful, because now it isthe dwelling place, of horror, fire, and death..!."

"Why would you desire to see the enemy,, driven out of Calverinia.?"

"That I may see her restored, that I may see her cities and towns rebuilded and her people restored to peace of mind and happiness, for they are the kind that desire to give God, and serve him without weariness, and love Him everlasting ly and therefore they do not deserve all this."

"A very good saying, and which shows you have certainly learned well. I'll ask now if Glandelinia had been suspected before she started making these disasters, if she could have been able to carry out her foil plans."

"No, for then the Abbieannian and all her state Governments would have been prepared, nor could Glandelinia hau ever obtained possesion of any levee of the rivers.Glandelinia certainly did not warn us of her vile purpose, and therefore we could not be prepared. "

"What do you think of Calverinia's future?"

"It will be the same or worse if her Governments did not learn a lesson from the horrible disasters of the past."

"Is there nothing written therein in our histories of what you understand?"

"Yes a great deal."

"If therev s is anything in a history that you do not understand what do you do then?"

2" I study it out and pray to God and ask His Blessed Mother to ask Him to help me learn that wihch which I must or that He knows will be for my good."?

"Do you believe Glandelinia will ever be made to pay for all this?"

"I believe she shall, and dearly too, and if the war goes on in the future our own armies I'm sure will repay her in the same nature, though not of course with a revengful method but as a punishment or ea means to bring the war to a speedy close.And I believe this upon a double account, first, because Emperor Vivian has promished to do so, and secondly because he and his armies and ar nation backing him up is able to perform all he threats....."

Then said the sheriff to the girls, You must still harken tothose who will teach you further, for they can learn you much Th;ne more.You must also give ear to what all kinds of good inforM formation you shall hear from others, for the sake of the good cause you will learn many important things. Observe als also also and that with carefulness, what even the heavens and the earth do teach you you for the goood of the c ause, but especially be much in your mediation of what you are going to perform, for too that will be the cause f of our side winning this war to its prproper finish.I for my part my good girl scouts will teach you what I or my children who are also good scouts can while you are hear, and shall be glad if you and any of your followers will ask me questions, that tend to help ou you in your adventures,.Bbbbbob That also ought to tend to godly edifying."

Chapter 40.

SOME NEW DANGERS THEY ENCOUNTER.

THEY HEAR SOME MORE STIRRING STORIES.....

Now already these adventureres had been in this town for about nearly twenty four hours. During these hours the two girls had a strange t visitor that pretended some good will to them, but the man would not tell his name.He was aman of some unusual breeding, and that pretended he was a soldier and that he was also a christian spy, but by his action and b,by his speech and some vulgar language the two girls though they did o not say anything did not like him or trust him either. Hehad came twice during the days, first to Angeline Richee, and then to Jennie, and offered as it seemed service to her and her followers.

What made the girls feel somewhat uneasy was that they had been studying a map which was in the sheriffs office, and on this part cula particular day she was busying he self in looking carefully over the map which was that od of Calverinia, for she was always interested in maps, and therefore on this particular day she was tracing over the map, for she was desirous to look over somethingabout some of the flood and other disaster horrors.

And this man not knowing where or how she disposed of what she intended doing on the map for she did not take the map down from the wall but stul studied it where it hung, seemed to be greatly taken for that he found her or Angeline Richee never idle. Of course the two girls were downright suspicious suspicious, and she or they rather revealed the business to both the boyscouts enrod and Radcliff Radcliffe, and inquired of the boys concerning this particular man, for thegirls felt sure the boys would have more suspicions than they and would have more time to watch him more carefully.....

The two boys shadowed him like a hidden gohst troop, and finally discovered that he also was a very busy man, and enrod told the two girls,that he was one that pret nded to be a friend, but was as they feared, a spy trying to learn what they and Starring intended to do, and what they were journeying for.

"B Now then"said Angeline Richee"I will look no more on him for if he is a spy he will have to look out.I purpose never to have a glog on Calverinia" soil."

"Penrod then replied"There is no matter of greater discouragement to be given to him but that you and Jennie continue so as you had begu begun to do with the map, and then suddenly wheel on him with a drawn pistol and that will quickly cool his courage."

So the next day he came he found her at her old work, looking over the map and trying to draw or copy it also. Then said he -

"What, always at the same old map.Are you crazy kids?"

"Yes "Said she·"I am sty studying the map for my own use."

"And what can you do with such a map as that?"

"I do these things"Said she'"That I may be rich in my good efforts to lay up a store for a good foundation against the time to come that I myself might lay hold on eternallife whether others have a chanc chance to do so or not."

"2Why but what do you intend to do with the map steal it?"

"Why do anything as I please"said she.

"Your answers are silly and foolish....."said he, he.

"Well I might be.2" she answered...."Are you a spy!!!""she asked.

At this question his countenance fell..and after this he did not come to her or her companion again...when he had left her The sherrif himself said it"Did I not tell you that when he was af aid of being discoe discovered that the man would uickly forsake thecee thee. !Yea he will raise up and repot report us here to the enemy no doubt, for notwth notwithstanding his pretense of being a friend, and his seeming attention to you, yet he surely must have been a spy trying to learn why all of your force is here in the town."

"I might have been swayed by many spies before now" said Angeline Richee, though I did not speak of it to any one, but they were men who did not attack me any for I always kept my eyes open.I could have had many other girl and boy scouts come ith me but they were such as either illy like the conditions of travel or were somewhat afraid, though never illy one of them find fault with my intentions but otherwise I feel they would not have.....

"Well for our own days everything is set by for the best" said Jennie" therefore the practice which is set for by thy conditions, there are but few that can abide, especially this kind of adventure you are having."

" Well" said the Sherifs wife-de-k knife."I never worry if none of them are courageous to go with me or not in case I went on an expedition, but to my mmind they would go just the same or be branded as a spy."

"If no one is nervy enough to go with us" said Angeline, I will leave them behind for I cannot change my plans , and to have a follower who might get scared and run away in time of need, I purpose never to admit as long as I go out.I had a follower that had a companion a year ago, but either one of them couldn't agree, one was afraid, the other was brave to rashness, and because I was resolved to do as I beg n, therefore the one who was afraid disappeared before we knew he was gone.We have never seen him since."

"And yet he was supposed to be a professional boy scout I'll warrant you."

"He she was a girl scout, yet such a one as she was, and yet I hope there are few like her.she was a foriegner too, therefore I do not trust them unless I know them as well as my A.B.C.s."

At this moment one of the officers of the adventurous party was brought in to the Sheriffs home seriously injured.He had been out scouting and was surprised by some of the enemy hidden in ambush, and he was the only survivor of thirteen Calverinian soldiers who had followed him.His injuries indeed was severe, and he suffered very muchee m pain, as if he was being burned there with a red h ot iron.Angeline pibbaged the Sheriff to send o for a physicia, and within a few minutes he came.He was led into the room, and after he had observed the injured officer, he concluded that his injury was more serious than supposed.Then he said to Angeline seeing she was dressed like a leader;

"How did this soldier come to be injured in this town?"

"He went out scouting said she.

"Well" said the physician "this soldier was tempering with things he should not have done, without your knowing it.He must be operated on or he will die.The bullet must be removed."

"Then "Said Jennie"What was that that you had suspicion of in the bushes before we rode into this town.you know you observed something on the left hand which you warned us all of, and would have advanced but Starring advised you not to!"

"True" said Angeline"I did see suspicious movements among the thick shrubbery and the bushes,, and if I had gone forward I'd of been shot probably.I did suspi suspect something, and yet I would have advanced thereof."

"I felt sure he and his party had run into some ambush," said Jennie."And that which you m might have seen Richee to wit, those suspicious things among the shrubs and brushwood was probably an ambush being prepared for us.We were or are in a outskirts section of the enemy territory. I do marval that no one warned us of it. Hardly no one has survived going past or through an ambush, and I am surprised we passed through unharmed."

Being afrighted at the scene of the wounded man the sheriffs children began to cry, and Angeline Richee said" Oh such things to happen, and oh careless soldiers ,what shall I do if the thing keeps on happening."

"Come do not be too much dejected" Said the Sheirff," the officer may do well well again, but he must allow the bullet to be removed."

"Pray sir" to the doctor" try the utmost of your skill with him, whatever it costs."

"I'll be reasonable" said the physician.

The operation was performed.The doctor then told the sheriff that the officer would have to remain in the town for quite a spell for he could could could not continue with the company now for a long, long, time. When the officer after recovering from the effects of the sleep potion heard this, he was loathe to hear such bad news, and though torn with pain as if he should be pulled in pieces he stormed and said he must go.

"Come, come"said the physician"you must take it my advice."

"It goes against my duty." said the officer.

"I must have you remain here .2 said Angeline Richee ."You will not be in condition to travel for months now."

"What shall I do then if the enemy takes the town ." said the officer.

"Pray sir" said Jennie, to the Sheriff"How does the situation stand for the town... here.Is it strong.!!!"

"It has a good strong defense." said the sh f sheriff,.

"Oh colonel Matthews" said Jennie."If you love your cause, if you love even us you must make up your mind to remain here until you are able to come."

So with much ado after a short prayer for the bles sing of God upon the town he took her advice, and decided to remain behind."

The sheriff then asked of the physician;

"Sir, what will you charge for the operation of this soldier?"

And he answered."Nothing.I'll take it out of my own pocket for the goood of the cause.."""""

"Angeline afterwards asked of the Sheriff why it was that such a town would be in the midst of such a large woods where a forest fire the may strikes it any time and without any warning.

"That is an unusual question, yet this town is ina good place so far, it is good against all the dangers that may lurk out in the open, and when it is well prepared for and we have a large clearing around it it will keep such things as worries of dangers out of our mind."

"Pray sir, for in case of necessity will you ~~ak~~ make me up thirteen boxes of cartridges, for if I can getthese I'll need never to fear an ambush."

"These cartridges you ask for, said the sheriff, are good and handy in case of an unexpected atack attack from unseen foes, as well as to use in case you or your followers want to make a surprise attack.You I dare to said it, and stand to it that if any one will but use these kind of cartridges as he or she should, it they will surely come in handy.But my good girl scouts you must use them carefully and do not waste them, for otherwise you we will not have enough to do any good in helping you fight your way through an ambush.And never use them but for thay that purpose only."

So he gave to the two girls, and also the two boyscouts as many of these bullets and cartridges as he could spare seeing they fitti fitted their guns perfectly, and bed Penrod in special to take heed how he uses them in case of necessity.

The girls remembered that the Sheriff had told them,,, that if they desiredc anytime they could ask him or his wife and children questions that might be of profit for their adventure, and they would give satisfaction as far as it as in the possibilities. Jennie herself therefore was the first,, to pop the question.....

"hy Why sir do you think for the most part, did the Glandelinian aurthorities probably order the greater commissioned glandelinian ,,generals to create these awful disasters.Some say if it is true they did it to try to destroy the lives of violet, and her sisters for that p purpose...??"

"That is a difficult question." said the Sheriffs wife herself."It is in some probabilities true maybe of what you suspect, but probably the effects also are of a carnal wicked purpose."

"Why does Manley then, if the flood and disaster horrors might end in his own undoing some day, continue the horrors up and past those of Abbieann?"

"To show that the ~~tott~~ general hopes that when the disasters have progressed to a good extent, it would work effectually for his purpose, to desolate the land so he may gain possession of it.For look, what one disaster does to cities, the others do to the land.The worse in my own sight or more devastating probably is the gigantic forest fires."

"Then said Angeline Riches .

"What should we ourselves learn by seeing the flames of fires consume our forests, by seeing ourselves a partaker in a small part of the Abbieann disaster, and hear so much of others."

"BY SEEING such fires, we are taught to keep our eyes peeled for what the enemy might try to do next, for he has fervent and hot desires to wipe out the whole forested regions of Calverinia if he can.And by the experience you say you had in Abbieann, though it is a marvel you are here to tell it, we are taught to be careful were we are not to go through such such localities if the enemy is in the neighbor hood, for it teaches us that no matter how far we might be from the enemy or the war zone, the enemy can reach far of and devastates where we least expect.?"

"Where do you think the enemy gets the matition to make such explosions?"

"Probably out of their own country by so secret transportation?.W

"What may we learn from that?"

"That all efforts should be made to destroy even such railroads that are open to glandelinia, and her fortified prts and cities, that the Government such fetch means to stop such transportations."

"Why do the glandelinians be able to empty all these explosions into the holes made under ground to mine up so to make the explosions?"

"To show that our own government and officials and even armies are almost out of proportions for unpreparedness for such tricks.This also shows that our govern Government should give out all efforts to frustrate such work in the future."

"Why has the explosions shaken the whole country every time?"

"This shoes that what the enemy used is of terrific force.This shows that our suspicion of what the enemy can do in the future if we are not watchful can be confirmed to us in our past experience.The explosions made rivers and lakes empty themselves upon the earth, and that the glandelinians secretly give out to their aurthorities that they know of Calverinia and her sister states, that their ministers fete fetch their important discoveries to their generals, and to show that what they discovered is confirmed by what they can show in detail ."

"As I hear why do the glandelinians try to position or stop up all the springs that come from the sea and underground rivers to us through the earth?""""""

"To show that wicked glandelinia is bound to conquer in the ~~ch~~ fair means or foul...""

"Why do the glandelinians start such forest fires first on the top of the hills, and in the valleys valleys?"

"I suppose toshow that the glandelinians mean it in purpose to make these places the starting points of the forest fires, and to make it a better means to devastate the country and drive out armies before them by means of these fires.."

"But why do they also make these fires grow so immensely that the whole country has no sunshine for days and months and the country for miles is as dark as if a hundred big volcanoes were always erupting violently.?"

"Why does the fire fasten up on the candle stick?" contradicted the Sheriff.

"Because a match lighted by friction was attatchedto it."

"Well that is the cause too of the fires.To show that the glandelinians will wish to have the biggest conflagrations spring up ever where, and to devastate the mightiest of woods, as well as to lay waste the whole country side.I believe it is their best plan to make an effort to win the war."

"Why is all their time, effort, and strength spent to make all the mines, and set all the fires, when there is danger of christian armies catching them in the act, when they know the penalty, penalty and also to spent and maintain maintain the disasters in their continuance when the result would be disaster in their own side in the ending?"

"To show that the glandelinians are more reckless than the world knows or thinks, and that all the glandelinian officials spent themselves to maintain the raging of the disasters, showing in truth their nature, and what the glandelinian generals and their officials can and will do."

"Why bef re these disasters occured did not the Calverinian government have means placed to prevent such disasters.?"

" because no one had any idea that glandelinia would re resort to such dreadful acts, and also thereby to show that glandelinia wished to make sport of her enemies as the cat does of a rat or mouse she captures."

"What may one learn by hearing and seeing the results of all these disasters?"

"Learn to remember Glandelinia wicked sin and Abbieanns resentment.The results also shows that the day is coming on, when Glandelinia shall rue all si she did and that her pin punishment might be as bad as if the general Judgement came upon her. You know what we can do if our side wins the war, and that we will and MUST."

Now about this time it was rumored a large force of the enemy was seen to be approaching tward the town, wherefore general Saunders came up and signalled to the girl and boy scouts in the house that it was best for them to be up and going and an exodus of the town was to start, while Starring and the rest were to hold off the enemy as long as it was possible.

Then said Penrod with regret....!-

"We have to go. Is it not convenient that you forget not to send the warning through the town, and warn everybody, and that we too can conduct the people out of the town.You knowcif the enemy comes he'll burn the town and the woods around."

"Good boy" said Jennie Turner."' I almost forgot."

So she drew up an order, and asked the sheriff to send it through the town by some fit man, and he obeyed.

Then Jennie told the Sheriff she too and all the rest were to go forward with the people, they called the whole house together, to give thanks to God for sending to the towns help such profitable guests and leaders of so splendid a column of troops. which done the Sheriffs wife said to both Angeline and Jennie;;

"And before we go shall we not show you some part of the town, according as our custom is to friends and visitors, on which you and your friends may mediate, when you continue on your way?"

"If we have time, yes, said the girls."But for your own safty do not take too long.Starring will have to wait for us and he won't like it."

So they took the two girl and boy scouts, up to the roof of a four story building and showed them the scenery of the town its principal streets, and asked them what they thought of the town.

Then said Jennie;

"It is a beautiful town alright, and its a shame if the enemy captures and burns it.Starrin and his followers hope to hold them off."

At this answer the sheriff held up his hands and wondered.Then he led them to a still taller building up on to the roof, and showed them a high hill thickly forested.

Now at that time there was a force of mountain and forest rangers seen on the summit.The girls looked surprised to see those on so high a hill top, and so did the boys.Then the sheriff was going to show them something else, but Penrod said;

"Pray let's stay here a little while longer, for this is a curious sight indeed."

And so they remained there feeding their eyes on this so unusual a prospect.After After this they came back to the Sheriffs home, and they were brought into a room where hanging on the wall was a number of cartridge belts.

"These are the cartridges you have asked for." said the Sheriff"You can take them with you, for it is of absolute necessity that you should, that you may be able to stand fast in case you should meet with glandelinians making surprise attacks."

They were glad to recieve these weapons, and they took them and placed the cartridges in their own belt.Then the Sheriff took the four child scouts and brought them to the highest building in the town which was not far away from the Sheriffs office, and showed them far off in the woods a tall and beautiful shrine, which was laced there for all travlers to offer prayers for especially to ask our Blessed Lord to take care of them during their journeys.When the had seen this they held up their hands and then they blessed themselves ,and said_

" Oh what a Good God was our Blessed Lord that He Gave His own life for us."

After they had had showed them all these things, The Sheriff took them into his own dining room, where they had breakfast, and while they ate breakfast, his wife played upon an organ and the children sang some hymns. It was about this time someone knocked at the door.After hesitating a moment the Sheriff opened the door, and behold both Walter Starring and general saungers of the Calverinian force stood there there, and when he was invited in, there was great joy and excitement.For it had come fresh to their minds again how but a while ago they had had a few few brushes with the enemy. Starring himself said to the girls:

"I had secured for each of you some well worthy provisions, together with a number of pomegranates.I also have some figs and rusins to refresh you and the rest in your way."

Then they began to address themselves for the journey, and fearing the approach of the enemy, the whole st town came out to follow them. While they were starting Angeline Richee asked Starring if any one of suspicion had gone by.He said in answer-

"No one, but I and some of my men went out scouting just about an Hour ago, and we found that the enemy was advancing in force tward this town, and therefore I believe the people of the town will have to flee for their lives.The Glandelinians have committed a big raid not far from here on the highway of which road we will have to take."

Then the Sheriffs children began to be afraid, but the Sheriff said-

"You need not be afraid, and fearnothing as long as this big force of christian soldiers are with us.And the two girl scouts will be the conductor for every of us." one of us"

Then said Angeline Richee to the Sheriff who of course looked worried-

"Sir I and the rest are much obliged to you and your family for all your kindness to us, since we were your guest, and also for tat that you have been so loving and kind to us.I know not how we can return your kindness, wherefore pray as a token of our respects and gratitude to you, accept this mite."

So she put some money into his hand, and he made her a low and polite obeisance and said-

"Let your souls be always white, and be as brave as o you always wre were, and let NOT your good works be too few." And to the boys he said-

" Do what you can to aid them and follow them in every path they go and be as Godly as they, be as grave and as wise as they are too, so shall you then put gladness into the heart of the Countr, you are serving serving, and obt in praise of all the nation."

So they thanked the Sheriff and the whole force continued on.Now they continued onward untill they were come to the brow of the hill on top of which they had seen the rangers, where Angeline Richee suddenly thinking to herself cried out-

"Alas Alas I have forgotten what I intended to bestow upon the Sheriffs children.I will go back and fetch it."

And she urged her horse into another direction and in a few minutes minutes returned with what she went for. While she was gone, Jennie thought she heard in a grove at the foot of the hill a little way off to the right, a most curious sound somewhat melodious yet somewhat wr weird, and listening she grew suspicious.

"What is it that makes those curious sounds." Asked Radcliffe.

"They are"Said she" some ofthe birds of the forest, or otherwise they are strange signals from some hidden recource.If they are from the birds I can often listen to them, and when I was home I used to go out into the woods to hear them, but never had a habit of keeping birds in a cage at home. They are very fine company for us when are melancholy

also they make the woods, and groves and solitary places desirous to be in.put if suspicious characers chac characters are making these noises."

By this this time Angeline Richee had returned, and she said to the Sheriffs children as soon as she had come up to them;

"Look here I have brought you all something, that you have last seen on the first street, upon which you may look when you find yourselves in fear or in danger, and also for your edification and comfort."And she she gave each of them a small gold crucifix.

Now they began to climb up the hill with which purpose they desired to reach the top to see if the enemy was coming for it was Starrings purpose to defeat their purpose if possible and save the town. It was a steep hill and the way was somewhat slippery, but in climbing they were extremely carefuly and they got up pretty well. When they were almost up to the top Angeline Richee said to Starring,

"This is a good place where you could easily meet the enemy, but I hope we won't need to see too dreadful a fight, as we don't want to lose too many men.Rather keep out of it if necessary.I know your statement about the enemy approaching the town is true but I hate the idea of a real bloody fight now.Adventuerers we are, and not in the army now you know.Its to the army to come and clear these woods of th the enemy."

"Be of good courage" a said Starring" as long as we are on the top of the hill we can have a good secure position, and we will all fare far much better than the enemy.Our rifles you know are long ranger sharpshooters, and our whole force can rout the enemy but I'll allow no one to charge them on this occassion unless it is extremely necessary."

Starring and the Calverinian leader, and the boy and girl scouts were forward in the ranks, for they were the guides and therefore had to conductthe whole column some 10,000 strong or more. o some or nearly all of the able bodied men citizens desired to fight the enemy for they had taken what arms and ammunition they also had. As they continued on Starring said again;

"We need not be afraid of having a fatal combat with the enemy while on the summit of this hill, for we can have a secure advantage, for here in no means for our force from being exploded while if the enemy should sight us and charge the chill I'm sorry for them that in all.I decided to procure this hill to ourselves, to take possession with the purpose to save the town, and I'll engage the Rangers to help me hoping there are many.It is true we might have a sharp engagement, maybe it will be a sore combat, not knowing how strong the enemy is in force, but if we are careful when the fray comes it will be all to our side.As long as we are in a portion of the enemy territory we have to look for fraud here, especially if we want to either defend the town or fight our way through to continue our adventure.The Sheriff gave us good weapons and guns and all his men folk of the town are evidently armed the sure and the townsfolk also are dragging up to the hill a number of good cannon as you easily see.For all townsfolk when they hear that some dreadful thing thing is threatening to befall their own, in such a wilderness, they are of the opinion they they should themselves go out and fight too, and therefore in this present situation I'm certain it is the fruit of the enemy's undoing if he comes within sight of us, or dares to go into the town, or attack our position.I'm hoping to avoid an engagement but if necessary we must if possible save the town.

And this hilly forested country of itself is a fruitful place, and I am also persuaded if we could hit upon it we also might find hereabouts som where something that might give us an account why the enemy is in this woods at this location and that we might be so hard beset in this place to continue our progress through. But we have reliable weapons and we must fight through if we have to ourselves ambush every glandelinian column we spot first.They make such disasters, and by such disasters such suffering and grief, that why should I fight them fair.I'll not give any quarter either."

"Then said the Calverinian officer himself;;;;;;

"I see yonder a good position for a part of my own troops, and on one of the trees it looks as if something is written thereon. Let us go and see what it is."

It was quite a distance off however, but what ever was written there was in a language which they could not make out."

"I," said Angeline Richee "I thought there was something hereabouts that would be in a strange strange language.Don't that make any one suspicious."Then turning to Starring she said;;;;;; "But there seems no danger of our having a brush with the Glandelinians for we are high up now so we can see far, except what is hidden out of sight by the woods below.Of course it may be said it is easier going up than down this hill." but we cannot so quickly lose sight of the town, and yet let Him that dwells above want, that we fare no worse, when we come to be tried in some of most thrilling parts of the adventure.This region appears to be the best and most fruitful section of the country yet.Most of it to the extreme east is flat ground, and as and as you see from here consists of wooded plains and grassy meadows, and as it is summer time now, we are able to delight ourselves ourselves with these beautiful sights, for everything is delightful.Behold how green every thing is.If the smoke of forests fires did not hide the sun as it does the sight would be more beautiful still.The fields below is covered white with flowers.I have

n acquainted with a number of good Rangers who have good estates in this forest region, for indeed it is a very fr ifful region.If the forest fires do not come up this way all be will be well....."

Now as they were still going laboriously up this high hill, and having got up about two quarters of the way, they espied a boy in this dangerous territory feeding a herd of sheep.The boy was in the cloths of a clothes of a Calverinian Shepard, and he had the fresh and well favored countenance of all Calverinians, and as he sate sad by himself he looked in all directions.They who were nearest saw the Boy was armed, with a rifle, pistol and slingshot, probably to defend his sheep from the Glandelinians more than from wolves and other animals.

"Hark" said General Starring "I hear something."

They listened but they heard nothing."

Then said Starring;

"I'm afraid you must be a little deaf to day."Can't you hear nothing.?I be lel believe the enemy is approaching.Yet I will dare to say that this boy whether he knows he's in dangerous territory or not lives a merrier life, than those that are clad in silk and velvet, but we must proceed in our discourse which will make it seem not so long to reach the top."In this region the Forest Rangers have their main camps and headquarters, afor they loved so much to be here, but , see they have all as it appears assembled in one camp on this hill.They have and do love to roam about the woods, for the scenery is so beautiful and the air so pleasant and so many birds abound, though just now I see nor hear not any.Besides here a man shall be free from the noise of city, and battle, for this war is sure full of unusual noise, and confusion.And here no one shall not be so unusally hindered in his here contemplation as in other places they are apt to be.This is a region that no body lives in but those who love a solitary of a life in the forest and country.And though we and the rangers and people in forest villiages and towns may have the hard hap to meet here with glandelinians, and to enter with them a brisk encounter or two, yet I must tell you that we hope to meet anyhow with success here, and let us pray the forest fires will never touch the region.And we'll burn at the stake any one caught trying to make such fires here.I say that I myself with my own parents had here in former days our own country house, and that we have loved to roam about these woods!I will also add that in this place, and that to all the people and the Rangers that live and trace and inspect these grounds, they have left a yearly revenue to be faithfully paid them at a certain seasons for their maintainence by the way, and for their further stay and living in such a beautiful spot."

Now as they continued on up the hill t d still, Radcliffe said to Starring;

"Sir I percieve in this beautiful forested region, the enemy and our force could do battle to the same advantgue for advantage for both sides, for the enemy could do many good movements for the country here is large and the foe could stretch their lines and do battle to a bad purpose.I can see that from this height."

"It does seem probable but we could see the enemy yonder and here or any place except where he could hide in the forests, but yonder before us is a very narrow place or passage just beyond the green forest on these slopes.Yet this does seem to be a most dangerous place to do battle with the Glandelinians,,,, especially in all these parts.For if any time we or the Rangers or others meets with any brunt the enemy probably is repulsed or driven back would try to rout us out by firing the forests.I did not think of that untill now.I know the enemy will do anything to force us out and that we must not forget. This is the place also were any one of us could be easily be put hard to it hard put to it.But more more of the place and summit of this hill when we come to it, for I believe myself myself that to this day there could remain some sign of battle threatening to testify that the enemy we might have to confront or try to repulse might be more dangerous than we could ever suspect.There ought to be some sign of hat kind of Glandelinians these are before we take such euchnces of such cnanches of a battle to b fought."

"I think " said Angeline Richee "We are as well off in this part of the country as we have been anywhere else in this journey since we left as we h ped the fire zone for good.This place suits my spirit.I love to be in such places, to travel through; for there is no sound of explosions, no load rattling of millions of muskets per volley which I've heard during battles, nor thundering of long lines of cannons.I think also one may in this place be without much molentation.Here also one may think, and break at heart and melt in ones spirit.They that so rightly and carefully through this region make it a paradize, the rain that od sods sends down from heaven upon them that are here also makes the ri rivers and the lakes.. This is the best of the stretches of the Mic-Hollester Woods, and all that o time and it will never forget the scenery....."

"It is true " said General Starring."I have known many who have gone through this region many a time, and they never were better of than when heres.."

"In my earlier days" said Angeline " I have been a conductor of visitors and tourists, and the they have confessed the same,,,,"

"Or have we half gone the hill, cried they rested for a few minutes. Then said Star ing to the nearest of those around them;

"This is the place where we could well defend the town also, and then we could continue our movement up the slopes if the enemy should come against us.And look did I not tell you, here is some of the Glandelinians appearing in the distance now, and a great horde of them.See See also how they are marching and delpoying and how they seem to beat the ground with their feet as they tramp onward, and so now we'll have to make good our positions to resist them and defend the town first.Verily here we all can play the man, and give our resistance as stoutly as we can.If we happen to be beat we can make our retreat to the next ridge, or the summit of this one to which we shall soon come.?"

When they were ready to start forward again they came at last within a hundred yards of the summit, and now with sounds from far below it seemed as if the region was strangely haunted with evil spirits.But Starring and all those with him were the better prepared, because they had the advantage,, the enemy could be seen and exposed, the defenders not,, and because Starring and Saunders were their leaders, and the boy and irls scouts their conductors or guides. When they had got this far up to the summit they thought they heard a strange sound as the gor groaning of dying men or animals, and they thought also they heard some as of lama lamentations as of some in extreme torment.These things made them quake, and the women and children of the town looked pale and wan, but Starring and his followers bid them to be of good comfort, declaring that the n ise was probably the freaks of the winds which was blowing kir kind of hard by this time, or maybe it came from the glandelinians down below.

They continued on upward, and there was a nother sound a booming roar, and they thought they felt the hill begin to shake under them, they heard also a kind of hissing as of serpents, but nothing appeared, though the air began to get kind of hazy.

"Maybe a tornado" is approaching" suggested Jennie.

"Then said " Radcliffe;

"Are we not at the summit of this hill yet.!"

"But " said Angeline Richee "be of cou good courage, and look well to your feet, so no one won't be stumbling.I believe the enemy is doing this.Their yells can sound strange far below you know. Maybe they see us and are persuing.We have to look carefully to our feet, so we won't be taken into some snare."

Getting tired from such a long ascent they still continued on but more slowly, till they came to within one hundred feet or so of the summit, and then Angeline Richee said;

"I fancy I see something yonder upon the roadway to the right of us, but not on the slope but a little way down coming tward us dressed in such uniforms such as I have never seen and headway peculiar and terrible."

"Starring looked and observed and Penrod himself asked;

"But what are they?"

"I cannot tell" said Ang Angeline" but they are awful ugly in their heads."

"But what are they like heads like." said Radcliffe."I cannot see them now so good,."

"I cannot tell myself" said Angeline" but I know they are enemies nevertheless. They are coming up the easy slopes of this hill, and they are on horseback."

The strange column were a little way off.

"Well,well" said Starring."Let a column of the troops quickly entrench among rocks and boulders."

This was being rapidly obeyed, but when it seemed a fight was inevitable,the strange columns of troopers vanished behind a grove out of sight.They however this time do did not go on, for no sooner had the t strange troopers disappeared from their sight, before Jennie looking before her, saw as she thought something like a scurried gray fan formation before her at the bast of the rise, and it seemed evident they came on up the slope at a crawled but swift pace, and some where else came a strange rattling and roaring, that made the forested country echoe, and the hearts of th avent were to ache, save the hearts of the soldiers and the two girls.They in gray continued to come on, and the soldiers who were called upon make preparations while the men and women and children of the town went behind.The strange gray column came on apace.But when the Glandelinians saw it was determined that resistance should be made, and noticing the exposed nature of the ground, and not knowing knowing the numbers of those above, they drew back also out of sight, and came on no further for the time,,, being.. They soon started onward again, and the four guides again went before them, and they had not gone about fourty steps,, a strange mist and great darkness overshadowed them and the sky, so that they could not hardly see.The sky looked like a black yawning cavern roof so black it had become.

Jennie Carter was alarmed, for the darkness of the sky seemed too black in color to be even by a rain or tornado cloud. She said;

"What shall we do, continue on or wait untill the darkness subsides."?

"Fear not" said Starring," lets all remain still, and what untill it ends. We cannot proceed otherwise, for you know the forests are too thick here, and we dare not even light a candle for fearing of starting a forest fire of our own."

They therefore remained there, for the darkness grew so intense that it appeared their path way was barred or blocked.They even wondered what caused the intense,,,,,,

"Then for a time also began to feel that they heard were gradually the noise and rushing of the hidden and secret foes, but what ever caused the darkness, there was no sign of fire in the distance or rising walls of smoke, but never along the darkness did not subside, nor increase either."Then said Angeline Riches ;

"Now I see that we all have to go through.I have heard much of such things like this happening, but never before did this occur, and for this darkness we might as well have night all the way, but nevertheless if we cannot see the enemy, we cannot be attacked."But how in this darkness can we see the town."If this darkness id is not brought on by an approaching storm storm than what is the matter."They have spoken of strange darkness over and on overshadowing parts of Calvarinia, but none can tell what it is like until they experience it themselves.In such a case the heart knows its own bitterness."To be overshadowed by such a sudden and mysterious darkness is a most fearful thing.."""""

"This is indeed like being in a Calvarin without light, or like going down into the deep, or like also being in the heart of the sea, and also like going down to the bottom of the mountains."This darkness is so intense that it seems as if the earth has swallowed us up."But it is said!" Let them that walk in darkness fear no evil for God is with them, so let us trust in the name of Our Blessed Lord, and beg the intercession of His Blessed Blessed Mother.For my part as I have told you already we have to go through thrilling experiences if we wish to accomplish our purpose."

"As I said before" said Angeline Riches" I have gone often through this part of the country, and have been much harder harassed than I am now, and that is during this war too, and yet to see I am not even injured.I would not boast, for I am not my own Savior, but if I we trust in God we shall have a good deliverance yet.Come let us wait a while and pray for light to our blessed Lord, for He can lighten our darkness, and rebuke all the wickedness of a hell."

So they waited for some time and prayed,"and when half an hour passed it gradually began to grow lighter, for it was or had been so dark that it apparently seemed as if they had been stoped so stopped on the borders of the bottomless pit itself.

As however the darkness threatened once more to settle down again, they saw no chances to go through with their ascent, so still they remained at the same spot and now to their utmost surprise, great stinks and loathesome smells commenced to come to them, which was greatly to their annoyance.

"So far" said Radcliffe himself" this does not seem to be such a pleasant place after all."

" Oh but" said Angeline Riches" whatever is causing this it is not so bad to go through here, the main thing would be to stay here for always, but maybe the darkness is caused by the sky being clouded up with thick smoke from those distant forest fires, and therefore that may be a one reason why we must continue to go through here, for who knows if the fires after all are not coming this way."

"Well said" Angeline"Quitett quoth Jennie,"You have probably spoken the truth. "This darkness is surely caused by smoke" said Radcliffe."I know it.It cannot be disputed."

"and if I ever get out of here" said on one of the others,"I think I shall prize light and a good day better than this for all my life."This region may be beautiful as is said, but not with forest fires threatening all parts of the forests."

"We shall be out by and bye said Angeline Riches."

As the darkness did not increase to any great intensity however, they started to venture forward and after a while Penrod said;

"Are we not reaching the end of the hill to the top yet?"

"Look to your feet every one" said Starring."The rest of the hill seems full of dangerous pitfalls and snares which will be also to our advantage if the foe attacks.But we must look out."

As they continued on they kept their eyes open, and passed among the snares and pitfa pitfalls to advantage.While they were among these pits, they sighted some movements among the lower forests far to their right.Then said starring;

"Every one get ready.Form position."That is a column of Glandelinians moving against us, they are coming this way, they have probably discovered our movements and have come up part way of the hill at the same time without our knowledge.The foe has tricked us.You cannot imagine what the foe can be up to, and how many of us can be killed hereabouts if we do not be watchful enough, and yet men are so foolishly venturous, as to set out through a foe territory without sufficient guides.It's a wonder we have come so far but we are beloved of our Blessed Lord, and we all have good hearts, or else we could never have accomplished it so far as this."

So they had come to the assault, and just then came forth the Rangers leader. He called Starring by his name and said to him;

"We have been waiting for you sir and have gathered from all over the forest to this spot to resist the foe in do these dreadful things!"

"What dreadful things?" asked Starring eagerly.

"What in?" replied the Ranger leader."Are you ignorant that things, you have observed in all the ch our ... started, but here I and you

can put an end to their wicked trade right here.They are coming to attack.I and my men made those snares to defeat their purpose.You fortunately came to reinforce us."

"But pray" said Starring"Before we fall to it with the enemy let us understand what more we must fight for." (now the women and children of the town were in trembling and terror fleeing to the rear, and new not what to do) The town below sir is in danger from the foe and we beloved we could frustrate their intention. With your Rangers here, and the men folk of the town we hope to be successful, even if we have to retreat in the end."

"You are right" answered the Ranger,"The enemy rob the country, flood the people out of home and kill them by big disasters, and devastate our States with the worse of catastrophes and thefts on records."

"These are but generals" said Starring," come to particulars man."

"You come to particulars" said the Rangers leader."Well I will "The Glandelinian nation practices the craft of hells legion, they gathered up women and children from captured towns, and massacre them most brutally, and devastate the whole of southern Calvarinia with the hope of weakening our cause.We must fight."

Then starring replied;

"We are all servants of Christ, my business was to go out on an important adventure looking for details of why the foe made these disasters, and by the Government and the Vivian Girls I am commanded to do my most endeavor to accomplish what I can but here the foe seem in the way , and if this be the ground of our quarrel with them let us fall to it as soon as we can."

At this time a force of Glandelinians came up within sight, and the whole column of the Christian soldiers and adventurers prepared to meet them.They without more ado fell to their respective positions, and at the first volley the Glandelinians who had not expected it fell back in confusion, surprised and terrified, for indeed they in coming up the hill really did not know a soul was there.At this first volley the Glandelinian leaders horse was brought down on his front knees by a bullet, and at this the whole swarm of rebels cried out.

The glandelinian leader though thrown recovered himself, and ordered the glandelinians to reform and charge, but a shot hit him and wounded him in the arm, and he was helped to a bank of ground which he could be placed without exposure.Then for an hour or more the conflict ranged to a high pitch of fury, both sides of course remaining in positions and keeping up a brisk and fierce fire, to no advantage of either side, but a lot of ammunition being wasted.

The women and children who were in the rear cried and screamed while the battle raged.

Starring thought of a plan. He ordered a suspension of firing to trick the enemy into making an assault.when this law was obey obeyed, the Glandelinians also ceased firing firing, and then waited themselves.But the glandelinians were also wise, and suspecting the scene reopened their fire again.

"Say hold" said Starring."I'll fool them. I Get the cannons ready."

This order was obeyed, and a number of shells was hurled among the glandelinians which exploded with terrific force."The explosion fetched a whole score of the Glandelinians to the ground.The other Glandelinians were driven to panic and scurried from cover, and the christians seeing that, would have charged them, but starring in the full heat of his own spirit ordered them to fire instead, to charge was dangerous, and this order was obeyed, the Glandelinians retreating precipitatedly down the hill.At this sight the women and children rejoiced, and Starring and all the rest praised God for the deliverance He had wrought. However expecting there might be another attack, they rested on the summit of the hill no one ventering even to get the wounded of the Glandelinians whose loss it seemed was nearly two hundred and fifty.While waiting they erected some works, and amongst it also erected a glad pole of a comme tree limb, and hoisted a flag.Then then while waiting second attack ate and drank.As they thus sat and waited Angeline Riches asked Starring;

"Have we suffered any loss in the fight."

"No, so far as I know" said Starring. "I was scratched a little on the arm though, by a bullet, but that does not hinder me any.But we might have another brush,They might return with greater numbers.But so far at present they don't seem to come near the town, and I hope by this act or reward will be coming at last."

"I was not afraid, good sir, when you see them come to assaul !"

"I be afraid" said Starring, with a laugh "Of course I do not trust in my own ability, I have more reliance on Him that is stronger than all."

"But what did you think when your first scene to bring them from cover did not work?"

"Why I thought" quoth Starring" that they were wise to my trick, and therefore I deserted to the artillery.And only three guns did the work."

"When we think of all this I know God has indeed been good to us" said Jennie Lomer, " both in bringing us through the adventure so far, and in helping us

helping and repulse the enemy, and delivering the [illegible] far [illegible] of the [illegible] enemy, and for my part, I [illegible] why any one should [illegible] faith in god, when he has done so much for all [illegible] this given a testimony of His love to us."

Starring got up to go forward a little to see and [illegible] that the enemy could be up to next."Now let me the stood [illegible] line, and under [illegible] they [illegible] it, Starring found the [illegible] and his officers grouped together and talking over the result of the fight [illegible] far. Suddenly Starring seeing another man coming up the slope challed him and demanded;

"What's this, who are you, and what is your business here?"

The man also aroused looked at him sharply and cried out;

"My question sir about you is also the same.What do you think I am a dirty Glandelinian hell hound.NO. What is your business here.?"

"Come, come man don't be so hot, as long as you are all right here is none but friends."

Yet the man not believing it stood upon his gun guard, and wanted to know of Starring and those on the summit and who they all were.Then said Starring;

"I am general Walter Starring, [illegible] on adventure, but what our purpose is we do not now tell."

"I cry you mercy then" said the other realizing the truth,"I feared you had been of the company of those who had some moments ago did attack a party of troops on top of this hill, but now I look better about me, and I percieve you have repulsed the attackers.I thought they had won."

"Why what could the defenders have done if we had been of the party of assailants?"

"Done" said the man ,astonished."Why they would have fought as long as breath had been in me, and had they so done, I am sure the attackers could not have given the defenders the worse of it, for the spirit in christian cannot be overcome, unless he shall yeild of himself."

"You are perfectly right sir" said Starring" for by this I know you are a man of the right kind, for you certainly have told the truth.We repulsed the attack and with no loss to our own side."

"By this said the man, "I also know that you know what a good cause is, for a many others think our country can soon be overcome."

"Well sir" since we have met, pray let me ask your name, and the name of the place or town you came from."

"My name is Shellen corner, and I came from the town below, I left behind with the rest.Knowing who is on the hill top, with the town in your full view the enemy is afraid to move in."

"Oh is that true then. I deem to have a half guess of that, tet I could not be sure.How you came from the town last.How is it the enemy did not take you prisoner?

"I hid during the fray" he answered."I have heard of you general.But I wonder that you have come to this region, for the day of the land further on is more dangerous to you and your whole force than ever a particle here."

"Yes we lie in dangerous territory" answered Starring" but we are strong enough to fight our way thru through and as long as possible we can keep to the woods."

"I believe it general" said Mr Corner "I believe it for all I know about you is true."

Then the man saluted all of Starrings officials, and asked of the two girl scouts their names, and how they fared since they set out with the column of troops and adventuers.

"Then said Angeline Richee; "My name I suppose you might have heard of, I am Angeline Richee, and this with me is Jennie francis Turner. The boys is Schfoeidl Penrod, and Richard Radcliffe."

Now this man was taken with surprise when he heard this.He skipped ,he smiled, and blessed them with a million good wishes finally saying.;;;;;;

"I have heard much of your girl and boy scouts through the papers, and even in magazines and books, but a, also of your day travels through country and vale since your entering the earl service, and of all the thrilling times you underwent in those days.Be it spoken to your comfort, the deeds of which is known you have done rings all over Abbieannia, your faith in your undertakings, and your aid to the Vivian Girl princesses, your courage in a facing all [illegible] and trials and perils, your way of ordering, and your sincerity, under alll all, and this has indeed made your names famous. Then he turned to the two boys and said;"You are like the girls scouts themselves.Your deeds are broadcasted also.But you Radcliffe there is a mystery about you."Then he turned to the girls again and said "Angeline Richee, is a good name by success you should in [illegible] for the good of the cause, and carry through all the difficulties in the future that will assault there, in your adventures."

All this while general Starring was very much pleased, and smiled upon his [illegible] for [illegible] make [illegible] assault."[illegible] if [illegible] go.

"Not exactly but he was a man that took after my own heart" said he." I knew him well however .He was a man that as they say had the root of the bravery in him, but to the enemy he was one of one of the most troublesome officers to the enemy that ever I met with in all my days."

"From what you are saying I know you knew him,for you have given a right good character of him."

"Knew him" said the man whose name was Corner." I was a great companion of his, and I was with him to the last, and started with Him when he first commenced to think of what would come upon the christian cause when I was with him."

" Waht "hat was his name C?" asked Angeline Richee....

"Frank Hans."

"I was his guide from general Concentinians lines, to general Slanderlinias camp,,....." said Jennie Turmer.

"Then you knew him to be very troublsome to the enemy?" asked AStarring,.

" I sure did so, but I could very well be glad of it, for scouts of my calling are a often times entrusted by Violet, and her sisters, with the conduct such as he was."

" Well then pray let us hear a little of him, and how he did manage himself when you guided him from one christian camp the to the other as you said.....:":":

" Why he was always afraid, terribly afraid, that because of the enemys strength the christian cause would come short of whether he had a desire it should. Every news of the disasters, every news of a terrific battle, every horror that he heard of, and the news of the devastation of the forests, the big floods and explosion disasters and so on frightened and angered him, and everything concerning the war that he ha heard people speak of also unerved him, at least those who had the least appearance appearance of opposition in it.. I heard that he led a charge, one day, and alone held a force of roaring Glandelinians at bay for two months in a single sa shack and single handed, nor durst the glandelinians for all they saw go to the attack before venture forward any more, though their leaders, many of them offered any amount of reward to capture him Yet of course they would not go back again neither.The Christian dogs, said they would sure give them the laugh if they retreated before one man. Yet because of this one man they were dejected at every difficulty, and the moment one dared to expose himself he was shot down.Well after these Glandelinians had besieged the barn for those two months wondering how he was able to resist so long, how his ammunition held out so long, and how he succeeded in maintaining such a resistance without w food probably, one fogg foggy morning, I do not know how, they ventured, and made a headlong rush for the barn, and finallyburst it down.He was gone. They would not believe it.He had I think outwitted the Glandelinians or he could not have escaped as he did.He finally came to general Concentinian Arronburgs lines, at a point, you good know what I mean__ that stood at the head sentry line of the camp, and there he stood a while before he was able to proceed telling the corporal of the guard of his experience with the enemy.

When they permitted hij him to pass, he first gave place to the highest rank of officers, and would not proceed untill they went before him. Then the man went and told his story to some of the highest officers, telling how the Glandelinians stood shaking and shrinking, he claimed it would have paid anything to have seen them, nor would he leave out a detail.

At last he was brought before general Concentinins Arronburgs headquarters, and he was ushered in.Well after he had been entertained there a while and the general had heard his story, as you know how the manner is, he was bid to go to my part of the camp, and also told the way he should take..so as I know he came to my part of the camp, but unfortunatel, at the time I was out on a scouting tour, and he waited about for a long while, waiting that I would venture to return, for he wished therefore to see me and would not go back. And the days and nights were long and cold then.The poor man who stood shaking and trembling, and I dare say it would have been a pity to see him, but he would not go back again for fear of missing his chances to see me.The guard seeing him waiting so long finally

At last he went to ever of the guards, and questioned him [illegible] he would be able to see me and when I would return, for of course I happened to extend my stay for a week of which the poor man so patiently happened to wait. The [illegible] and I was not of course allowed to speak to no one while on duty but nevertheless he summoned another soldier who happened to pass by and ordered ordered him to interview the man, who did..The soldier sized him up for a moment as he told me himself and then asked;

"I see you are a stranger in these parts, a foriegner. What is your purpose of your visit to Miss Angelina Pichee.."?

"The man gave his answer and his purpose, and the soldier wondered that he remained waiting in the cold so long, so he said to him as he liked his looks seeing that the man was honest and good,;

"I'm sorry sir, but she is gone out on a long distanced scouting tour, and wont be back for days. But come into my tent and get warmed up as you are nearly faint. You cannot stand this too long you know. My man its below zero."

With that he followed this soldier, and when he seated himself on a lounge the soldier brought him a bowl of hot coffee and some rolls. After he had been intertained by the soldier for a while, as you know how the manner is to strangers who are good,,, he was bid to remain in the tent untill I should return. I had intended to remain out for ten days, but fortunately for him I returned sooner than a week... It was on a saturday when I was just returning to the camp with a party of soldiers and officers, and as he had a note of necessity in his bosom to see me, and hearing that he wished an interview with me, I was willing to recieve him, and grant him the comfort of my tent, and also to allow him to accompany me in his mission. I came riding down the company street, and percieving a man to be walking up and down by my tent I rode up to him, and asked him what he wanted, who he was, and glad that I came the poor man had water in his his eyes. He told me what he desired and who had sent him to interview me.. I went therefore into my tent, dismissed my retainers,, and then sent a guard to usher him in. He came in and he carried the conversation with me respectfully and almost lovingly....There were a few stores in my tent, and some of it was laid on my table, and I advised him to eat supper with me before telling me his mission with owe.. me. Then after that he presented the note, and I looked it over carefully, saw it was signed by General Concentinian Aronburg....Then I said his desire should be granted as soon as it was possible. So when he had remained in my tent for several hours, and to be a little forewarm and comfortable,, I advised him that it was better he should wait untill the warmer weather came before he should attempt his adventure of which he told me about. Well when he had a sick sight of the many things of the camp, and when he grew tward spring, all the time of which he came visiting me, and was finally ready to go on his wayto general vivians army, the officers gave him a bottle of spirits, and some comfortable things to eat and bid him good speed. Then we set forward, and I went along with him hip and now the man was but few words, only he would sich aloud at times. When we came to a spot where threeGlandelinian spies were hanged,, he said that he doubted not but t all gladelinians should share the same fate also.

He seemed glad when he saw how large our camp was. When we came to a difficult stretch of country dangerous to travel through, because of the enemy, bogs, and terrible steep ravines he made no backing out at that, nor did he fear the foe, bogs or ravines, for you know I have never for years met a man of the courage and also,,, endurance he had. I got him into a country home for shelter from a wild storm, and he became acquainted with the farmer and his wife and children while he was there,, but he was not just th n for me much company, he desired very much to be alone, yet he always loved good thrilling or interesting conversation, and often would listen or join in, and to be pondering them into his mind. He told me afterwards, that he loved to rescue a few child slaves and bring them up as his own children, but that he saw no opportunity to try the adventure.....When we left the farmhouse, we headed for a valley and went down as well as any man could, for he cared not how steep any thing was so that he might reach his station at last. Also I believe there was a strong sympathy between and him and the cause he was fighting for, for I never saw him better in all his adventures than when he was with me. Then he would lie down to rest in the valley, and he would embrace a crucifix crucifix he carried, and kiss the very image on it. He would be up every morning before daybreak, to continue on the way. But when he was one [illegible] confronted by a terrible raging forest fire coming down from the north, I surely believe I should have lost my man, not of course that he had any inclination of going back, but that he was afraid he [illegible] I [illegible] harred altogether.

And he made such a noise and outcry against the Glandelinians [illegible] he was responsible for the fires but if they had been around, and had him there would be no doubt that they would have fallen upon him like flies. [illegible] I took over great [illegible] of,,, that the [illegible] for [illegible] the pilot,,,, while we went through it, as I had never [illegible] [illegible] in this locality be case of the confederation. [illegible] to tell [illegible] all, [illegible] ... [illegible] within sight

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Back

of a party of Glandelinians who were out roaming for forage despite the fires,, I thought he would have fought with all of them single handed, and from the excitement, had to join the fight and use my guns to a telling effect otherwise we would have been set upon and destroyed, so hot was their attack upon us for his foolish squabble. After this encountert h encounter he was more wakeful and watchful. But when the flames of the forest fire threatened to come our way, we were again in a trench and we feared we would never reach our destination but would have to retrace our steps. But that he would not hear of. What I took notice of, the fire was being changed in its course course by the wind, so we finally reached our destination that night. Then we parted, and I never saw him no more."

"Then it seems he was well off at last."

"Yes, yes, I never had the slightest doubts about him, he was a man of a choice spirit, only he was kept very adventuresome, and made his life so burdensome to himself, and so troubl some to the Glandelinians. He was above all else, tender of sin, he was afraid of doing injuries to his own friends, and he also would do every thing for them,. He never was injured or captured..

"But what should be the reason that such a good scout and soldier should be all his days out in adventure instead of fighting with the armies in the battles battles against the enemy."Asked the man.

"There are two sorts of reasons for it, one is the wise all seeing God will have it so, some must work as fighters, some must sgohor scout or seek adventure, and for my part I care not at all for that profession that has no desire for adventure in it. I love adventure exciting and thrilling. God chooses us for all so ts sorts of vocations."

"He was a zealous brave man" said the citizen. Difficulties and the like, danger and fort furious he feared not at all, twas only sin death and hell that was to him a terror, because he had some doubts about other horrors otheri otherwise and besides the brave are compared to a party of heroes that do brave deeds for their ladies fair, and sing their songs before the throne of Kings.."

"You say right" said Starsing," those were the things that probably were his troubles and they as you well have observed, arose from his nerve thereabouts, not from desire or lust. I dare believe he could have bit a fire brand had it stood in his way but the things with which he saw his beloved country opr good p oppressed, no man could ever shake off with ease."

"This adventure of the man with me has done me a lot of good" said Angeline Pichee. I thought never before could any man be like him, but of course I have seen some resemblance with many others since. Many a soldier lays so hard about him that he is greatly feared, but nevertheless I love adventure more than many others do."

"If I might also speak my part said" Jennie, I must say that something of the desires of the Vivian Girls have always been in me, for I have been more afraid of seeing the cause of the country we are fighting for than any one else so far and the loss of the war altogether, than I have been of the loss of other things. O thought I may I have the happiness some day of seeing everything peaceful again, though I'd part with all the world for it."

"FEFAR of the christian side losing was one thing that made me think that Angelinia and her sister states were far from ha having the success so ardently desired" said Penrod, but 2" but if we can obtain the close we are after, may it not also go well with our cause in the end!"

"No fears, no efforts" said Jennie. "You feared for my safty that day and sacrificed to save me from capture when those spies questioned you. Though there is not always home where there is fear of disaster, yet to be sure sure there is no hope of success where we do not lean on the help of God also."

"Well said Jennie" said Penrod, "you have hit the mark, for the fear and the trust in God is the beginning of wisdom, and to be sure those that want to see a country sucead in a holy cause, never give up in any purpose for it, no matter how enemies may meddle or try to end the things we do. But we will here conclude our discourse of that man adventurer. For I know another man who was a soldier but self willed and foolish. He pretended to be the greatest hero in the eyes of all he knew and saw and showed off before women, girls, and even children, but I percaived myself he never went on a dangerous adventure, and when asked to scout on the enemy one day pretended to be sick."

"Did you ever conversation with him about it?"

"Yes more than once or twice, but he would do as he himself, severe and self willed. He neither cared for companionship, or argument, nor yet example, what his mind prompted him to do he did it, and nothing else could any one get him to do. Brave indeed he was, and good too, but a man who is reckless, and regards or disregards the advice of others. He almost came to his undoing for it too. Those who are reckless perish."

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"Yes" he always has like himself self willed.He does not care for anything,, and
a [illegible] could be got to" said Radcliffe who had also known him.
"Pray" asked Starring," what principle did he hold, for I suppose either you
or Angeline can tell?"
"He held that a man who backs out just because an adventure is extremely dangerous
cannot get any where at all, and that if he risked all no matter how dangerous it
was the country cause can only then be saved."
"How." Asked the Calvinistic officer."If he said, it is possible for a person to
accomplish a deed no matter how sucidal, how could he exc ea expect to be successful,
even for the cause that he would be fighting for.It might as well be possible to be
guilty of cowardice, as well as to partake of the virtues of a hero or heroine, but
then either as way he could be blamed, for indeed were are exme exempted from no
vices of cowardice, or recklessness, but on condition that while dur doing work of
dangerous kind we are careful, and watch and strive in the proper way.but this I
perceive on his part was not the thing.but if I understand you right your meaning
is that he was of the opinion that a man can be as reckless as possible and yet go
through the advanture without fatal results."
"Ay,ay so I mean" said Radcliffe," for that is what he believed and also practiced
once or twice almost to his end."
"but what ground had he for so a saying and doing?" asked Starrin .
"Why he said that any one who is slightly afraid cannot succeed on a exciting missi
mission at all.He argued that even there was such wording in the Sacred Scriptures
also."
"That seems strange" said Jennie, " but it is true."
"Well Jennie present is with a few partic al particulars."
"so I will" said Jennie,"He said that many do many dangerous stunts, and that
there has been records of such in the bible and other good books, that dangerous
st the stunt was David fought a huge giant, took his chances with the dangerous and
insane king saul, and so he believeod he could go through such adventures and pi pull
through safely too.He said that many men have practiced dangrous stunts and succeeded
even to rashness.He said that the Apostles went at the bidding of Our blessed Lord
and preached the Gospels Gospel to the people and to the dangerous jews at untold of
risks and he claims that was recklessness too, and therefore why not could he do
the same thing..He said that St Paul accomplished lots in the face of record
breaking difficulties and perils, and therefore he could do so too."
"High bass indeed " said Starring." and you are sure he is of this opinion.?"
"I have heard him plead for it" said Angeline pichee, bring scripture for it,
bring argument for it, and say he can give proofs".
"Such of an opinion is not fit to be, with an allowance in the world" said
Starring."An an like that must be crazy."
"Yes" but you must understand me rightly " said Jennie."He did not say that any
man might be able to do this, but that he alone could do the same."
"Indeed such a conclusion is recklessness in itself.For this is as much as to
say,that because a man wants to be a hero, therefore he can run through a much bog
sink down to the bottom and live.Or because he sees a big fire will throw himself in
expecting to live.Who could of thought that any one could be so far blinded as to
think such foolish things.I suppose he tried to lie live up to his word?"
"Yes he did."
"but what more false than such a conclusion Jen.? for again this is as much as to
say that because good soldiers and spies hereto have succeeded in their desperate
undertaking, therefore they have an allowance to do it of a more presumtious and
wilful mind.Or because a child, that had burned itself might willingly lie down
on the fire and be burned again.These kind of men of whom you speak of might have
lost his reason. But supposing that one may have the heros virtue, who addict themselves
themselves to such wiles of recklessness, is also a delusion.It is just to try any
adventure even if it is perilous because we go out on great and exciting adventures
ourselves occasionally, n though of course this one has not been so awfully stirring
so far, not thinking of what the future might be.But to live up to recklessness is
like eating up the sins of gods people, who would never have any other virtue. and
therefore perish in hell with them.Nor can I believe that one that is of this
opinion can at present have real hopes of living a very long life.But I know
you have made strong objections against him, what can he say for himself?"
"Why" said Jennie" he says to do this by way of his opinion seems abundance more
honest than to live back and say it and not do it, and yet come come so far as to
hold contrary to the opinion."
"A very crazy answer, for though o ret rose such things while our opinions are
are against such things is very sin even to sin and plead a toleration so to do
is worse stilllll, the one stumbles beholders accidentally, the other pleads them into
the snare.."
"There may be many of this same mind" said Radcliffe, that might not yet dare to
make a try at it, and that makes going on adventure of so little esteem as it is."
"You have said the truth,," said Starring," and it is to be lamented.but he that
is, is the more careful will come of the perils unscathed.....22""""22

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"There are many strange opinions in this world world" said Starring,"I'm as well aware I'm not going to repent of anything till I am about to die! to say that no matter how dangerous it is I'm going through the adventure just the same..."

"And such are not exercise" said Jennie.such a man would hat have been loath might he have to die and see himself as he really is. Yet many of them thed count themselves as scouts and spies, and agents and military police indeed do these things, and therefore often needs a doctors care for months afterwards, or are beyond a doctors care... I am as you see only a little girl of course, but have been a traveler in this locality many a day before the war started with my parents and friends, and now during the war have taken notice of many things.I have seen some spies that have set out as if they would drive all the world and the hole of blandelinia,,.. before them, who got in a few days, died in the wild wilderness either in hole, nor or at the hands of the enemy, and so never succeed succeeded in their undertaking. I have seen some that proved almost nothing and somewhat somewhat cowardly at the start and in first setting out to be spies or scouts, and that one would have thought could not have lived a day through an adventure of this sort, and yet have proved goo good spies and scouts. I have seen some that have ran hastily forward into the adventur ad e adventure, that again have after a little time ran ran as fast back again. I have seen some who have spoke very well of the work and doings of a spy at first, that after a while have spoken against it as rash and foolhardish and a suicide. I have heard some, when they first set out on a scouting or spying adventure, or tryint trying to go from one christian army to another, say post say positively that it absolutely cannot be done, and who when almost there have come back again afraid and said an adventure within enemy territory is a suicidal act... I havechearrgome I have heard some vaunt what they would do in case they should have an encounter with the enemy, that have even at a false alarm fled like a frightened lamb."

or as they were still remaining there watching whether the enemy would resume, the attack or no, there came a man running up to meet them, and said;"

"General, and all your followers, if you ,love life. shift for yourselves, for a big forest fire is before you.It's coming this way like the wind."

Then said starring""We are ready for them." and so they prepared for the second engagement with them.Now the scouts sent to mark their advance looked at every turning whereun attack should be made, but the blandelinians however did not come. Asfor the fire they did not worry about that, believing that it would not really come their way though they now realized what caused the outbreak of such sudden and awful darkness in the skies,.it was the smoke of the fires. Nevertheless the girl scouts believing also the enemy had been driven away by the approach of the fire believed that the adventureres would be more safer in the clearing on the top of the hill should the fire come up, and also they wished for a resting place as they were weary and tired, and also hungry. Then said it the rangers,;;;;;;

"We have a large clearing on this hill for the safty of our camps, where you can share our rations or eat what you have....."

So they all conclued to go in thither and the rather, because the ranger leader gave such a good report about his camp.So when they reached the camp which they observed was somewhat fortified, they went in and the Ranger called one of his assistant chiefs and he came to guide.They asked also if they might remain in the camp for the night..

"You are permitted to do so gentlemen" said the Ranger," for my camp is for none but christians.Then was the girl and boy scouts the more glad,, for that the Ranger was a lover ofthe christian causes,.They were shown to a tent for the girls to be together, and the same for the boys,,,, and as many as could be spared for the rest, and where there were none, others were set up. then said Starring",,,,,,,, to the leader of the Rangers;;;;;;

"good sir," that have have you for supper to night,," for we have come all of us from a long distance and are wear and hungry."

"It is surely late late" said the Ranger," so we cannot go out to seek provisions for a more convienent convienient supper, but such as we have it, you shall be welcome to if you can be contented and your force does not eat us out of house and home.

"We will be content with what you have in the camp for we too have a lot of our own rations, for as much as I have proved totheee to thee, we campers are never in want of anything, of which is convenient to us all in the time of need."

While supper was being per prepared for all in the camp, the ranger leader said,

" Come my good friends, you are welcome to me, and we are all glad that we have a tent or a camp to give you rest and shelter in and have a beautiful place to intertain you in, so while supper is being made ready let us intertain one another with some good conver sation."

Starring sai :

" I am willing."

5 " Then whose two children are these girls scouts, and whose sons are these two boy scouts ?"

" These children "Asaid Starring, are probably far away from g home now, but they do not want anything about them or their parents and relatives to be known just now.The boys no doubt have no parents now.But they are the leading boyscouts and girl scouts under the Vivian Girl Princesses.The boys are some of their new friends, each one whom they sent to guide me on this adventure.The boys do everythi everything for the sake of the cause and take after their own father no doubt.Yea if they do but see any one in peril, they like soldiers go to their rescue."

"So they are the scouts of the Vivian Girl Princesses eh, and are these all your followers? I knew the Vivian Girls father and mother, and also his fathers father.Many have been good of this generation, their ancestors dwelth first in northern Abbleannia and they have also been worthy rulers.They have above any that I know orknew showed themselves not only men of heroism but also of great virtue and courage for their country, and took part with those that lived the right path. I have heard of many of Emperor Vivians relations that have stood all kinds of trials for the sake of holiness and to build up the nation as it is to day.King King Stephen Vivian that was one of the first of the families of Vivian Emperors from whence Emperor Robert Vivian sprang, brought his country through a long war with a far distant wicked nation.Emperor Jams James another of this generation, was slain in battle. To say nothing nothing of Paul and Peter Vivian, who builded up the nation and invented the means that made Vivian Wickey the strength it is. There was Ignatius, who saved the country from a disaster. Would be impossible to count up all of that family that have suffered injuries and death for the love of their country and home.Nor can I but be glad to see that Emperor Robert Vivian has left behind him two good sons, and seven beautiful daughters such as they are. They do a goo deal to keep up and bear up bear up with their fathers name and thread in their fathers footsteps, and comes to their fathers purpose."

8""Indeed sir." Said Starring ," They are likely lads and unusual little girls,, they surely do choose heartilly their fathers ways. now his daughters could have stand stayed home where it is safe, but they chosed to show their mettle by serving their country too as far as it is in their power."

" That is just what I said, wherefore Emperor and the holy fame of his daughters is likely to spread all over the earth.Therefore let all those who serve the princesses themselves do all they should for them, so that their own names may never be forgotten in the world."

" tis a pity" said one of the Rangers" that those princesses should come into the world just in time to see this most awful of wars, and that there is such danger of the cause of the country being lost, that Calverinia should fall, and probably be e sooner l or later a country of the past."

"Fall Calverinia must not" said Starring" but if such things keep on badly and sadly diminished it may, but let all of our friends and all of the followers of Violet, and her sisters take my advice, not to give up hope, and Heaven will help the cause to be withheld. And as to these two girl scouts I am glad to see them together with the two boys and acting as my guides.And may I advise, if they would contunie the adventure so we can uphold the cause."

" " And [illegible] advice" said [illegible] of the other rangers to Jennie [illegible], "I [illegible] to see you and your girl companion [illegible] other [illegible] I advise, [illegible] care [illegible] in this [illegible], and let her be [illegible] the [illegible] of guardian [illegible] for that is the [illegible] yourselves during this mission you are about to perform." So this [illegible] was concluded."[illegible] chief ranger said;

"I I will now speak on the behalf of the Vivian Girls, to take away the reproach often given that little girls are [illegible] afraid of things.For as there is always direr of perils in this war, yet they faced it and went through.Yet to show how much they went through would take a long story .I will say that many boys rejoiced in what they accomplished.The Vivian Girls therefore are highly favored,,,,,, , and show by these things that they can be and are sharers with us in the very places of life."

They are something like saints " said Angeline Richee. "I read not that ever any one ever wept at the storie of the Cri Crucifixion as they sometimes do, and of their desire to have had the chance to follow him on the road to Calvery, and to sit by his His sepulchre when He was buried.They wished they had been the women first with Him at that first Easter morning,, and that they could have been the first to bring the tidings of His resurrection to his His Apostols.yet of course they regret that they were not born at His time...."

Now for all of them the supper was already about ready, for the bugles sounded the call for the mess .said Penrod himselff.

"The sight of this whole camp preparing the supper, puts me in mind of being with general Vivians army once more."

So supper started and first every one began their meals with the Grace first. It seemed too that every body had the same no different.They even partook of wine , butter and honey, dried meat, and bbl: beams beans and apples and all kinds of fruits and so forth.The child scouts however refused the wine but ate a disk of milk well crumbled, and the fruit and some of the beans.

The Ranger seeing the child scouts refusing the wine said;;;

"Drink freely, this is juice of true wine, it is not strong enough either to make any one drunk so do not be afraid of it."

"We never drink wine, cannot tolerate it" said Angeline Richee."But we like the fruit, especially the apples."

While they were thus talking they were presented with aother another dish with ze apple pie.Then were they very merry, and sat eating slowly for a long time,,, talking of many things, of adventure, of the progress of the war, the nature of all the catastrophes since the war began., and Angeline Richee stated;

"As Forbidden fruit makes a person lose his soul so Glandelinia has eaten forbidden fruit in devasting Calverinia.Glandelinia would revile our own Lords dish, and instead of refusing the evil, and choose the good she chosers the worse. Therefore Glandelinia is the sEcond Eve."

"Calverinia made the scruple, because her government did not watch the conditions of Vivian Vickey before her capture by the enemy" said Penrod.

"J Yes but half of the garrison [illegible] turned traitor that is how Vivian Vickey came to becaptured." said Radcliffe.

"Then said Starring to the Leading Ranger "If you please can you answer this question//.///?"""

"What is the question may I ask if you [illegible]....?"

"Because of all the great disasters that have been caused by the Glandelinians, and because of the nature of the nature of the war itself, many nations count,, that Glad Glandelinia, is la mad like a rabid dog.What is your opinion of this!!!!"""

Then they all gave good heed, wondering what the chief of the forest Rangers would say, but he sat still a while, probably a few minutes, and then he replied,,,..;;

"A nation there was, whom many did count mad, especially like Glandelinia, for I have heard such statements also, but I believe the more she does on that case of which you mention the more it will come back to her.Those that devastate countries just for mere sport during war, shall have as much again in return, and ten times more.whether Glandelinia is mad I do not know, but I believe that some of their of her generals must have taken Satans place, and [illegible] him our out of his onw own home, they are so wicked.But [illegible] History will always [illegible] that Glandelinia is a mad nation."

"I [illegible] sir" said Radcliffe, "I did not think you could have [illegible] such a good answer.I have been trained [illegible] myself sir, and it [illegible] not taken any thing like a great while to [illegible] it either....[illegible] more than experience, I have learned from the Vivian Girl Princesses [illegible] be [illegible] as a hawk, yet to be kind in the right way, and have also found from experience that I have [illegible] thoroly. [illegible] some of these [illegible] floods having [illegible] the first [illegible] that have been [illegible] for the [illegible] this [illegible] disaster [illegible]

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has nothing for her pains,, she is in danger of of making herself poor , and our own cause must win out in the end.."

Then Jennie Turner whispered to Angeline Richee and said;;;

"The Ranger has a very good spirit, let us have him accompany us on our journey and let us all be reinforced as possible, for it will help us through the more of dangerous territory the better."

The Ranger however happened to overhear this and he said;

"With a very good will Miss Turner."

After the meal was finished the childscouts desired to retire as they felt tied [illegible] rttired and sleepysleepy, and they were very weary with traveling.So they retired , but most of the others sat up all night, for the Rangers and the soldiers were such good company, that they did not like to part just then.Then after much alk much talk over the adventure, about themselves, and the situation of the nation in in the war , Starring himself began to nod.Then said the Chief Ranger,

"What general, you are beginning to be drowsy, come wake up here is a question for you."

"Lets hear it"!Demanded Starring,

"Then said the Ranger:

"Why do the enemy devastate our forests by fire!"

"Ha" said Starring," that is a hard question, difficult to answer, and harder to frustrate.But come general Saunders of the Calve n Calverinian force," said he," though I can answer it, I will first leave my part to you, do you expound it, and see if my own answer will be right.Let me hear what you will say."

"I cannot answer it, as I do not know" said general Saunders."That is a puzzling question.It was put to you, and therefore we will have to ask you to answer it."

Then said Starring;;

"To drive us all our of Calverinia.Glandelinia cannot win her battle by fair means so she tries foul."

"You are right" said the Ranger."Watchfulness and experience teaches this.For first until the results displays itself and brings every thing to light, it is altogether without any good results to the enemy in the end. Besides in this is wholly Glandelinias purpose, how should we expect to see our nation stand by and let it go unheeded.For will any that has either reason or grace believe that such a nation, can ever face the world without shame and disgrace, when it is a slave to such wicked inclinations.And now it comes in my mind, I will tell you something worth the hearing.There were two men some time ago who went on the same quest that you are doing , the one who was younger took the north east route, the other going went straight. The younger one had great dangers and difficulties to grapple with, the older one also.The younger man reached as far as the enemys lines, but was frustrated in his purpose as he could succeed in no effort to learns the enemys secret, while the older one lost nerve at sight of the enemys lines and went back, therefore who of the two were the bravest/ !"

"The younger man" said Starring.For he went through the greatest perils unflinching, and in the face of greater opposition, and therefore he gave the best demonstration that he [illegible] the strongest.Besides I have observed that men also make a great many mistakes, [illegible] taking it for granted that [illegible] and [illegible] is [illegible] and so have [illegible] to [illegible] themselves.[illegible] to attempt a thing and not succeed is another."

Chapter 41

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] OF SEVEN [illegible]
[illegible]

THUS they sat talking for the time until the break of day was approaching. So when the rest of the camp was up again, Starring bid Radcliffe to read the long letter he had found to the Chief Ranger which he did and the Ranger surprised said;

"Why is it that this man should write to general Vivian such a long letter of his adventure to such an extent of time, and then allow it to be so carelessly lost."

"In my opinion" said Starring, "It must be only a duplicate letter. He might have been attacked some where by the enemy and if not injured at least was forced to throw away the duplicate, and the enemy might of known his [illegible] purpose and tried his best to frustrate him. I also say the letter was written in so strong thrilling words as if it was a stor story in itself, and because he wanted general Vivian to see what the disaster of the explosions themselves was like, therefore the judge of the nature of the disaster can be made up for test. Also to find whether the explosions have the force of which the discovery shows."

Though the forest fire did not come up that way, there was however signs that the enemy had increased in strength, for a great force was discovered gathered near the hi hill.

"Well" said the Ranger ,,

"Well said the Ranger" Now that we are here, and since I know we are strong in force, and the [illegible] citizens of the town have also good weapons, after we have refreshed ourselves, we will engage them again and see if we can do some good this this time and takesome prisoners and force them to tell something. About a mile from here is a good avenue of speedy escape if we have to be over whelmed or worsted. I know where such a safe retreat is, but if possible we should clear this region of the enemy. Let's great [illegible] ready as it looks like they are coming to [illegible] an attack knowing we are still here."

At Starrings command all were immediately assembled, and they soon found the the enemy in stronger numbers coming slowly and cautiously up the hill.

"Be careful not to expose yourselves any [illegible]" Starring warned. "There is a chance to avenge the awful disasters in [illegible] way."

The enemy came on now more swiftly, and this time did not take to cover as supposed, but charged on up the rise [illegible] yelling as they did. The battle then started as before, but this time raged three hours before the enemy finally even only took to cover, and to wait to take wind. Then half an hour after they went to it again with redoubled energy, and the charge was so terrific that this time a part of Starrings men had to give back, but they regained a better position and let loose such a volley of firing that the enemy who survived made a hasty retreat to cover, several prisoners, and a [illegible] of arms and [illegible] left behind together, with a hundred killed and nearly two hundred wounded. The leader of this Glandelinian horde was killed, and two of his captains severely wounded and they too were left behind in the precipitous flight. The Glandelinians it was seen however recovered and prepared for another assault, but Starring ordered the batteries to open fire, and this scattered [illegible] completely.

A party of Starrings force [illegible] and drove the [illegible] further without a single loss to themselves, and [illegible] the [illegible] of the hill brought a child alive [illegible] with them, and several [illegible] ones whom they had taken from the foe, besides [illegible] more prisoners, and an officer who turned out to be a captain, and brought them to the camp, placing the prisoners under strong guard. Then Starring when the child [illegible] brought before him [illegible] the child [illegible] the enemy during the [illegible].

"When said the poor child;;

"I have been sick and could not [illegible]

[illegible]

Then Starring asked the poor child how he happened to fall into the hands of these wicked Glandelinians,...

The little lad however did not or could not remember. He was a pretty looking child but sickly, and looked as if his health had been ruined for life by his slavery, and what he might have went through while under the power of these Glandelinians. Therefore Starring did not regret that he had taken himself to the life of an adventuerer and scout, and was glad that he had traveled hither from general Vivians lines. The little lad appeared as if he really did not have no stren strength at all, of body, Starring felt so rt for the lad, and did not object to his weakly looks, but gave him such things as wee were necessary for him.

All of those round about treated the lad with kindness, so that the lad finally felt at home here. The soldiers bid him good cheer and said that it was the will of their chief leader that comfort should be given to him. A little after this, there was signs of another encounter, for the enemy appeared to prepare again to assault the hill, and other brunts Starring and his men also looked for, for it also seemed evident the foe intended to start fires around the hill to cover their purpose, but als alas their efforts were feeble according tothe purpose of Starring, for as fast as a torch bearer moved forward to start a fire he was shot down. Starring decided that no enemy was going to out do him under any conditions, for he had heard that if the enemy succeeded in starting another fire at this location there would be no escape for him and his whole force on the summit of the hill.

Seeingthat the enemy d continued in his purpose Starring using a magaphone made of stiff paper shouted down to the enemy, that he would kill every one of his prisoners if they started a fire down belowand also that no one below either would recieve any quarter. Dangerous of course the situation seemed to be, and dangerous it sure was, but Starring was determined to escape with all his force. Others efforts to frustrate the enemy he looked for, but this main purpose he resolved on, to wit, to run the enemy out when he can, to have a r safe retreat when he cannot, and to resist to the last man when hecannot do either.

As to the main purpose, his position was fixed to advantage, the way was clear before him, his mind was beyond the open glen of escape and therefore he was determined to defeat all the purposes of the enemy. While watching and preventing the movements of the enemy, and frustrating his efforts to start another fire, by a continual fire of musketry and cannon, the Calverinian general asked of Starring:

" Have you not long ago been acquainted with one known as general Jack Ambrose Evans, known as the Guardian of the Vivian Girls.,".

„ Acquainted with him,?. Why yes. He belongs generally to any— com and, . leads armies of his own occasionally. We were well known to each other, for indeed he is one of my best friends, but he I believes thinks I can only speak english for while I was injured and waiting for my recovery in Concentinian Arronburgs camps he spoke to me in broken english and warned me that my mission was inclined to be very dangerous, and it seems he opposed it very much. We are much of the same complexion,."

" I percieved you knew him, and I was apt to believe that you knew him a long time, and once suspected that you were related to one another, for you have his appearance, a look like his with your eye, you are powerfully built, and your speech is much alike."

„ Many have said so who ahave known us both, but were are not an any relation so far as I know, but I would not regret having him for my brother. But we can be of good h cheer, you are all welcome to accompany me if you desire, and what you have a mind for call for freely, and what you would have my soldiers do for you and your force of rangers, they will do it with a ready mind. You have rendered us an unexpected favor. But let us keep our eye on those Glandelinians down below. "

Now while they were in this talk, there came a scout running up the hill, and stopped before Starring, and that and told that about a mile and a quarter from there, the enemy was moving off to make a flank attack upon the hill, and also a force of them was coming with toruches.

„ Is that so"? demanded Starring " are tyou sure?"

" Yes sir. I h have seen them".

" We will habe to stop this before it gets too serious " said

[illegible] in the disastrous retreat." [illegible]

we several times [illegible] before [illegible] overwhelmed [illegible] far, [illegible] very night."

When they were about to depart because [illegible] look very [illegible] they all fired and [illegible] heart, a breakfast as their [illegible] the hour had arrived for them to make their slick retreat, the chief ranger told Starring that it was his desire, and the desire of all the rangers to [illegible] him as a rear inforcement, for it [illegible] not the [illegible] of Rangers to stay behind when they believed they were needed, for they were not only hired to keep the forest in order, to fight forest fires, but it was their duty to fight the enemy also. Then said general Saunders of the Calverinians...;;

"By this you are acting very faithfully to our blessed cause, for whatever you do for the cause and for ariles and strangers who have borne witness of our helpl helpfulness to the cause, you shall [illegible] should do well."

Then they prepared to break camp and this work was carried as fast as possible. As some of the rangers, when the rest were [illegible] away, made as if they intended to longer. When general Starring observed this, he said;

"Come, come boys, you just also go along with us, and these [illegible] girl scouts with be your guides as well as mine, and you shall [illegible]..."

But one of these rangers said;

"Yes, but some one has to remain in to guard the forests, so we choose rather to remain behind, or to come on behind later, lest by reason of the forest fires you and your strong forest are be surprised or overwhelmed. We are as many said, men of watchfulness and caution. And we do not not known all the country, we are very [illegible] ignorant men, and sometimes [illegible] because there are not enough [illegible] men to fight and overcome these blazes, to [illegible] not know what to do. It is with us as it is with the enemy among the [illegible] weak, or as too much in good company. Therefore we rather remain behind."

"But my friends;" said Starring. "I have it in my commission to comfort all those in trouble, and we need all of you to come. You must go along with us for the enemy is in this territory, and no one will be here to give to aid in of case the enemy come to assault. [illegible] will also deny ourselves some things for your companionship, we would rather sacrifice all this than leave behind in this danger as territory."""

"Now all this while the camp was being gathered up, and lo, lo and behold as they were in the heat of their discussion another [illegible] came up, being one of the [illegible]. Therefore they all continued on moving to the rest of the hill, and Starring said to [illegible] of his followers;

"Keep watch and see that the enemy do not discover our [illegible] and [illegible] come up to [illegible]."

This order was obeyed, [illegible] the fore force went on before, and soon the whole column was on the retreat. As they continued on the chief ranger said to Starring;

"Pray sir, now we are on the retreat, tell us some profitable things that you may know of."

"With a good will" said Starring. I suppose you have heard how [illegible] general Vivian and his arnies did meet with Manley in the valley of the Redernine near Peadrick Junction in a most furious battle, and how he and general Hanson after the discord had also hard work to fight through the forest fires that came up from the south to make a chance of advance against Manleys wrecked army. Also I think you cannot but have heard how general Hanson and his whole army [illegible] hard put to it with these raging forest fires, with the enemy trying to harass him in the rear in with disaster as horrors, and as terrible a time as any general and his army can meet with after such a terrific battle."!

"Yes I have" said the Ranger, but indeed during the battle itself and the forest fires which he had to fight he was more hard put to it than his brother was, for the dangers that pursued his arnies was more relentless and fierce."

"Ay," said Starring. "For as the saying goes, we go through one evil only to enter a worse. Such is the fortunes of war."

"But pray sir" said the ranger," do we [illegible] it that the two Vivians and Federal and Manley met in battle [illegible] after that on the bank [illegible] St Clare stream? That also was a notable one and more fierce, as it still the christian armies there could not follow Manley as the forest fires interfered here too."

"The [illegible] Federal who [illegible] battle [illegible] from [illegible] like [illegible] clucking a cat."

"He has [illegible] almost [illegible] Vivians [illegible] the war."

"[illegible]," said Starring, "[illegible] of the war, and then [illegible] Manley."

[illegible] first get the [illegible], and then [illegible] Starring;

"Heavy about we can [illegible] if we do not watch our [illegible] selves. [illegible] we are entering the territory where we can face lots of troubles no now.."

"Say you so?" said the Calverinian general. "I dare say it will be a hard task for us, if we do not watch ourselves then."

"It is so for sure, but we have encouraging means anyway and have the trees by which our whole force can fire behind. But despite it all I hope all of our force is full of lion hearted men, for in this situation we must set our faces like flint. Don't you remember how undaunted they all were, when we stood before the foe on the hill top? Well that trial is not so severe as having to meet the enemy down here."

"Well we all have to bravely suffer if we desire to accomplish the mission you are about to perform."

"So we have, but we can succeed."

"And the girl scouts bravely suffer with us." said the Cav Calverinian general.

"So they do, and besides violet, and her sisters I have never seen any braver girls than theyand their other girl scout leaders."

"Well pray go on, for I see you are well acquainted with things."

"Above all above all spies I do not however believe any one went through more terrible experiences that the vivian Girl princesses, and especially with the glandelinians under general John Manley and the other Manleys.",,,,,,,,

"What kind of men are those chief Glandelinian generals?"

"Very arch enemies of our cause, and more wicked than the devils themselves. They can be suspected of every horror that we we hear of, as they are downright scoundrels, they have been the originators of the worse of massacres of children, and if they did not order it themselves have at least approvapproved of it or refused to interfere. And they are so cunning that they would not either lose or suffer for it. They have made their mode of wars a horrors at every fresh occassion and their staff generals are as good at the horrible crimes as the Manleys are.. Manley and the others would turn and change and change from opinion to opinion, and never give up in doing so either. But so far I can learn, many of his followers have already come to an ill end."

Now by this time they had come within sight of another large clearing, and they were surprised by seeing a large camp with a Glandelinian flag floating above it, and glandelinian soldiers on guard. Seeing this Starring and his followers consulted each other, how they should pass through the camp, and some said as thing one thing and some another. At last general Saunders said;

"I am for making a swift attack upon the camp and capturing it if possible, for we are acquainted with the lay of the land at this pé ptpolat. If you think the plan is good we will make the attempt."

"Better lets have a meeting of it first." said Starring. "If every one agrees then it may be so."

So all the officers were called together; and then said Starring first;;

"Does any one know how big the camp is?"

"One who had scouted said; "It is quite a size, and the members are about over 23,000 strong, and they have a number of field guns and machine guns, and a strong line of works."

"You have discovered quite a lot" said starring, you " You may be very wear so sit down."

"Then said general Saunders" Well what shall we do.?I dare say the camp is stronger than we supposed. Shall we attack it, or pass around."?

"I am also of the opinion of attacking it," said one of the Rangers. "They are strong but a sudden rush can accomplish wonders, and whatever we capture we can use for our journey and have more and better tents. Probably we can then pose as a glandelinian army by using the camp and no one will be the wiser."

"But in that case then we'll chance an attack by the Christians."

"Not in this territory." said starring. "Who else decides?"

"Well" said another" will we secure the whole camp in our possession or might not the enemy set fire to it when he sees he is worsted."

"That might be too, but we can try to prevent it."

"We can try."

So Starring and his officers had the different parts of the force of men placed in different respective positions, and while every man was so shown his own place Starring asked the Calverinian general, if there might not be any prisoners or more children slaves in the Glandelinian camp?"

"I will send some scouts to investigate and see" said he" and whatever else you want to find out, do do but say, and we will do but do what we can to get the information for you."

"Our great want," said starring, " is who are the Glandelinians belonging to what command they came from or main army, and hope we have the tail end of Manleys army for I'm itching to strike that a good blow."

"That will be done " said the general, and a number of men were dispatched to scouts. He said to their leader," So you tell ten of your companions to discover what they can. We'll hold of the attack until you return."

So the man went to do his bidding, and then said Starring to the Calverinians,

"Well general we have as you see our company of men come to position now, they are waiting for the signal for the attack attack, we all have come from afar, we are going on an most important mission and now we must not allow any obstacle to bar our progress.If we can discover whose command it is, we can handle it quite roughly for who can say that many of ow our own townsfolks were not handled cheerfully by any of these glandelinian skunks."

Th rest waited now while the scouts should return.Finally one of them returned saying, "The others are remaining behind a little.We are amazed.We little thought to see such a size for a camp, and for the tents and their make it is a very comfortabl comfortable surprise, and sir also an easy prize." The generals then asked him if the Glandelinian soldiers belonged to any portion of Munleys army and if he was any where near by." And he he told him they did, the generals both si said;

"Good discovery.I wish wish the others would hurry. What posture in the camp in?"

"You ma be sure it is in a strong position, but very weak and unguarded in the rear.The camp otherwise is in a cumbered position.The other scout we sent has gone of off further to see whether there are any other forces of the foe anywhere near who might come to the aid of the attacked.We who go through such a place as this has to face such perils as we have, therefore all of us sir must take heed, every mon mom nt of the attack we make."

"But how are the Glandelinians for artillery."

"They are much more moderate than we thought.We can use the guns to good a vantahe if we capture them.We can secure a good h ul for there are wagons loaded with provision provisions near by."

Finally one of the other ten came in, and Starring asked of him;

"Pray how fareth it with you in your scouting work?How stands the camp in its position.?"

He told the same story, but added, there is a large number of child slaves with them being driven by the lash to work."

"It happens that we have a good discovery" said the Ranger l ader. "We need a chance in on this, as you know sometimes our way has been up hill and down hill, we are seldom at a certainity, and in capturing and using the camp we can surprise the Glandelinians more when we come to them again.Of course the wind is not always on our backs, nor is every one a friend in this territory that we meet with in the way.We have met with some notable encounter s already, and what are yet to come we know not, but for the most part,,, we find it true that has been talked, of old;" a good cause must suffer trouble and disaster before it can win?"

"Talking of encounters, what encounters have we met with pray?"

"We have been beset by the forest fires, by the enemy three or four times already, first we encountered a body of Gargoylian cavarly on a road, and we routed them, then we fought with some other Glandelinians and drove them over a hill.And thus afterwards when we reached a rise of ground beyond a town, we replied in a track by Glandelinians from below.They charged us several times and fought us for two days.Now we may have another if we attack this camp and a fierce one no doubt."

"Said the scout"I found this camp here strong, and we might have quite a severe fight before we can take it."

"Yes but there are two things" said Starring that we need to have in this mission, and that is courage, and an unspotted life.If we have not courage, we can never hold in our way, and therefore we must have courage.I know this caution is not needed among us.But truely there are many that go upon the road for adventure that rather declare themselves strangers to us."

" is true" said general gardiens," they neither have the adventurers means nor his courage, they probably go not uprightly, but shirk all dangers small or large one shoe goes inward another goes outward, and their socks out behind, there is a a rag and a rent, to a disapragment of our cause."

"These things"said two other officers together "We all should look out for"or no one can expect success in any undertaking as they desire, untill the way is cleared of such spots and blemishes."

Thus they stood talking waiting for the return of the other scouts. Other portions of the troop was not in position for the attack yet but they were soon showed also their place. While they lay there the other guides came back, and gave also good information.The wisdom attack was therefore made from three sides."The attack was unusually successful, and for a time no man among the Glandelinians in the front of the camp so much as dared face the attacking soldiers, but the [illegible] stricken, even when they heard the noise of their coming.The fleeing Glandelinian in the rear tried to fire the nearest tents but were brought down by a volley.

The Glandelinians in the rear however maintained a stiff resistance, and looked upon the attackers with great disdain, but they were so irresistible, that these Glandelinians were forced to retreat."The Glandelinians however, rallied and made a few fierce attempts to retake the camp, but they were continually repelled with great success, and soon what was left of the Glandelinians fled to save themselves from destruction."The attack [illegible] the woods untill the Glandelinians

were forced to defend themselves fiercely behind trees, rocks,, and bushes..... While the christians lay waiting for the enemy to come out and exp se expose themselves or retreat, there suddenly to Starrings surprise and dismay came a monsterous column of soldiers in gray out of the woods, and opened a fire that slew many of the Rangers and a number of Starrings men, a d about a hundred of the Calverinians and seriously wounded the Calverinian general himself.

These Glandelinians before could not have been located and yet they had appeared so suddenly that it seemed as if they had actually sprangup out of the ground. These Glandelinians for a time then after driving the christians who survived to cover kept up a fierce fire of musketry for a long time, while others would c carry away brush and high grass with which it seemed possible they were going to fire the woods to drive Starring and his men from cover.The sudden counter attack of these Glandelinians had made great havoc among Starrings brave bands, and Starring was enraged.

Star ing therefore entered into another meeting with his officers and it was proposed to go and charge these Glandelinians even at the risk of losing more men if perhaps they might drive the foe back for fair.Most of his officers noticing that the enemy was under cover thought it sucide, but nevertheless Starring was dtermined not to retreat under any conditions.He must push through, even in the facoe of such dangers. Starring decided to try it, and tl take the chances and lead in person. He gave the orders, telling the officers that the men must not rush out into the open but to advance from tree to tree.

Now at this the Glandelinians became very ramp nt rampant and resisted the christian attack with wild fury, but the christian so drove at them, and inflicted such cruel loss upon theGlandelinians, that the enemy made a quick tretrat retreat also from tree to tree.

The Glandelinians from sounds unusual in different u quarters of the woods believed a whole christian army was coming and therefore willingly gave up the conflict and fled, taking their wounded with them but leaving their dead behind.Starring had finally captured the camp and defeated the Glandelinians but the conflict had been more severe than he had expected or even wished it to be, and he did not know whether he could dare push on inthe same direction again. While he finally moved on, taking his wounded with him, after the burial of his four hundred dead, the Glandelinians,,,, you must know had at times came on again here and there,, to make desperate attempts to check Starrings advance, and therefore for a week day and night there was continually hot fighti g in ambush style, but every time these valanr vanlent christian soldiers watch for the attacks they expected to come, and continually resisted the assaults, or ade made assaults thmselves themselves, in so much that in a weeks time, the Glandelinias because of their own and n unusla and heavy losses became not only discouraged but frightened, and though attacks still came, they were not so frequent as before. Very important pape papers were tka taken from some of the Glandelinians taken prisoners but instead of taking the prisoners with them the soldiers would tie them almost insecurely to trees and leave them to get free if they could... Many of the Glandelinians died of their wounds, and Starring himself recieved several wounds.In all he lost two thousand men while the enemys loss though unknown looked much more greater.

This victory however in the face of great odds, made Starring famous among his followers, and therefore they had a reverent esteem for him. Upon this account therefore they were willing more than ever to follow him.True there were some that at first saw recklessness in this sort of conflict, but they got over it.Starring was in full possession of the camp, plenty of ammunition, firearms and fifteen pieces of artillery.

All the time of the fight they continually set forward on their way.This time because of danger of so many petty attacks from unexpected places the child scouts were kept in the center of the column for perfect safty.Time and again when a dangerous conflict seemed threatening, Starring would send for his officers, he would conferred confer with them, with the purpose of committing the girls and the two boys to bet er protection. The two girls howeverwere braver than than any one could have su posed. After this when they had come to another open country or cl aring, they came ui kly quickly to the place where many more Glandelinians were seen in hiding. They

prepared again to make a stand, while Starring thanked God for enabling them to get so far in the journey despite all the resistance from the enemy, and the rather because they now found that they had a benefit by such a manly herosion as this was.They now s lowly went on, going a good way farther, the enemy of course retreating as slow as they advanced firing occasionally but that was all.They soon came upon a rise of ground, where the Glandelinians had gathered in ever increasing numbers, and upon which to attack would cause grreat great loss of life.Starring however prepared to attack, even though he marveled, that men like these desperate Glandelinians, who had that knowledge and ripeness of wit, sho ld be so blinded as to offer battle here.Only Starring as also considee considered again, that if he was careful his troop would not be affected by the harms of une unequal battles again, therefore he decided not to charge.

Instead he ordered his force on, and they continued on untill they came to the rier river, where fine trees grew on both sides, , where there were bea tiful glens and forest plains.

ry this river side, in a small meadow, there were folf folds and cotes for sh ep sheep, and a house built for the nourishing and bringing up of those lambs, nd other mild animals, but no such animal was in sight.Starring had to be more careful here however even though he did not see a sign of the enemy, for he had now to his care the number of child slaves rescued during the attack upon the camp, and he had sometimes gathered some of these children, and carr ed them in his bosom.

Now to care for these little ones in case of an attack from the enemy Starring admonished the to two girl and boy scouts, and that by these waters they might be temporarily camped, and that none of them might be tracking in roper friendship. And the guards were to watch and if any of them should go astray, they must bring thm thm them back again, and the guar s promished they would die before one of those trusted to his care should be lost.

Besides here the whole force were to take a temporary rest from their long journey and continued fighting, and that is a favor of no small account.Here everywhere was delecate waters, pleasant meadows in the clearing, dainty flowers, variety of trees, mostly left lofty pin s and fir.

After such a long rest they went on, and saw again a force of the enemy gathering to resist their advance, therefore they made preparations and the and the officers consulted what was best to be done, for they still were so strong, and such a had such a good man as Starring, and such good little guardians as the girl and boy. scouts, whethey whether they had best made an attempt again upon the enemy or not.

One officer said one thing, and another said the contrary. One questioned if it was safe and lawful to go forward and start a discord upon such beautiful ground, another said they might, rovided their end wasgood, but Starring said finally:

"Though Though that assertion offer d last cannot be i universally true yet we all have a com andment to resist the enemy as stoughly as we must resist sin, to overcome the evil forces and to fight the good fight for our countrys cause.These Glandelinians bar our way tward where we iwish to go, and therefore I pray with whom should I fight this good fight if not with these Glandelinians again.&? I wi l therefore attempt to take these Glandelinians by surprise, and demolish their lines.who will go with me?"

Every one yelled"ME".

So they prepared for the coming battle.First Starring went forward to scout, and found out that the Glandelinians were astonished at knowing that Starring and his followers were so hardy to kee keep on following and pressing through the woods in the face of all this opposition.The Glandelinians were gathered so strong now that they believed a force four times that of Starring could not overcome them in a week, and again thought they, since we have made a conquest of other christian forces, shall this band made us afraid. So they rushed down to attack, and Starrings men opened fire, while another section of his force beset the enemy on the rear, and flank, and cut the Glandelinian column to pieces at one blow.Then th the men of both sides literally fought for their very lives, but the foe though loath to retreat could do nothing else for the, were slaughter ed on awful numbers.

The n xt th. for the forces under Starring was to make move forward to carry the hill, and therefore the artillery which had been captured in the camp, with those added by the guns of the rangers, covered this attack.gover the Glandelinians though defeated below , and because there was plenty of cover on the hill still believed that Starrings force could be vanted.So they secured themselves in their position under cover of their own guns.Six columns of the rangers moved around to the reat and flank of the hill, while Starring, and the Calverinians made the assault from the other side. The attackers rushed up from all directions completely surro nding the hill, and they made fiercely at the Glandelinians, attacking from from every direction, and when a battery of machine guns were brout brought forward to mow them down, the gunners could not et the cartridge belts inserted in time and the guns were captured at one rush, and the Glandelinians in the way mowed down at one discharge in scores.

Thec Glandelinians seeing themselves surrounded fought for their very lives, and two of their leaders were shot down.In this situation the Glandelinians were very loath to give up or retreat, but struggled hard,, but they finally could not hold longer, and fled panic stricken from the scene, a great number being forced to throw away their arms in their haste.Then the christian christian persuers fell to demolishing the retreating columns, and then with an addition of equipage thus captured pressed on, but they were seven days in going ahead, and attacked and realated every hour and day of the way.It was strange to see during those days the many dead bodies of so many Glandelinians that lay here and there, showing the good accuracy of the firing of the ad adventuerers, who keeping always to cover sa suffered little lost loss to themselves in killed, though a number were wounded. Starrin ower n ject to observe by this that he was going to have a difficult time getting through this region.During the fighb fight he had captured tw officers prisoners, and they kept them this time as well as the others.They took the prisoners with them during their onward progress.When the Rangers sa saw how the result was a i believing the woods was full of Glandelinians for the firing hardly never ceased, they were very appreheensive.Starring himself could do scouting work to a good perfession, and therefore climbed a high tree to see the lay of the land and how full of Glandelinin Glandelinians the region was.

Several times Starring had to almost tempted to start a forest fire of his own to rout out the Glandelinians, but since they were so many and such a plan would also be dangerous, he forgot to make the attempt.He and his force however forced their onward, but no one for a time dared to sleep at night for fear of being attacked in the dark. During one night when could d to water, the camp was erected on a high rocky hill, formed good for a strong defense.When this was done some of the officers felt more warlier, but guards were placed to keep the enemy away.When all these things were accomplished, general Starring had the prisoners placed in front of the camp but under the strongest guards, to take heed that the foe would not attack too suddenly when they saw the men of their own kind.

Starring whi d heard and read a lots about the Abbieann disaster was told or ked to tell the Rangers what he knew of all the reports he had heard.At first having so many Glandelinian prisoners about him, and in the camp Starring was somewhat re. reluctant, but he was begged untill he finally consented, but not untill the prisoners were placed out of of hearing. He then said;

" As far as I can remember now, the great disaster began at about the first day of June but at midnight.The regions of Calverinia, and Angelin states terribly affected by the disaster had not been able to hear of the news for months, for they knew not what caused the shocks and the floods, and all the wreckage, but nevertheless shock re the news had travelled like wild fire, and at first the whole civilized world was shocked by the first reports which were meager and of cel graphic and news gram origin. I learned also from International reports, which I secured that at first the peopl of other nations, really laughed and joked about it as great fun, not that they felt it as funny, but that they believed some crazy people hard put for som thing to do, had set up such reports to give the world a good scare, and therefore no one believed the reports at all.The first report I recieved boys from a telegraph operator was that a portion of the city of Abbieann, in south Central Calverinia, in pengail State had been destroyed by a sudden eruption of volcanoes opening from the ground,, snow and that a great flood was ensueing because of the explosions.As by all other disasters before, and forest fires raging elsewhere all telegraphic and other communications elsewhere had been wiped out, I could not get any real detail of the terrible supposed volcanic upheaval, and therefore also believed that the story was caused by some one gone mad by the horrors of war and therefore writing and publishing these report in his fits of insanity.

[illegible] I must confess I laughed heartily, and so did the soldiers and the generals themselves, and even general Vivian said;

"What will these nuts write next.What has become of all our squirrels.They are needed now to gather up all the nuts,."

It was not very [illegible] in the morning of the tenth of June, that the horrible news was confirmed, not only by additional and fresher reports that the flood was a reality in the whole country, but also by letters recieved by the Vivian girls, of friends who were in the terror stricken areas.

On the next day, many in the army began also to recieve detailed reports, showing that the entire country had been blown up, and that the whole country side had been d vastated by the explosions in a wider area than the flood, and that probably hundred of thousands had perished. torrents of mud, had been carried down by the flood, and the explosion had hurled hot clouds and fierce flaming wreckage upon scores of towns like some great blanket of death, and had destroyed whole regions in fifteen or twenty minutes. As the disasters caught most of the people at night, there had been no time for panic, for there was one moment of agony and then all was over. Yet still though I believed these reports I still thought however that they were much exaggerated, but because no real strong news could come of the disaster, as no telegraph lin s had been restored, though later additional news was recieved, that the explosions had caused great landslides, that the whole nation had felt the tremors, and that the whole nation was in a state of panic because of the strange underground and explosive eruptions.

Governer Gannon who ruled Abbieannia state with his splendid judgement and magnificent enthusiasm laid before his Tribunal immediately in a special message the demands to have the reports investigated to see if they were true or not.

Therefore a week after the first report of the disaster, reporters came to him telling him the investigators could not reach the scene because of a terribly devass devastating flood raging over the country. This seemed to confirmed the reports, and therefore the Tribunal passed a bill appropriating means to navagitate the flood zone, to see what nature the disaster had. An objection in the Tribunal caused a delay from Monday till Wednesday, but the Tribunal heads, promptly rebulked or rebuked the objector, and the expedition was made. None of them have ever been heard from since, and that had Governer James Gannon Procile worried and he tried to send a message from Emperor Vivian, or to him, but the telegram came back with the report of not being able to pass through the disaster zone as everything is down.

This news was indeed more shocking, and surprising... surprising.... General Dargur the great Head of the Gemini , who is the leader of one of the greatest societies of christian spies in the world, said to be that he could have divided the great disaster into general classes;;;

The explosions that make floods and devastation more slowly.

The explosions that destroy most rapidly and cause overwhelming floods, and fires. The latter kind he told me are the most dangerous to our country and all human live, and the physical face of the country.. Floods that are caused by natural results are periodical wellings over of waters from a swollen river, comparatively harmless in our country with the strongly proe protecting levees. But when levees are blasting by the explosions, terrific disasters such as already happened takes place.. It is the same cause that makes a dam burst. Many have made very interesting descriptions, showing that the famous and now ill fated city of Abbieann was founded on the islands between branches of the Hic-Hollester River, and that some explosive force from somewhere finally produced a flood which destroyed the city... The distance from the scene of the greatest explosions of all to the city is fifty miles. Several hills and ravines and a forest are spread between the city, and the scenes of the explosions of greatest force, which had no e flood resulted after the explosions, the death list probably would no have been quadrupled. The vast torrents of water let loose by the explosions from some unknown source were for four hours after the explosions held back by one of the long levees of the river which of course flowed over in many places from recieving such a volume of water. Some party of the town of Hidie's junction reported nearly two ou hours before the outburst, that a levee some where near Adelaheid city had or was strangely holding back an ernormous volume of water coming from no one knows. If this levee would have held the disaster would not have been increased. Before the pressure of the ever increasing volume the levee weakened. Soon the flood became of such an intensity that it was impossible to concieve its awful force, and the levee was unable to withstand the strain. The flood first sought another outlet by going through a long time breuk in the levees near Lake Selicia, which it filled up, and gave water faster than it could run out of the breuk still remaining, starring a flood over the other former devastated territory again. Then the whole length of that levee crashed and was washed away. The sound they saw was like the side of a mountain blowing out. As long as it takes a projectile to shoot through the air, just so long it took the fierce torrent to fall upon Abbieann and all towns and villiages elsewhere in its path.

The city of course was washed partly away. The consequent igniting of towns and villiages nearest the explosions must have generated posionous gases, that resulted in the death of many victims. They inhalation of the strange hot air was almost instantly fatal. no animal and vegetable life survived any of these disasters, and yet many say it is quite certain that the people had some kind of warning s ir sufficient time to escape if the disasters had occured later in the day when every one h d not been in bed. Here than a month before, there were sounds of explosions near the city of Abbieann. These explosions produced tremors or violent tremblings of the earth as if there were earthquakes. Such ramifications usually pre ede the tragic

climax of volcanic activity of dangerous kind, but as Dargar says that he had taken in all the scene of the explosion region and swears that they were not volcanic eruptions but explosions of other source. Had they been strange volcanic activity from the ground, then we could not and would not suspect the enemy..

The destruction of Abbieann makes to Calverinia a terrible loss, because the city, was the largest city, and the main only commercial center left open of all our country, being well built, prop prosperous, and with hundreds of railroads running in and out, and with great and magnificent elevated train lines. Its population was considered about six to seven million. There were hundreds of national banks in the city,, ernormous factories, mills, and even big gas wp works, transportation companies, and Commercial banks linked with every banking cooperation of the nations of the world. The blow therefore to our country is terribly severe, as even from the banks hundreds of billions of dollars had been swept away in currency and silver by the flood, probably never to be recovered. The city was like Vivian Vickey comprising different sections, about ten sections,, but the upper section is said to be the only one left. to which I am going to obse observe to find clues as to the disaster.

Its extreme length was about fourty five miles to the or from the north-east,, to the southwest,,, and the main part of it was shaped more like a starfish, with rough edges for a roman towns, its greathest width being about seventeen miles.

The mountanous interior of this section had been torn and gashed or ruined by landslides caused the the by the violence of the explosions, and perpendicular cliffes, deep clefts and gorges were ruined by the shocks. The total population of Abbieann, which was included by two hundred and seventy five thousand fori g foriegner foriegners, were said to have been destroyed by explosions horri horror, or being caught asleep in their falling buildings and drowned in the ens i ensuing floods. Abbieann is said to have interesting claims, in that Emperor Vivian and his wife and brother, and parents were born there..

The region of Abbieann became a suspicious point just some weeks before the disaster. The news arived that a force of men acting suspiciously had been seen near Lake St Ann. At this some river craft armed ith guns and force of soldiers arived at Abbieann, and started for the locality. So suspi suspicious men could be seen.

Of course by these explosions, and by all other disasters of the past year the habitations of all the Calverinians of the south have been leveled or flood swelt, or burned by forest fires, or buried by explosions, and the number of human bring killed in Calverinia lone in this way can pass comprehension..... "

"Yes" said the head Ranger. "I've heard a whole lot about it all and learned more than any one knows and can prove it too. They were some of the most frightful explosions of all onrecord, and many other witnesses tell me that in the north branch of the Vivian Hills the concussions caused a secondary earthquake of terrible force which vibrated the hills so much, that they sent down eight to ten thousand feet the most terrific avalanches on record, that overwhelmed every town and small or big city in the valleys or on the hillsides. It has happened since last June as we all know but even now no one has ever been able to determine how many lives were actually lost by these landslides, but it may run into the scores of thousands. Every survivor in the neighborhood though some volcanoes had blown themselves up , and near the town of Postellio a hillslide produced by the concussion produced or se sent 116,000,000 yards of rock and sand, earth, stones and fragments of trees into the valley beneath, the avlanche traveling at the rate of sixty five miles an hour and was one hundred and fifty feet or more deep. Hear four thousand five hundred sixty persons lost,,, their lives."

"Where did the explosions actually occur" asked one of Starrings followers.

"The biggest explosions is said to have occured, on a big river island between the city of Abbieann and Adelaiehdi, and Heidi Junction" said the Leading Ranger. "I found the evidence myself when I went with Dargur, and know the places well. The greatest explosion known of a mountain long ago called Asama, or Krakatoa which occured between Jama and Javan and Sumatra was but that of a fire cracker compared to this tremendous upheaval. We all know that since October or earlier of 1912 these awful disasters have commenced, flood fire, and expl explosions massacre and the like, but the great Abbieann g horror did not come untill the midnight of June the first as recorded by the reports. I have heard reports that the flames or flashes of the explosions that night could bee seen about one hundred and twenty miles away. I believe you also have heard that these unusual explosions crashing so loudly set in motion air waves that is claimed to have traveled around the world twelve times one way, and six times the other, and shook the whole nation to one degree

or another. Every self r recording barometer in the world was said to have been most violently disturbed, a score of times by this blo p. These waves travelled at the rate of one hundred and five miles an hour at the farthest reaches, and at the nearest at a rate of probably one thousand one hundred miles an hour. I was then on a visit at Angeline Junction in Northern Angelinia state,, 5,678 miles away, and we heard the noise of this explosion. It was said to have been felt in northern Glandelinia, and southern Abbicennia, each 10,000 miles away, and at Pandora northern Abbicennia, 16,100 miles distance. The explosions of the loudest was heard over a confounded sound zone covering one quarter of the earths surface.

Even though the sea was far from the scene, waves were created on the seas on both the west and east coasts, which destroyed all lighthouses along the two shores. Destroyed all the towns and villages, on the southwest shores of Calverinia, and northeast shores of same state, and partly of northern Angelinia on the northwest, and southeast. Destroyed thousands of vessels shipping there, and drowned nearly two hundred thousand people. Raised a tidal wave on our near Calverinie a hundred and eighty five feet high. Covered five hundred thousand square miles of country with debris and dust several inches thick so that many people though it was a mighty volcanic upheaval. Submerged or sunk a whole country side near the rivers, one hundred and six miles square, and seven hundred feet high, in depth of o water six to eight hundred feet. Created a record breaking flood that destroyed thousands of villages, cities and towns, and uprooted whole forests, and started new forests fires of its own."

"Yes" said Starring, and until evidence proved the real facts, the survivors of ruined towns and cities which did not suffer from flood, believed the shocks and explosions to be the most disasterous eruptions and earthquakes of all time. The shock was felt with disasterous effects as wel we all know as far south as Angelinia Agathia. Even in Francis Atlanta, before the flood came there, all the houses of the northern part of the city were either overturned by the concussion or blown in , fifty thousand of the inhabitants were killed or injured, and while streets were buried, so that the rest of the city the escaping could not for a time aid those in those in debris.

The cities, of Francis Anna, Mildred Greenburg,, Colombra, Oporto junction, Braga Crossroads, and Santa Ubos, and Martinias, were partly destroyed to a severe or less degree, by explosion force and flood, and the city of North Pandora was largely reduced to ruins. One half of Calverine on the northeast side, was destroyed and over fourteen thousand people killed.. The Island of Constantine was laid waste, and the ruin extended to towns and cities in northern Calverinia,, where half of the number of towns were laid low.."

"I have here a list" said Starring, producing an enveloped," which I captured from one of the prisoners will shows he knew the names of the principal towns and villages, horribly destroyed by the explosion, and yet not touched by the flood. Thi This shows my dear friends and companions that the appalling catastrophe which visited Calverinia in Bengal state and elsewhere at the same time, which resulted in the destruction of Abbicenn and man bother towns and cities, and an unknown number of lives is actually caused by the enemy, and which surely horrified the world to an extreme.. Though the whole world shuddered at every natural calamity which results in the sudden death of such an numbers of people, yet the whole world was still more shocked and terrified at this one caused by the enemy. These terrible explosions coming so suddenly in the night, overwhelmed these doomed cities listed here without the slightest warning, catching every one asleep in their beds, and in the breif space of fifteen minutes, turned the whole of Bengal state into an unparaled scene of de vastation, and then later in the morning started floods which quadrupled the destruction. In all towns and cities within the explosion area, very few persons escaped this most horrible of fates, that swept a vast country side of multitudes to their deaths. by blast, fire and flood.

This list astonished me. Even out of the mouth of the treacherous craters of our own or volcanoes of other countries never has such a disaster sprung, and even such havoc is nothing compared to this. Now this list boys shows something something o of suspicion for why should the enemy keep these if they did not want to hide something. As I read in a description which I found of a long letter, strange noises had been heard for two weeks in the region of these explosions. Then at midnight the explosions occured, and all these cities and towns listed here were no doubt enveloped, and every one destroyed. This list was pul published by a printer printer in the city of Angelinia Aqt I A[illegible], and how this Glandelinian got hold of this is a mystery. Even it [illegible] ..Therefore [illegible] the disaster, while [illegible]

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but for weeks and [illegible] months the disaster zone was [illegible] reachable.. They tried to estimate the death list as four hundred thousand in these cities and towns but but these could not be confirmed. It is now known that countless numbers of persons could have been all [illegible] at the time of the explosions [illegible] killed, but their bodies were not visible, as they were covered so deep in debris. Angelinia state also was shaken to its very centre by the terrible convulsion, but vast destruction was more caused by the rapid floods and forest fires, and here alone many thousands lost their lives.. I'll read the list of the cities and maybe some of us have lived in these or had our parents and [illegible] there, though I ardently hope not.....!!!!,!

BENGALL STATE,, AND COUNTY,,,.DE CAVERINIA...

[illegible] in the City of [illegible] buried by landslides, and pandadice in Northern [illegible] county, destroyed with immense loss of life.
Sandorn, and its inhabitants buried by landslides...
Marsonvill , and Viviens junction destroyed by shock and partly buried by landslides.
Four cities, six villages, and fourte n towns not account for in northeastern [illegible] Coast.

Six hundred and sixty one cities, in Bengal State, Mullonton, and Meldorn counties [illegible] by landslides.
Calverine partly destroyed, thousands upon thousands perished.
[illegible] hundred cities, in northern Bengall state,, southern Bengall county, and Mandon County overturned, or blasted and burned, Immense but unknown loss of life.
Part of Pandora destroyed. All Calverinia shaken. I,CCO cities report damage to glass of windows, shaken and cracked walls, and also in Angelinia, and other States.
Large part of Abyssinville state thoroughly shaken.
Centiria, in the region of northwestern Calverinia, Bengall State, destroyed, said to be twelve thousand lives lost.
[illegible] of Pilne, twenty thousand lives lost.
[illegible] of Mile Tumor, sixty thousand perished.
Fourte thousand perished at [illegible] city.
City of Francis Anna, Three thirds of city overthrown, forty thousand persons killed, several [illegible] to the river.
City of [illegible], partly [illegible].

AQ Central Calverinia proper, south of Bengal State.

Centrude or St Gertrudes County, unknown cities destroyed, and thousands have perished.
City of Jamie[illegible] Armor, partly wrecked, near by, thirty towns destroyed, with a loss of life reaching over seventy thousand.
At Lirka [illegible], eighty thousand five hundred killed.
At Perfecto, over four thousand killed.
In Francis Atlant , [illegible] lives lost.
Mildred [illegible] lost.
[illegible], [illegible] lost.
Abricombria, loss of life sixteen thousand.
Algorian more than 25,000 lives lost.
[illegible] hundred thousand buried at [illegible] Hill Junction by landslides.
[illegible] lives lost.
[illegible], and Cities destroyed, over nine [illegible] thousand persons perished.
[illegible] loss of life.
[illegible] fifty thousand lives.
[illegible] four hundred and five hundred people killed and injured.
[illegible] felt at [illegible] City, fifty [illegible] hundred people killed at [illegible] City, [illegible] people in [illegible] buried by landslides, [illegible] thousands of [illegible] perished.
[illegible] destroyed, [illegible] thousand persons killed.
Part of [illegible] and their [illegible] thousands perished.
[illegible] destroyed, [illegible] killed.
[illegible] Bowing, [illegible] killed...
[illegible] people buried [illegible] in the [illegible] night.. [illegible] affected [illegible] loss of life the cities of Conquistina. [illegible], [illegible], Arcadia,, The [illegible] Valley,, [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], Spring Sinini, [illegible] City, and Guadalupe towns. Cities [illegible] in Midlenta [illegible], destroyed, with I, 503,000,000 worth of property lost.
[illegible] Known loss of life.

The. starring continued;

The first report that was accepted of this great calamity, came by a courier on a fast gasoline launch from the city of St John, and though believed at first or not was printed throughout the city of Angelinia Agathir, on the morning of June the 30th the day the first news came in.The report only so far made this small announcement, which know almost by heart.

"It is said the city of Abbieann, the principal river boart and railway and Commercial Center of Calverinia was destroyed, with all its inhabitants at the midnight hour of June the first, by either a mysterious kind of volcanic eruptions from the ground of unusual force. The number of lives lost is believed to exceed five million, and may be as great as seven million .The whole country side around or near Abbieann was reported to have erupted into the air.for more than fifteen minutes, debris and wreckage thrown up by the upheaval poured down upon the doomed city..The panicstricken population who survived the crash, and heat of flame fled to the river side, but in vain a sudden flood engulfed them.All the ships in the river harbors were destroyed by the crash and the people who fled to the wharves were soon caught in the awful flood that reculed and drowned, while the city in the north was consumed by fire. All the suburbs of the city of Abbieann on the north within a full radius of many miles were completely destroyed.All communications with the explosion area, with the whole nation and world in general was interrupted for good probably. No River st steamer within the region of explosion escaped.

The investigators reported that in the city of St Abbieann and suburgs all the population had perished, either under the ruins, or when overwhelmed from the flashes of the explosions, or from the flood that came so suddenly afterwards. Those on board a River Steamer called the costellio stores, belonging to the Abbieannia Northern st samship company, who had not slept that night, with fourty eight sailors, and twenty Calverinian women and children as passengers had been a witness of the catastrophe, as well as fifteen sailors of the Abbieannian national passenger steamer, which by suddenly slipping her anchor, escaped from the harbor of the southern part of the city, a few minutes before the city was so suddenly overwhelmed."

When these adventurers had thus related some of these incidents to one another for about three hours or more they recontinued their retreat, after a having again bravely resisted some petty attacks from hidden parties of the enemy, and therefore they went onward untill they came to what looked like to them a branch of the great Vivian Hills, densel forested, but strangely there was the smell of was water in the air, not like that of a river but that of a swamp. however theym came across some more rangers there, who welcomed them, as they had been expecting the arival of these forces and hoping for them.For these Rangers seeing so great a train of soldiers, and men following general starring,(for with him they were well acquainted, they said when greeting him;;;

"Good evening general starring, you sure have a large force of followers for your adventursome movement.Pray how did you gather all these? Making a new army for your own purpose to crush the foe yourself.?"

Then said general starring;

"Yes.They will be a great help to me in case in my investigations I might be attacked.I hear the region of Abbieann is now in possession of the foe."

"You sure have a strong and most comfortable company" said the ranger in charges and rangers also with you.You are welcome to us, for we need even your own protection as this is now the Abbieann Territory you are in, and the foe are all about us."

This news surprised starring, but he said;

"This day I see that luck does come to us, and that the grace of God does shine in all our faces m a and that you may if you wish be some of my reinfo reinforcements, for then we can push on through the enemy ter i territory for we can make the Glandelinians to leave us our unwonted liberty to go throu where we please."

So all of the force went up to the camps on these hills, and starring and the rest did follow. When they were all settled down for a nights rest, one of the rangers said to the children themselves;

"What do you two girls and boys want for supper."

Angeline Riches told her desire, and the others too, and so the Rangers made a feat feast for the whole company, the which when they had recieved, they went to their sleeping quarters, which the guards went to their proper places.When morning was come and because these mountains were g high, and the day not so smoky though the sky still yellow and because it was the custom of the rangers to show to vil visitors, before their onward march, some unusual and rare sight, therefore after starring, and his girl scout and boy scout guides were ready, and the whole force had refreshed themselves, the rangers led them all to the summit of the highest of the nearest of the hills, and showed them something unusual far off. It looked like a vast stretch of water with trees bobbing up from its surface..Then they took them up a little higher to show them something more new. The first was poined out as apart of Heidi Junction

but it was of such a distance and there was such a haze, that no matter where they looked they could not see much of anything. They asked the Ranger what the view could be, and they told Starring that the ruins was a part of Heidi's Junction, of whose almost total destruction he must have heard , in the first of the recorded news, and that the scenes confronting themm shows what difficulties they would meet in trying to find out any clues as to the cause of the catastrophes.

"I know all about that town" said Starring."It is a city destroyed worse than many."

Then the ranger pointed out another place or section viewed from such a height, and there with the help of powerful field glasses Starring, saw a mass of water to the right, all covered still with slowly moving wreckage, and further off two toward the north, they saw a high rolling and towering cloud all white, and very heavy, and lights ever and anon flashing up and down through the cloud..Now behold this scene would every once in a while change a little, and the cloud would change shape, look thicker and darker, or thinner and lighter. Starring asked;

"What is that.?"

"That is one of the forest fires a smouldering ha after destroying the forest" said the ranger."The cloud shows of a great smoulner from the leveled forest debris. That fire is caused by the explosions.Now the Glandelinians who were responsible for all this, are such as hate all christianity and Him who made us all, but as o you see, this flood fire, and scene of ruin is a full evidence against Glandelinia.Who ever they be that had been mean enough to do all this, yet labored all in vain, for Glandelinia will fail in her efforts, and God, when a little time is spent, will cause that Calverinia shall rise better and more beautiful.Then they faced more to the southwest , where they showed them far off a vast refugee camp.

"How far can this place be" asked Angeline Riches."

"About ten miles.This is to show you, that those who have a heart for our cause labor ardently for the poor homeless refugees in the face of all perils, and they sure shall never want.As the saying is, those that give a cup of water shall have it returned a hundredfold.

Then said Jennie;

"I wonderif it could be, if I with my glasses could see any trace of the city of Heidi Junction from here.?And she looked hard and long..Yet she hardly could not see a thing as the haze obscured most of the view.! Now when they had seen all these things, they returned slowly to the camp, and here they were intertained, but while they were thus having it right, they heard from afar some one shout;

"Cursed be Glandelinia for laying waste to Calverinia, Oh that I had been torn in pieces before I had to even save my life, seen such a sight."

This cry made the two girls turn white white and Jennie said;

"Blessed were they who escaped safe from this disaster."

Yet all this while she and Starring longed to see the chance to discover who were really responsible for the catastrophe, and finally she said to Starring;

"There was one chance when I was with Violet and her sisters in the Glandelinian camp to secure some information, of which I cannot take my mind, and therefore because of my failure I had miscarried.."

"Why not mention your loss to Starring"?Asked Angeline.

"Nay Angeline, of course it is no shame but a virtue to long for such a thing as yhis this, but sometimes I feel ashamed that I and they failed, even though the fires frustrated all our efforts."

"If you could spring your information to Starring, maybe that will give us a better chance to succeed now" said Radcliffe.

Now this secret of hers was indedd one of a thousand.She was sure if it could be followed out when in Manlaysclines it could prove who were guilty of the disasters without without the least difficulty.She claimed she had talked with many glandelinian soldiers who could tell if they wanted to, and they have said, not suspecting who she was that they have seen the very documents signed that was to pass the degree for the making of the disasters, and they have also seen the very orde orders written.Yea such an excenn excellency was there in her secret, that she sure hoped for success if she could only reveal it without detection. Jennie therefore went to Starring, and said to him;;;;;;;;

"Angeline or jennie has a secret that she would like to reveal to you, and she thinks we will all miscarry, if she does not think you can work it through."

"Call her" said Starring" she shall assuredly have all the aid we can give her for guiding us so well."

She then came to Starring and he asked;

"What is it you wish to tell me."!"!!!!!!

Then she said "I've a great secret, and" and she told it to him in a whisper.He nod nodded and said"I'll do what I can."Then she bowed her head and gave thanks, and said;

"By this I know we all have gained favor in the eyes of God."

Chapter Fourty
Two.

ARRIVING WITHIN THE FLOOD ZONE.
STORIES OF SOME SURVIVORS.

When they were determined to go onward, the majority of the Rangers prepared to rein force Starring, and also gave advice and caution, even though Starring and his girl scout guides were well acquainted with thing things, and so could recieve the cautious warnings more seasonably to wit, ve even when the danger s was approaching. Ro onward ward the scene they went. When they had gone onwards quite a ways ,they quickly came to the place where Starring in the early time of the war met with a fori ger who had turned away from the christian cause and through his own fault perished in the big disaster..... Of this man Starring reminded as many of his followers who were during the march within hearing saying;;;;;;

"This is one spot where I about fourteen mtht y months ago I met qA foriegner whose name I cannot recall,, who carried with him the character of his unusual desert---- ion and treason at the very doors of our country. And this is what I have to say concerning this man, He would harken to no council, but once a failing, persuaion could, not stop him. When he came to the armies under general Arronburg, he did meet with those who tried to persuade him from his foolish and wicked course, but he only refused to harken gnashed his teeth, and stamped and shook his fists in their faces and said he was resolved to go back to his own country. And after all our country had done for him. Before he left the camp, he w met with jack Evans, who offered to lay hands on him, to turn him into the right way again. But this fool resisted him, and go having done much despite unto so good a man, he got away and deserted us wholly but later perished in the flood, so they tell me. He done this because it is said a prayer for a particular thing seemed to be or was not answered. A crazy reason to desert our cause."

They had continued on for several miles now,,, and when they reached a sort of glen, Starrings force wasconfronted suddenly by a horde of Glandelinians strong in numbers. First the Glandelinian leader desired to parley with Starring, and to speak with him, and after some short consideration Starring decided to allow the Glandelinian commander to come forward without molestation. Then the Glandelinian commander standing about ten paces from Starring as he would not come nearer demanded;

"Who are you sir, and what force have you there?"

"Starring made answer saying;

"I am general Walter Starring. You may know therefore who I am, what my purpose is, and therefore need not tell you where I am going."

"Well" said the Glandelinian leader, "I'll let you offmore easier if you will either, turn aside from your course, or become one of us, or go back tward the place from where you came. If you refuse to do so you and your whole force will die upon this spot as you will recieve no quarter."

"Starring laughed as he answered;

"I have been a true man to my cause for all these years, and therefore do you jackasses think or expect that I will cast in my lot with you foes of God? The places from whence I came, I'll return to all right, and soon, but only when I accomplish my missionMy life cost more dear far than I should give it lightly away by being a traitor to my cause. Because you Glandelinian hell cats have nothing to do , have no business to come to this kind of Meeting with the purpose of putting things thus to my choice and had I known the nature of this meeting I would not have allowed you to interview me at all." answer fully is this, get back to your lines as soon as possible as I'm going to attack."

At this the Glandelinian commander hastened back to his command. Starring was the first to attack,, and he surprised the Glandelinians by the violence of the assault and though the Glandelinian force was six to his one, he finally carried all before him narrowly capturing the Glandelinian leader, and destroying half his command. The survivors hid behind trees and bushes after this, and kept up a heavy fire for fully three hours, hoping the sound of firing would bring help, but no one appeared, and Starrings men working around got the Glandelinians finally in the rear and their retreat was a precipitated rout. It was certainly an unequal fight indeed against great odds, Starring likeing licking a force six to his one. After this to try to stay his purpose a whole host encamped against Starring and his little band, but he did not fear. Yet during the conflict Starring was surprised that the foe had not cried out, that some other force might not have come to its succor. He had read in some records, that one man fought an army, that Sampson slew a thousand men with the bone of an ass, and therefore was astonished at his own victory against so superior a force, and with little loss to his own side... Starring knowing how to deplay his force resumed the conflict against this Glandelinian horde encamped

against him, fighting all day, driving even this force out of the woods and destroying a part of their camp. All of Starrings force worthily behaved themselves, all fighting a great while, as fierce as a saint resisting unto blood, striving against sin. All the time of the struggle Starring prayed to God, who he knew could hear, and so afford invisible help, and that he knew was sufficient for him. He himself had a good strong sword, and any man who happened to have one of these blades, with a good hand at sword swordsmanship, and great skill to use it, may venture upon a demon with it. Starring did not need to fear any enemy wity with this sword, for he knew how to lay it on. He even fought against Glandelinian officers, untill the sword did almost cleave to his hand, and when the flood almost ran through his fingers he continued on. The Glandelinian losses was awful, but after this conflict, Starrings band was beset onew day and night, during his o advance, and firing hardly never ceased now.

Angeline Riches, and jennie washed his wounds, and ga gave Starring what they had to refresh him. They then went onward, in the face of all the fiercest opposition, because Starring was determined beyond all means to make progress, he was delighted in this exciting part of the adventure, even though the shots sounded as loud one as frequent and as frequent as the loudest and wildest Fourth of July, and because there was something inspiring to it all, and because there were many leaders of his band as good as himself, and therefore he questioned one of the Rangers during one of the halts and conflicts.;

"What country man are you sir??"

"I am of northern Calverinia for there in the city of Galcio I was born, and there my mother and father, and wife and children are still far from the war zone."

"The city of Galcio" said Starring," does that not be in on of the localities of the big Abbieann disaster."?

"No I do not think so. Now that caused me to become a ranger was my desire to fight the forest fires. And we had one friend whose name is Jack Turop come to visit me, and he told me all what the enemy had done since last November, the year of 1912 up to now, and how he was going to join the army and betake himself to a soldiers life to help his country crush the Glandelinians. It was also confidently reported how he had killed a Glandelinian discovered raiding his home, and how he got through to where he was going. It was also told with what welcome he had in entering the ranks of the Abbieannian army, he was recieved with sound drum and trumpet ,by accompany of offic ers and soldiers. He told it also how all the bands in the army did play pieces for joy at his reception, and what other things I shall forbear to relate. In a word that man so told the story of his travels since he entered the army,, that my heart fell into a burning haste to be gone after him, no could father or mother or wife or children stay me, so I got from them, and am come thus far on my way."

"You came in through general Arronburgs army did you not??????"

"Yes, yes, for the same man also told us, that all would be nothing if we did not begin to enter at Arronburgs camp first."

"Look" said Starring to Angeline Riches, "The results of these disasters, is being being spread aroad far and near."

"Why is this one of the famous Vivian Girl Princesses with you?"

"Why no" said Starring. "Only one of their great girl scouts, and the other three the girl and the two boys are her companions..."

"What, and going on the same mission as you are too?"

"Yes, verily, or at least they are going as my guides as they know the county country while I don't."

"It makes me glad to hear it. The many good Christian e generals. How joyful they will be when they shall see them that succeed in this mission bring the guilt of Glandelinia to exposure beforethe whol whole world."

"Without doubt it will be a comfort to the whole nation, for next to the joy of finding out who the guilty ones are, it will be a joy to find means to prevent all such disasters in the future."

"But now you are upon that, pray let me hear your opinion of it. Some make a question, whether I shall succeed in my mission or not. The Vivian Girls are great you know, and a forest fire frustrated them."

"All right "Said the Ranger I will. Do they also think every one who tries such an adventure shall fail, or shall they rejoice to see themselves in that bliss of winning such wonderful victories. And if they think they shall know and do these things successfully in the end, why not others, and rejoice in their welfare also? Again if our cause is so good,, yet why not should you be successful in the end prividing providing you place your trust in God.? ?"

"That is a strange question, but I percieve whereabouts you are as to this..I never cease praying?"

"Have you any more things to ask me the reason why I came out here as a war ranger?"

"Yes " said Starrig. Starring.. W"Was your father and mother, and wife and children willing, that you should in such awful times become a war Forest Ranger??????"

"I should say they were not, and at first for fear of my safty, they used all means imaginable to persuade me to remain at home.../."""""

"Why what could they say against it, knowing you was doing your duty for your country, and itscause and its cause.."?

"They said it was not a very good life, and If I myself were inclined to go through a life of danger and hardships, I would never chance a Rangers job."

"And what else did they say?"

""Why they told me sir, that it was a dangerous sort of life, a Forest Rangers, especially at this time, yes the most dangerous way of all in the world, which the Rangers and the soldiers life."

"Did they prove to you wherein it is so dangerous?"

"Yes, and that in many particulars."

"Name some of them" said Starring."

"Thry told me of the fierecenoss of the forest fires, where many perished in fighting them.They told me that Glandelinians roamed the country everywhere, or standing ready behind trees and bushes to shoot them that would enter their territory.They also told me of the perils of fighting fires in dark mountain woods, of the difficult hills, and also of the perils of explosions and the lile, and of ambuses, snares and traps and every vile peril.They said moreover, there were foul Glandelinians every where you go.They told me the whole region is a " valley of the shadow of death", where the Glandelinians are more dangerous than the hobgoblins of hell are, where every mile of the way is full of dangerous n snares, pits, ravines, traps and gins.They told me also of the speed of the advancing fires, and of the ruin every one m eets that goes through such a dangerous territory.Further they said I must go over the flood zone, which unless I know the country was the most dangerous of all.And after all this, I should find still greater perils, and that the flood lie between me and escape from foes."

"And was this all?"

"No, they also told me the way was full of decievers, and of persons that lay in hd hiding there to turn all men out of the way?"

"But how did they make that out?"

"They told me that Glandelinians disguised as Christians did lie at any place a waiting to decieve.They also said there were persons who would trick you, or catch you in their snare, or with that of other snarers, I would presume to go head on into a more dangerous zone, which might as well taking the chances of going to the by way of hell."

"This indeed sounds discouraging, but did they end here,?"

"No, they told me of thousands of had tried many important missions, and that thwy they had gone a great way therein, to see if they could find something of the glory there for those who succeed, which so many have talked about so often, and how they came back, and befooled themselves terribly for setting out on so dangerous a journey to the satisfactory results of course for Glandelinias purpuse purpose.And they named many that did so, who they said had gone so far to see if they could find what they were sent after, but not one of them found so much advantage by going, as ammounted as much as a feather.?"

"Said they anything more to discourage you?"

"Yes they told me of one, who was a spy, and how he found his work and his journey so solitary, that he never had a comfortable hour , also that many times to hide from the enemy who were looking for him he almost faced starvation and danger of death from the enemy and thirst and fires, and that he almost was drowned when fleeing he stepped into the flood near Heidi Junction, however what really happened to him was"snothered up but he never returned."

"And did none of these things make you feel discouraged?"

"No, they seemed to be as so many nothing but megear reports to me."

"How came that about?"

"Why I still believed what my sl soldier friend told me, andwhich and which carried me beyond them all."

"Then this was your victory, even your faith in the success of your purpose?"

"It was so, I believed, and therefore came out, got into the way, foughtall that set themselves against me, and therefore succeeded in becoming a Ranger, and obtained a hardy body of followers as you see with me."

By this time they had reached where a part of the Abbieann flood had raged, where where theair was sultry, smelled of water and the odor of wet wood and other debris and all that a swamp would boast of.And here the region was covered with wreckage of broken trees, boards and timbers, excepting here and there a small stretch of muddy water, a sign of a past disaster, where many who were caught in it, never shall rise or wake again in this world again. For now they were out of the forest, but beyond there appeared a forest of debris, and now knowing where they were Starring went before, for that he was the leader, and the troops came behind, for fear lest preadventure, a horde of Glandelinians, should fall upon their rear in the open countrt country, so and so do mischief.

They went on here each man ready for they knew it was a dangerous place.They were more and more into the heart of the enemys territory, a place where the enemy would try his best to prevent all investigations of the flood zone.Also they cheered

up one another as well as they could.Angeline Richee, and her girl and two boy companions, Starring commanded should keep close with the band now, and the others were under the eye of their leaders, the Rangers taking up the rear. However they had not traveled about one fourth of a mile, when which surprised them greatly a strange and intolerable darkness fell upon them all, so that they could hardly for an hourvor hour or so, see even each other.They suspected a terrific storm, but the darkness was followed by a strange dark mist, and therefore as they went on more slowly they were forced to feel for one another by a constant conversation,, for they could not see a thing ahead of them.

Anyhow any one should think, that for even the strongest of them all there was difficult hardships for their going, and yet how much worse, for the four child scouts, who were still of feet quite tender.Yet every one encouraged each other as they might ,xand also through the encouraging words of the leaders of the expedition in front, and of those that brought up the rear, they made it pretty good nevertheless, and there,, was no complaints heard from any quarter. Any time however they felt the circumstances would become worse, because now they were in a edge of the disaster flood zone, which which flood though had receded had not gone off altogether, and therefore their tramping was becoming wearinsome and tiresome, through dirt and mud, clamboing over piles of shattered rubbish, abatis of trees left by the swirl of water, mud deep enough to make you think it is a bog and so on.And even there was never within easy sight such a thing as a whole house of any kind, and therefore they went on, grunting, puffing, and sighing ,then some would stumble over a bush, or walk headlong in the dark against some obstructi obstruction and do much against his will an acrobatic stunt, another sticks first in the dirt and believes he is in a bog and yells for help, and the four scouts lose their very shoes in a real bog, narrowly escaping as it is.

Some one thn then cries out"I am down in a hole," and another,"Ho where are you?" and a third," Hey look where you are going, don,t ram me in the eye, ouch" and at that still another"I am caught in some tangle of br bushes, and I cannot get out, some one pull m3 me out."

Then they came within sight of some glare far in the distance, and this you must think was all the more exciting, for all of them began to be badly foiled with the roughness of the way, but there was not one of them, that ever thought of stopping without the command of their leaders..They all also continually ; paid good heed to the advices of their leaders, and the little guides, and they did so faithfully tell them of the many dangers, and of the nature of the dangers they were facing in all this strange darkness, that usually when they were nearest to them, they did most pluck up their spirits, and hearten one another to be prepared. This part of the country was the extreme southeastern part of Bengall State, though they knew it not. They went onward slowly and carefully, till they came to a more smelly place and as the darkness grew more intense they feared they might lose their way.They wondered no rain fell, or that there was no wind,nor thunder or lightning... Even when it is light Angeline Richee could tell well enough how to miss the ways through this region that led into danger, but now in such darkness she was put at a stand, and she advised Starring to halt the column, which he finally did.Angeline Richee had in her pock a map of all ways leading through the region of Bengall state, therdfore she ligh lit her flashlight lamp, and loked over the map which was in it a little book the gook..And indeed if she had not been a little careful to look in this map , they all would for certain have been smothered in the mud, for just a little way before them, formed by the seeping waters of the receding floods, a large pit full of mud, mud a hundred and fifty feet deep, and even the ground around the bog its self was as soft as cotton or a sponge.

It is sure evident that those who go through advantures in any part of Calverinia must have one of these maps about heem, so that he or she may look when at a stand, so they could discover which way it should be they must take. They continued on then, but in another direction as the way tward the bog was utterly impassable.However they were trembling to go forward, only they felt lke taking some of the debris of softer material and of making torches by which they could light their way, and this was readily agreed to as the darkness was great.

And every one began to be sorely weay weary, and therefore they all cried out unto Our Blessed Lord, asking Him to make their way more comfortable. However when they had traveled several miles farther, a wid wind arose that drove away the smoke fog which came from a big forest fire a distance away, so the air became more clearer but it still remained dark, though the darkness was becoming relieved somewhat by the glow of the racing flames. As they thus got somewhat relieved some of those in the van percieved a sound of some soleme kind, as of one who was in grief, and much concerned for some h something he di desired very much. So they continued on faster and looked carefully before and behind and to either sidd side of them, and soon they observed a man upon his knees, wity hands and eyes lifted up, and speaking or praying loudly, and clearly.The van of the party drew nigh, but they could not tell what nature the prayer was, so they felt softly onward untill he had finished. When he ceased praying he arose to his feet and and began to 2 walk southward.Then Starring called after him and said,

"Hey my my friend, let us have your company."

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The man stopped at his bidding, and they came up to him. As soon as one of the nearest of the rangers came up t him he whispered to starring; ; ;;;;

"General I am sure I know this man."

"Who is it."?

"He is a victim of the flood.He prays every day for aid from Heaven for his country. He wants to go and fight, but he is rejected because of his age.He comes from the city of El Verso, and he certainly is a right goood man."

So the Ranger and the man came up to one another, and presently the man said to the Ranger.:

"Oh is that you George?"

"Ay, said the ranger" that is who I am, as sure as you are Mike."

"Right glad I am to see you" said the man whose name was Michal Staring."I am glad that we have come together once more."

"and I am sure glad too," said the other," that I observed you upon your knees."

Then Mike blushed and said;

"Did you reallly see me?"

"Yes I did said the other, and my heart was very glad at the slight."

W" WEll what did you think." said Mike.

"Think" said the Ranger? "What do you think I should be thinknig thinking.I thought we had a good man upon the road, and therefore should have his company by and by."

"If you thought of no other way, how happy I am then.But if I be not as desired, I must alone bear it."

"That is true" said the Ranger," but your fear further confirms me that things are right between us and you."

Then said walter starring himself;

"Would you mind telling us, what caused you to be upon your knees untill we came up to you? Was it that something unusual was happening or how?"

"Mike looked at him and said;

"Sir, you see we are in a part of the disaster zone, and as I was coming along I was musing with myself of what a dangerous location this was just now, and how many that have come so far on an investigation of the region, have here been stopped by the enemy or destroyed.I thought also of the manner of the death, which this great disaster had destroyed such a f a awful numbers.Those that died here, died suddenly, died violently."

"Well what then?"

As I was thus musing, I met with one of very pleasant attire, that presented himself to me, and offered me three things, to wit, a lot of money, honor and glory if I would leave the r gion regionaa not say anythint to any one.Now the truth is I was very weary and sleepy, I am also very poor having lost all in the flood, and that perhaps the man who ever he was knew. Well I repulsed him once or twice, but he put by my repulses and continued to beset me.Then I began to be angry, but he did not make nothing of that at all, but made offers again and said if I would abide by his wishes, he would make me a rich man."For" said he" I am famous the world over, and I have lots of money to give way."

hen I asked him his name, but he refused to tell me, and therefore this set me further from him, but he still followed me with enticements.Then I betook me as you observed to my knees, and with hands lited up, prayed to our Blessed Lord for help.Just as you came up this strange gentleman went his ay.Then I gave thanks to Him for my deliverance, for I verily believed he intended no good at all, but rather sought to stop me in my own work.You see sir I am a guide in these parts, and show people around the disaster zone,"

"Without doubts his designs were bad" said Angeline Richee herself."But now you talk of him, I believe I have one either seen him, or have read something of him."

"P erhaps you have done both" said Mike.

"Starring said."So the fellow would not tell you his name. Was he tall, comely, and something of a swarthy complexion,./ ?"

"You have hit it right sir, he is just as you say."

"Did he not speak very smoothly, and always give a smile at the end of a sentence."?"????

"You guessed it right again, for these were his very actions."

"Did he have very much money in his pocket, and was not his hand very often fingering her money, as if it was his heart s delight."

"Yes. Had he stood by all this while, cou you could not have more amply have set him forth before me, nor have better described his features.."

"This man said Starring is" is a dangerous spy of some sort, and it is by virtue of his efforts, that this ground is watched by Glandelinian hordes, and who ever does follow his advice, might as well lay his head down on a block to have it cho chopped of, and he is sure one of the sworn enemies of our Blessed Lord. .This is he that maintains in their splendor all those that do all they can to frustrate the Christian cause.He is a great gi gossiper, he is always both he

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and his followers, at one persons heels or another, now commending, and promishing riches to those who will give in to his desires.He is a bold and impudent agent of the enemy, and he will talk with any one he knows is coming for on an investigati- oj o on of this place.He highly commends the Glandelinian cause, and if there be one cunning enough to get information from the christians for him, he will speak well of him from camp to camp.He hasgiven it out in some places that he is a professional Glandelinian agent, and therefore many Glandelinian generals have great confident in him.He has his times for open places of cheating for the sake of his cause, and he will say and try to prove it, that none can show as mch tarlent as he can.He promishes to help the Manleys out in everything possible, and he will ca cast at of his purse gold like dust to those who help him gain the information he desires to learn.A person like him is dangerous."

"Oh what a mercy it is that I did resist him" said Mike,"For what might he have done to me?"

"What he might do" said Starring, " no one but God knows.But to be sure he would have caused to to give up your useful life to the benefit of the enemys cause.Was this man who set Germania vivian against his father Emperor Vivian, and the Manleys to take the main lead orb of the Glandelinian armies.It was he who persauded the garrisons of Vivian Wickey before the war broke out to take possession of the fortifications and turn traitor, and prevailed with them to forsake the Christian life, and become enemies of the Abbieannian cause.He is dangerous.If I could spot him I'd bring him down right good too.Therefor my good man, you have done right in repelling him."

After this they came a little into a better section of country, and here because they were more weary than before, they were comep compelled to rest themselves. This locality had had once been a perfect paradize before the disaster had occured. Orchards and vineyards had existed here in numerous stretches, bells of beautiful churches had rang, and all sounds of melodious kinds had frequently sounded, and noe all now all was desolation.As there was no telling what might happen no one of the parties dared to sleep without srong g strong guards being placed.Th-

The guards would walk to and fro, but how sometimes their ears were filled with startling and rotten noises. And horrid visons visions.In this land they heard nothing,, felt nothing, smelled nothing, that tasted to their sa satisfaction, and when attempting to drink some of the more placid parts of remaining flood waters, it tasted it quite bitter. Starring had kept a record of the places the Rangers desired him to visit and investigate, so that he could also if psoible start a history of this greatest of all disasters ever known in story writing.

It was here also much discoursed, how the flood waters had to some, had had its violent courses, and how long it had taken for it to go off.Beautiful once this part of the country had been, and the children of the towns towns and villiages used to go into the fields and woods and gather nose gays and all manner of flowers for each other, friends and for alters,, and bring to each other much love and affection.Here also had grown plants that campohr is made from, besides spikenard saffron, cala mus, and cinnamon, and with all kinds of beautiful plants and trees and the like... with these many houses had been perfumed, and now what could be seen, desolation, and nothing else...

Now while they remained here for rest, there came riding up from the other direction on a horse a messenger wi h matter of great importance to one of the Chief Rangers.Inquiry was made for him, and when he was located the messengers presented him with a letter of which no one but he could read.When the Ranger had read the letter, the messenger gave him a sure token, that he was a true mess- enger and not a disguised foe, and who had come to advise him in his way of guiding Starring and his followers tyrough through the danger zone while the investigation of the flooded regions was under way.The token was a star, and a letter from the Vivian Girls themselves.When he realized this was true the Ranger called for thethree the the four child scouts, and told them how matters were... The Girls themselves told him they were heartily glad of the news, and could have been glad had the messenger came for them. Then he asked them to give him advice, of how all things should be prepared for hi c his effort so he too could conduct the party,, through the danger zonec without mishap.So Angeline Richees said,;

"You must do as he too bid you as we know all the country from coast to coast, and no boasting either."Then she called Starring, and the officers of the expedition about her, to give the whole tribe their blessig, and told them that she recieved with comfort the news that they were soon to go through the first main m part of the advanture.Then she said to starring;

"Sir you have in all places, showed yourself true hearted, therefore now when we go ahead, be faithful in your course unto death even if need be, and we will probably discover some clue whether it was an eruption that did this, or whether the enemy was responsible.. I would also entreat you, to have an eye and ear for everything you see and hear,, and if anytime to see something unusual keep track of it and we will help you.We will we must have a fair day when we set out from this section, and that we must keep keep our eyes open so the enemy won't surprise us in ambush among ruins.We now long to accomplish the mission, yet however the weather is we can accomplish it if we try."

Our travels have been with some difficulty, but that will make our success all the sweeter.But let us all watch and be ready, for at any hour or minute when we think not the enemy might surprise us.We can also be thankful for our present deliverance from the forest fires, our successful engagements with parties of the enemy, and that we have reached so far in safty.But yet we must be watchful, and hope for our success in the end.Wecwere so far delivered from our worse t enemy the forest fires, therefore we can hope for the best. We can all be thankful that we were delivered from the fatal perils met in these now dangerous forests, that we at least might live long enough to the adventure through, or even the full end of the big war, and see it come out as victorious for the christian cause aswe hope it will be..Only I advise others to repent of their aptness to fear and doubt of the outcome of our adventure before we came to its ending, lest those who do shall be forced to s stand before our generals and violet, and her sisters for that fault with blushing and shame, and facing the names of those on the disgrace discharge list, or the firing squads..."""

Then she called for Penrod himself and Radcliffe also, and told them as follows;

"We have recieved the message to push our adventure through, at this point, and then go no where else but where we can seek the information.If we succeed all will be well."

The roadway here was lined up with all the troops and men under Starring, ready to march on for La Polama the first destination for the investigation, for they must hear the stories from Survivors as directed and write them down before going to view what i is left of Abbieann. The banks of the river also were full of horses and men also as most of the rangers are all mounted always.Angeline Richee the guide came forth and entered the river first, beco c beckoning to those on horseback to follow first, and the others were to follow next as they all of course had to swim across.

Most of the otherns were thrilled with excitement over this new part of the great undertaking, and those assigned to do so formed to their respective places like all soldiers do.

Inn In process of time those all on horseback got across, but found the water much deeper than at first expected.Therefore a messenger was sent across, who said to the leader of the Rangers;

"I have been sent to you by Angeline Richee, to tell you that many of your men whil will have to take some of the others on your horses and make repeated trips as the stream is too deep, and the current too strong for swimming.Wherefore lets start so all can get across in no time."

At this the Ranger called to all his followers and said;

"We will have to take the rest on our horses too and go over with them several times untill all are over."

So he desired all the officers of the unmounted men to go forward on their horses first, and they addressed themselves for the journey.When the Ranger came to the brink of the river he said;

"Now every one of you be careful and do not slip off." And they all started across."

One of those who were still waiting said;

"Since we have nothing else to do but wait, to what purpose will this end I wonder.As for this territory, that we will soon be into into the dangerous part, therefore we must all look well to ourselives, and keep our eyes and ears peeled.You know what we all have been in the forests, and how troublesome we have behaved ourselves to every party of the enemy who appeared .My hope is that our efforts will be more than successful from the very day we enter La Polama, for I know that we will interview survivors there if they know anything about of the explosions.For to be plain with you all, there are many who went to La Polama from the explosion region after the flood horrors had passed, the which we can intertain, when we first enter the town, and could learn much which General Starring wishes v very much to find out before he goes to Abbieann as he so far believes all descriptions of the explosions have been immeasureably exaggerated. And we can walk about and seek intertainment of the surv vrs survivors of that town but for our sakes, and their own, do not any one of you bungle up the game, and be careful we do not converse with secret enemies."""""

When the time came for them to depart, they went to the brink of the river. Whioe they were riding across the leader who led said;

"We are all commanded to be ready for any emergency on the other side as Angeline Richee suggested to general Starring, for there is something suspicious at one place.As for what it is she yet does not know, but we might nevertheless meetwith some difficulty .We must all lookto the good loading of all our weapons. for it may be a force of the enemy is forming to reppe repell us..Although it was my luck to be much in your good company, yet since the time being all have been very profitable to me.We must all prepare for a summons, we must prepare for any change on the other side, for Starring is not willing that we should be surprised by the enemy.You nees not need not doubt the tr k truth of my message, for you'll see plain enough when we are across.I suppose suppose most of us when we came from home left behind wives and children, Mothers and fathers, and sons and daughters, or brothers and sisters, so let me entreat you for I know that we must all go through it now in hopes that you and I may yet be a conductor for other soldiers and adventuerers if we survive, and when we have a chance we cansend to our families, and let them be all acquainted with all that hath and shall happen to us.Tell them also of our art arival to the disaster zone, and of the present condition the places still are in.Tell them also of general Starring, and

and child scout guides and how they did a lot for all of us.Tell them also of what a happy end we are expecting, and tward where we are going.We have nothing so far to send to our familes families, ex except it be prayers and tears for them."

"Another said," no doubt this flood has been a terror to many, yea the thought of it have often frightened me.But now since we see it has gone to a good extent to or at last t on this location we need no fear.I see myself and others near to the best goal of this adventure, and toilsome days to come."

A third man said;

"I hope to see in Lapolma my own father and mother for I observed in the papers they must have survive survived as their names were not in either the death or missing list.I have formerly lived in Pandora before the catastrophe, but now we have lived in La Polama, and when we get there I hope I shall be with them for a short time, and maybe they too can tell us a lot of things for the countrys good.My little sister too was there.I loved to hear the pieces she just used to speak, and wherever I had seen the print of her shoes, there I knew she had played.Her name has been as sweet as a civet box, yea sweeter than all perfumes.Her voice has been most sweet, and her con countenance I have desired more than others.And my mother has held me and I long to see them all again. He did as we will know also do a lot for me, that is my father."

Now while he was thus in discource, they all were across the stream, and it was glorous to see the open region filled with horses and men led by two beautiful girl scout children. As for the impending attack, itdid not come after all, for it was apparent that the foe might have been too small in numbers or, that the imposing size of the party scared the enemy so he changed his mind.

The appalling war catastrophe which visited the whole middle and southern parts of Calverinia down on from the city of Abbieann and the explosion area and elsewhere throughout the whole of engall County and tate, resulting in the destruction of as many towns and cities as might be in the whole United States, and South America combined, and nearly fifteen million lives, and rendering more than 256,000,000 homeless, was for the first part brought to view of its aftermath when Starring reached within sight of his first goal of La Polama city where nearly fifty thousand lives or more had been lost.The city respectfully was still in its appearance after the disaster, the inhabatnats haveing no means to rebuild, and the heart of every one of the av adventurers shuddered at every section of this calamity which resule resulted in the sudden deaths of so many unknown numbers of people first, by blast and concussion and then by an ir estible irrestible flood that left even its effects untill now.

The first part of the party onnthe afternoon of August the Fifteenth went near the suburbs of the city.Here one citizen on being questioned estimated the loss of life at fourty thousand including the Mayor of the city, the general commanding the city garrison, and two hundred and fifty soldiers who were armed before the disaster to pacify the panic stricken people during the outrageous flood and prevent looting after the disasters. Here the adventuerers saw huge trees that had been torn up by their roots and laid flat by the force of the waters, not one being left standing, and other indications showed the sea of flood waters had passed about the city at extreme tidal wave velocity.Here and many other places starring was to views the scenes following after the deadly explosions and flood horrors, to hear stories of the frantic efforts of the people to escape the death horror, the present appearance of the ruined cities not entirely swept away, and a full description of what they see of the great wreck jam at Mildred Greenburg and Big Girl Knool.

Starring found many in La Polama city who knew all about the scenes of Abbieannm and one of these was the new Mayor of the city, whom starring interviewed and while they conversed Angeline Richee wrote down all that was said by the Mayor, while Jennie wrote down Starrings words.The Mayor said thus;

"So far as can be known general, no one is believed to have been saved of all those who were at Abbieann when the explosions and floods occured at least of the population. The commanders of armies sent to investigate as soon as the force of the flood had gone down reported by one oclock on the eighteenth of June, that the entire country side was wrapped in flames raging in its forests.They endeavored to save persons fleeing from towns, more or less burned.His officers went ashore in small boats, seeking for refugees, but were unable to penetrate the region so int n intense was the heat. When approaching the north side of Abbieann they saw heaps of charred bodies upon the river wharves, therefore it is believed that not a single person in the town at the time escaped both explosion and flood.."

"That still seems to be exaggerated" said Starring."But how about the shipping in the city's river harbors.Did any escape.?"

"Maybe the only vessel to escape from the danger zone sir was a foriegn steamer which arived at sacramento, Abbieannia six days after.She got out of the river harvor harbor.by slipping her cables by the time of the explosions but lost all ty the crew. Her captian and two mates were seriously injured, and was placed in the hospil hospital at Sactamento.All of his own officers, and engineers and a great number or of passengers swere dead or dying.All of the crew is dead.Many jumped overboard and were lost.. Of the many other hundreds of vessels which were destroyed in the harbor and river near by all are said to be Abbieannians and Calverinians. The Pandora Steamship Companys Steamer called the Salso was among those destroyed also.Even some of the survivors claim it was a mile off from the biggest of the explosions.Others told me she was

wrecked by a most terrible and strange upheavel of land and river caused by the concussion of the explosions.All of her crew, and two hundred passengers were lost.Most of her passengers were among the persons en route from Francis Atlanta, to Pandora.."

"The Mayors wife then a said;

"I was on the Calverinian schooner called the Mic-Hollester Run Traveler, which arived at Meldorn at three oclock in the afternoon of June the 2th.We had been compelled to flee from the vinicity of the flood by taking other streams going westward, in consequ n consequence of a heavy sea of waters swarming all over the land.The ship I rode tried to reach Calverine, but the effects of the calamity prevented from from her from doing so.I had seen or heard some of the explosion too.The steamer had arived opposite of Abbieann on the early night of May the 31th.While about ten miles off from the city, we thought from the noise a number of volcanoes had blown themselves to pieces, and rushing to the decks we r saw a rain of fiery something sweeping down upon the whole town of AdeleHeid destroying the city and shipping there, including the big dredges, and also observed where Abbieann should be was a heavy dense cloud which obscured everything from view.There was a flash there too, and afterwards we were hidding from each other on deck by a thick fog of smoke and strang strange dust that was falling upon us. We desired to have the captian go up there and see what happened, when after a pause again came such awful eruptions, and an immense mass of what looked like fire enveloped southern Abbieann and a part of Adeleheid. This repeated for fifteen minutes and the noise and shock was terrific.We did not know what had really occured but we feared the entire population of either city had perished.We brought back some of the survivors from Adeleihd Adeleheid city.All the shipping in that harbor about a hundred craft of all kinds has been destroyed by a rain of debris and fire.The flood of horror continued.

Fearing of a dire consequence the captian ordered the ship to return to Pandora with all the speed possible, and to forward details of the disaster to the first post we could arive at.It was feared that the population of both si cities had perished and when alater we found it at least happend at Abbieann you cannot imagine our feelings.We had tried to reach Abbieann but could not as a sudden torrent barred our way and fortunately we were not caught in it."

"There is one thing that surprised me" said Starring."I recieved at six oclock on theafternoon of the fourth day of June, two telegram messages from the straight west from the Secretary general of the Government headquarters of Bengall State, George H,. purpo, sent respectfully, at IO A .M., and II,30 P.M. The earlier c telegram reported that there had been some astonishing " ERUPTIONS" between Adeleheid and Abbieann, but it was added in view of reports that the eruption of a whole country side had wiped out the whole of Abbieann, all shipping available for the river cruises, and started a flood which cut off all means to giving aid to ay number of refugees, which if needed could have been dispatched to assist the surviving inhabitants of those places if there were any.I really showed the letter to the Vivian Girl.Princesses, laughing and telling them that some man out of hi his head had sent it to me. Yet however the second dispatch confirmed the reports of the destruction of Abbian Abbieannn, and all the country all about and far beyond, and thousands of river shipping, by a rain of fire and " lava" and said it was supposed that the whole population of Abbieann had been annihilated, with the exception of those of the city which had been away elsewhere at the time and who returned to find their city under a flood.."

"Why did you ridicule these dispatches.?"

"Simply because at first I did not believe them.But the two came from different persons.One came from a party I never knew.The other confirmed itto me because I knew the hand writing and w could not thendoubt it.It came from Gertrude Angeline. She wrote that a crazed storm of fire, smoke, debris, and fire enveloped the north part of the city, and a concussion lasting fifteen minutes with a series of crazyshakes like an earthquake overthrow a good part of the city killing all who in their beds at the time. She said she could never figure the death list but only those who escaped with their lives were not in the city at the time.She said all the vessels within the city on the rivers were broken up or burned and sunk with all on board, mostly all Calverinian ships, .The Mayor of the city andthe Governer of Abyssinkile.state were reported among the victims. I therefore thought it strange because she would not write anything like that just to start any excitement.She explained her experience there with her girl and boy scout friends and how they escaped the great flood.It was a fact that the Abyssij Abyysinkilian Governer lost his life.He was born in Abyssinkile, and was appointed from Abbieannian Governmental Aurthorities to be Governer of Abyssinkile.He went to Abbieann to visit some relatives there, his father and mother no doubt.Other dispatches recieved by general Vivian gave the details of the Abbieann disaster and said that many hundreds of thousands were killed, but there had been no time for even a panic.The explosions began at two minutes after Twelve.At first all the wild reports were that there were earthquakes and volcanic eruptions from the ground, and that Abbieann had been swallowed into the bowels of the earth.What made somany believe that is because the whole country around Abbieann had been enveloped in a strange fog.Investigations are or had been trying to prove that the eruptions were too scattered to be of a volcanic eruption even f of such force lasting fifteen minutes. that That is why violet and her sisters want me to investigate and also go within Manleys lines to find out who and what caused the disaster.At the time in the island of Plato a volcano was active and that led to

the conviction that the catastrophe was caused by a volcanic disturbance. I know that as soon as the disaster was known our governments as far as possible immediately took measures for the relief of the sufferers from the disaster of Bengall State. River cruisers and strong boats were ordered to proceed to the region without delay, to investigate and report upon the situation and extend aid to the survivors.These boats since then were never heard from."

"That was the strangest part of the situation" said the Mayor."The action of our Government was endorsed and supplemented by the Emperor himself, who passed immediately a bill giving for aid of the distressed inhabitants of Calverinia more than nine hundred million dollars.This Bill went through the Main "Tribunal with the same impressive promptness as had been in other catastrophes. Even the first day of the news they say was an anxious day for Emperor Vivian.He was horrified by the disaster, but every thing was so cut off that no one could furnish him with any information and the flood itself swept even Angelinia Agathia.Count De Biff suggested that he be permitted to proceed as far as Heidi Junction, and this permission was granted.The Count could not go as far as Big Girl Knool because of the wild nature of the flood.He sailed on on a ship which was carrying supplies to the stricken."

B"But there was some hopecelsewhere." said Starring."The Tribunal at Dorothy Gale had been notified on June 3th in the late evening that just then the situation at Lucillie Ricksen City was more orderly, and that the Official there called upon the relief station at at La Polama with the purpose to suggest that ships there be loaded i with provisions be sent to the place, and thatbthe river tugs and other boats could also proceed to Big Girl Knool. The Official got this message,

"Communication with La Polama broken.City believed wiped out as is surrounded by a torrent of water.Render such assistance for La Polama as possible.Use your decretion and report t by Gabls when practibable as all communication is destroyed on land. Newspaper correspondents can come if you are willing." And yet no aid could be sent."

"Our Country" said the Mayor " in all our disasters led in the caring for the stricken in Calverinia."Even in time of need elsewhere Calverinia herself and all her people never have under any conditions failed yet to be moved by the cry of distress, which had come up from other lands and our own.So we did all we could to extend our sympathy and aid for our unfortunate States, and tried to send abundant stores, of means necessary to succor those upon whom the enemy had so suddenly hurled a sudden and most overwhelming calamity.Yet little could be done as the flood barred all means of sending provisions and rescue as fast as desired.

Even Emperor Vivian thought the reports of the disaster might have been exaggerated. But the fact of so much communication being destroyed with Angelinia Agathia and all parts of the country began to make him believe the disaster was far more immeasureable than the worst of reports could confirm."

"But it seemed unusual" said Starring "That the supplies could not reach the region by boat.They could have been dispatched to the distressed people by boats.even if the distance to the destination prevented the supplies comingvery soon."

"But no boa r boat or ship could live out the flood, the only passage way then." said the Mayor."I learned that from dozens of neighboring cities nearest the flood zone, all craft were prepared.to be rushed to the relief of the stricken region, and to even sucor the survivors of the stricken cities and towns, if any were left to tell the tale.The city of Cuningdan was only twelve miles away from the flood, and the ships were hurried to La Polama, and should have reached there within an hour from their departure. Even from the cities of Guadeloupe junction, St Lucia, St Vincent De Paul, and St Thomas and Peter, relief expeditions were sent, and none of these were heard from untill four weeks they returned with no sucess in their trip and badly battered and wrecked."

"Since I was in the army I had heard lots about the great disaster " said Starring. "Speculation had been very anxious as to the fate of neighboring cities and towns.There were hundreds of villiages and towns with a total population of over I2,000,000 within the circle of explosion destruction.Many of these were much nearer to the supposed eruptions than was Abbieann or Adeleheid.The city of San Salvador, a plae place of about I00,000 people was closest to the biggest explosion.Lying elsewhere, directly to the north of Abbieann, were many others, including the city of San Pellio, Perfecto Junction, and Glain.Certainly all c who could have must have fled before the flood broke loos. Loose.The whole country of Calverinia is thickly populated as wel all we all know, and the south is filled with people.All these then not su seperated from the north bythe by the war drama got their provisions mainly and only from Abbieann and Adeleheid, and with the destruction of these big cities, there sure must have been serious trouble if not famine, among the people. We cannot tell what is going on now as little communication as yet has been restored..Abbieann was the chief commercial town of the whole of Abbieann in Abbieannia in general, not only of the Calverinia State but of all our Abbieannian States and Provinces and big sea islands along the coast and elsewhere.Therefore our country or state was indeed paralyzed."

"When I lived at Abbieann" said the Mayor, " even though other great disasters occured elsehwre elsewhere, no one ever thought of having the least fear of a great disaster in thosecparts. those parts. During the eight months of the war I was there there was never the slightest sign of a coming disaster, or any other indication that the enemy was ever around.There had been early in the war a battle there of course, but no one worried as long as it turned a christian vit victory."

"Yes that long inactivty of the war up there made the people of that locality feel secure, and therefore no one worried" said Angeline Riches.I and my friends were at Abbieann and I'm asking is nthis not a clue to the explosions or not. The morning of the day I , Gertrude, and others had been approaching Abbieann on a train, and of town towns near the city the whole population had been on the alert, and every eye was directed tward an ernormous forest fire raf raging in the east.Every body even on the train had been afraid that the forest fires, would destroy tye the whole country side. An explosion of some kind previous before occured near a fire and burst forth with the mostterrific most terrific force, and destroyed everything within a radius of ofthree of fifteen miles and shook the cities near by.While we were on the train we learned from the conductor that for several days the fire had been coming our way, and immense stretches of flame were moving over the hills beyond.All the inhabitants of towns we passed went to the roofs of houses to see it.Just before entering Abbieann, it being the 29th of May, I was looking out the car window which was open, and I heard three distinct reports followed by shocks.They were so great that we supposed at first, that some eruption of a volcano made the forest fires, as a big mountain not far away looked looked like one in eruption.The first report was very loud and rolled long like booming thunder at a distance, but the second and the third were so great, that satchels and parcels were thrown from the baskets above the car seats r windows, and the very train while running rocked like a cradle and the glass in the windows literally crashed out.

We could see a terrible rage of the forest fire to our left, and though it was fully twenty miles away, it looked looked so big in the smoke clouds as to be only a mile, and could see the flames issueing from the clouds or through the clouds with t rrific stretches. The whole country side through which we were running was dark, and clouds of smoke heavy as thunderclouds had been over our heads for all the time we were on the train and in Abbieann before the disaster.The Smell of burning trees was so strong that horses in the streets of towns stopped and snorted, and many of the people were obliged to wear wet handkerchiefs handkerchiefs over their faces to protect them from the strong fumes of the smoke.I wonder if the forest fires struck something and started off those ernormous explosions, or did the enemy take advantage of the conflagration and lay off hud mines in its path.!!!!""

"That is hard to say" said the Mayor, but it is " but it is likely.But as I learned afterwards horror over the calamity had been the controlling feeling of the whole nation, and also came the sense of sympathy for residents here, whose hearts were breaking under the strain of waiting for d finite news of loved ones in the stricken region.Indeed as we all know the magnitude of the catastrophe in Bengall State,State not counting the flood was such as to appall everybody.It came with the suddeness of a thunderclap ff from a clear sky. The reading world itself did not know that such a thing could have occured, and believed that after showing signs of action a volcano of mighty force had devastated the landscape, not knowing that secretly in that neighborhood the enemy had been showing signs of action. Even when the first news of the disaster was broadcasted by telegram and courier there was an immediate thought among all the people who first b heard of the horror of giving forth relief and succorr to the surviving victims of the calamity, but when they heard also that most of all the towns inthe explosion and flood area could not be communicated with or were wiped out with all their population then the whole nation was afraid. This caused immediate measures to be taken.Did did out government in other states act prop p promptly, but strong Committees. were formed in every part of the Abbieannian country, for the purpose of collecting money and supplies, and also sent investigators to learn the through nature of the disaster, so that it can be found out if the news were not exaggerated or not...Knowing the places around Abbieannia as I do, I myself had little doubts that the disaster could be worse than described, but it was, and my anxiety for the fate of my parents and other relations and wife and children who we were in that city was great as they had been in Abbieann.It was fortunate I found them here, having come a month before the disaster.There had been several eruptive explosions and awful floods elsewhere throughout Calverinia as we all know, but who could ever had expected such a a terrible catastrophe as that which occured during June, besides many otye others elsewhere elsewhere the same month..It has been seen by now from many investigations that none of the reports could have been exaggerated.The real horror never will be told.Undoubtedly when the christians have been so victorious up here and some where else, the people of these towns and cities, though there would be no disaster, and therefore when the fatal explosions came, and the floods also all were caught asleep in their homes, victims of the false security, engendered by previous reports of great christian victories here and therd.. there. My sister who lived in Francis Atlanta at the time was terribly prostrated over the news of the terrible disaster, as her parents, and mine too had resided had resided in Abbieann.On learning of the supposed volcanic eruption from the ground and of the population of the city being wiped out by the disaster, she swooned and was in a serious condition for ays sdays .My parents and others all were believed to have been killed.I too was greatly worried and my wife also. It was three weeks before we learned they were not at Abbieann being away at tye the time, and lived, but it was a long time before my sister recovered from the first shock.

I also had a friend in Adelehaid, whose whose bridge of less than three years was als also completely prostrated and in addition was in a delicate condition.With her were

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her mother father, and two daughters each one and two years of age, her parents vainly trying to cheer her with what were feared to be false hopes.They feared also she would not survive her coming ordeal h if reports were brought that her husband was dead.Her husba Her husband, who had been in the stae four years, was a native of northern Abbieannia where his father, a wealthy man still lives.In Abbieann he met his wife, and about three years before the disaster he married her.They settled in a flat, and later he was called for by the government to be interviewed about the war, he being a count.The poor wife sat surro nd surrounded by friends, and every time the door bell rang she started.Of course she was not permitted to answer the summons,but anxiously asked if there was any news.portunately for this poor woman her husband was being interviewed over some important matter with Emperor Vivian at the time of the disaster, and hearing of it, and fearing his wifes grief over his supposed death, hastened to her, but because of conditions was not able to reach her in Francis Atlanta untill a week after the flood and found her in a prostrated condition.Many others of course did not fare so good."

Some time later starring and his followers roamed about the town and taking in some of the sights, reviewing some of the still remaining remaining ruins, and points where the floods had swept. After thus roaming around for a full day Angeline Riches herself came upon a captian of a ship, and she after showing him her identification asked him if he had had any experience of the flood and other disasters near Abbieann,. and its vinicity.....

"I saw nothing much of much of the flood, and thank god for that!" said the captian. But I had an experience which I'll never forget all my life. puring the afternoon of the last day of May I was directing my steamer the BeeBee which had left Pandora the midnight before for Abbieann with a large number of passengers. I reached the Rover Docks by the River some distance northeast of the city of Abbiann Abbieann, and I was giving orders to the First Mate, when we heard a terrible thunder noise that threw us flat on our faces from the shock, and an ernormous cloud of smoke and dust and glowing debris rushed upward and forward with terrific velocity over the city and river docks completely enveloping in an instant the whole scene before us in a sheet of flame and clouds and raiti raining debris and flaming objects on board the ship. My second mate who had been on shore had just tim just time to climb on board when his boat disappeared.Many of my s crew even in their bunks in the forecastle were mysteriously scorched to death. However my little girl, by most superhuman efforts, having steam still up full strength the anchor was drawn suddenly, and the steamer backed away from the shore,, and nine hours later managed to reach Pandora, my ship beyond recognition, covered with mud, dust, wreckage of ground and trees, and her rigging dismantled, and the awnings hanging abouid, torn and charred and two smokestacks gone.Twenty five of the Beebees crew were lying dead when we got into pandora, all of them contorted contorted, and entirely burned out of human semblance, among the broken black cinders of r burned wreckage which covered the ships decks to nearly threese three feet.After we reached Pandora three more of the crew died.I will have to say that the surviving crew were loud in their praises of the heroic conduct of our First Mate, who steered his vessel out of the danger with his own hands, which were burned badly by the rain of fire, which kept falling on the ship for miles after she got under way as other terrific eruptions or blasts continued one after another.Beyond burns all of his body, the Mate was safe, as also was the first Mate, though he is awfully scorched."""

As Starring himself learned afterwards, in La Polama itself during the flood all the the shipping was utterly destroyed, being swept away or standed on ground not deep enough for the vessels to float.Also at Abbieann all the shipping was destroyed by the explosions, and after the crash, the Abbieannian war cruiser, reported standing off off shore fifteen miles down the river, sounding her whistles and sending up sky rockets.The whole country side was blazing for scores of miles according to the report from the crew, and also the whole county seemed to be blown up in the air by eruptions of a strange and most terrible kind.During a lull in the uproar the war ship sent a few boats ashore but they could not land on account of the terrific terrific heat, the strange backward flow of the river, and by other disasters accompanied by loud ear splitting explosions.Not a living soul appeared ashore, after the boats had waited for two hours, even when the river seemed to turned cinto a lake.puring one of the eruptions fire and debris fell over this steamer also .....

The first mate of the Steamer Rose Marie, also in Abbieann at the time of the disaster, which was lost in the h River Harbor at Abbieann in the south,, thus described the disaster to Starring;

"Between Twelve, and fifteen after twelve oclock, at midnight rather, with June Ith just beginning to arive, there came without the slightest warning a noise as if the whole State itself was going to fly up to the stars, and a dreadful cloud of smoke and flame came upon us in whirlwind fashion, suddenly also sweeping dlw down upon the north part of the city, and before the concussion the highest houses fell to ruin the convulsion being like an earthquake.The crashes came again, each uproar increasing in noise and force,, and within my sight in the harbor with mine were ahcored about a hundred and fif teen vessels.Because of the concussion and force of

the eruptions all of the vessels escpt the one was on turned over on their sides or burstd into flame.Other boats sank instantly and at the same moment, and there seemed to be a commotion in the river, and the sky itself appeared as if on fire.Every house during those fifteen minutes were utterly hshaken down. I sent an officer ashorecafter tnthe uproar had ceased and he only found a few buildings standing, and streets literally filled with corps and corpses and the city in the lower section seemed to have sunk down into the river, and a flood was beginning..!".!.,,... """"

"Starring then said;

"My first throught when I read of the destruction of Abbieann, and the whole country around by explosion, and the awful flood and other conglomeration of disasters occuring was that it was simply the history of other former disasters repeated but on a hundred fold greater scale.We should have known that if it is the Glandelinians who can be suspected that we should have been prepared, for the morals of the population of wicked Glandelinian generals and their followers are so bad, that they make the worse of fiends and lost soulsc soule compare to innocent children to them.Good sensitive and human generals were the exception among the Glandelinians.such few could be known as Leonia Meldonia Pig Pignell, Izner Hyletze, and others.No one could to save his life picture the vice, cruelty and immprality of the Glandelinians vividly enough. They have to be fully known to be understood.Therefore they are bad enough to cause any such disaster like this.In Abbieann and othercities and towns, the people were simply like rats in a trap when asleep, and had to way to turn. No ever thought of believing the disasters to be eruptions proceeding from the surface of the ground over such an extent.The biggest crater caused by the explosion as I have been told lays about fourty two miles to the north and west of Adeleheid.And could be reached after hard work.It was very steep with precipitous sides and rough rocks and earth and debris.The smallest crater is said to be about two hundred yards in diameter, and eighty feet deep or more.At each crater is found a lake, probably the holes having been either filled up by the floods, or the water had oozed up ff from below. All kinds of investigations were made of these craters but no one ever succeeded in finding proofs that they were formed by eruptions from under the ground as declared in the first reports. While I was in my younger days in Abbieann I secured a pleasant little place on top of a high fertile hill covered with flowers and woods behind the city, where it was cooler in summer, and colder in winter. The city in summer was excessively hot, there being little breeze in that section of the country, and any breezes from the east was cut off entirely by the mountains mountains in that direction.

The inhabitants of Abbieann were very or unusually righteous,, charitable, loving respectable, and excitable.I remember that during my stay, the two big disaster further south occured.The explosion at Lake Selicia shook Abbieann, and everything shook and rattled, and the people ran out into the streets and began praying and cryig crying.The women screamed and fan fainted, the children cried, and altogether excitement prevailed supreme.When they recovered and learned of the disastess southward they all pitched in ro to give what they could and to aid in every way possible.I cite this to give an idea of what must have occured when the disaster overtook the city and destroyed it and all the people withla without a moments warning.It is believed if the catastrophe had occured during the day time the loss of life would not have been so severe. ."

Another man a said when interviewed by Starring;

"The whole countey country side as we first believed sir, had been in a state of the most violent " eruption " on all record for fifteen minutes. The midnight hour came upon us in the town of El Verso with what we thought heavy thunder following the worse of lightning flashes, which for fiftsen minutes chane changed into a continuous most tremendous roar, followed and concluded by four horrible bangs that sounded to me as if the mountains of Calverinia and the country in general was being blown to the the sun.I rose from my bed, and went outside to see what was wrong as terrific con cussions followed and the house had swayed and my windows went out.I saw vast clouds of smoke rise over the northern horizon, becoming denser and denser, and even at our town stones and debris of earth fell, and even upon all the near by estates, destroying a vast ammount of property.The ground shook violently at ten minutes after twelve, but still more violently after the four main crashes.Twenty four hours later our city was enveloped in a mighty flood and we sure lif lived long days and nights of terror and suffering. The storm of nois noise roared about Abbieann they say all those fifteen minutes without intermission but after fifteen minutes it became intermittent and fainter.As I heard a report from Mildred Greenburg, and also from St Marie sayy says that even on the early and late morning of June First the sky was heavily overcast, the heat was excessive, and that during the night there was a distant sound of loud rolling thunder, with the last booms very loud.The flood came there too.The Mayor of Francis Atlanta still further away, declared of hearing at midnight and later loud reports resembling the firing of enormous cannons.All morning there was darkness and the smell of powder, accompanied by a strong downpour of fine dust which continued for several minutes.The people of Francis Atlanta wondered what had occured."

Although Calverinia is an earthly paradize it had been since the war began as well as parts of Angelinia and other states and subjected to the wildest convulsions of the awful war.The first of the Christian armies moving in to drive the foe from the land were told of the fierce Glandelinian armies which would descend upon them at unexpected times and the christian armies soon learned that their strongest numbers

was indes or indispensable against the Glandelinian hordes.But disasters they never expected.The great hurricane of fire which earlier in the war destroyed Irientown and other places, struck places further north, and was at first believed to have caused the enormous explosions by striking enormous munition plants in the vinicity of Abbieann.It was the first forest fire that Starring ever observed and it made an impression on his mind.He did a rescue act fit for the Movies too for he snatched a little fugitive gi l gil girl from from a creek into which she thought she could seek refuge and rode away on horseback with her, just as the full fury of the storm burst upon them and their only refuge was in a large opening in the side of a low hill, where other refugees had sought shelter.Scarcely had Starring entered with the terrified child than the hurricane of wind, and searing flames was upon them in all its fury .

The whole forest writhed, and bent beneath the screaming typhoon, the trees were quickly stripped of their branches or forcibly uprooted, and hurled through the air or to the ground.The flames finally came p like a wave following the tempest, the hill was surrounded in a " world afire", and the air within became hot to suffocation and smoke invaded, moans and cries arosed from the terrified refugees, but the little, girl rescue rescued by Starring uttered not a word. Close clasping him around his necks with her little arms, she lay quiet and caml calm.The hours passed slowly, and soon it was quiet without, but all was smoke and still leaping flames.The darkness that accompanied the advance of the fire storm, caused by the dense clouds of smoke, had been dospelled by the fires main passage, but the air was still smokey and very hot.The wind had died away to a moan, exhausted nature in all her forests within view lay prostrate, burning and smouldering like a volcanic furnace.

Not a single tree was left standing, huge pines, cedars, firs and hemlocks and spruce had been burned to the ground and a desolation of smouldering ruins of the forest was before their view..They had to remain in the cave for two days untill everything cooled down.

The most mournful spectacle was the small town on the edge of the forest just about singed by the fire, for in place of beautiful and stately buildings, were mant many smouldering ruins.The houses of the refugees, were almost entirely destroyed, and soon hundreds of despairing beings were grouping in their smoking ruins.But the crowning desolation of all as Starring said was the total destruction of the towns only church.Only a brick factory, a six story affair and two blocks long remained standing of all the buildings of the town . To this structure the homeless families had to direct their steps.Its walls were of stone, some three week in thickness, its its flooring heavy, the doorways were broad with granite lintels. The beams supporting the floor were sound and strong and the floors themselves intact, and there the refuges took up their abode.The people never rebuilt the unfortunate town, and thus fate or fortune willed that the refugees should know no other place of residence untill the war storm should spent itself.Starring however doubted the forest fire set off such explosions, even though as stated where the floods did not touch the forest fires were infernal regions of Calverinia.

When Starring was interviewed by the Mayor of La Polama again, the Mayor said;

"I am very thankful sir for the profound sympathy you have showed us because of the appalling calamity which has come upon our state, and which has cost the lives of as nearly as many persons as all the battles of both sides combined so far have done. You have by your visit and the purpose of your visit broughtbme consolation in the name of the Calverinian people to c show your pity for us in the awful catastrophe and we all will join in thanks.Your investigations shows your sympathy, and may the Almighty and His Blessed Mother and all the Saints in Heaven not only comfort the hearts of those who still weep for their most irreparable losses but aid you and your followers to find out first the real nature, of the disaster, and then if possible whether Glandelinia was responsible or not.I beg you therefore general to accept my warm thanks, and also the gratitude of all the surviving victims, whom you propose to aid in this way.If you wish to reach Abbieann on your way from here,, I have recieved announcement from the Commerical Landunderground Cable Company that slight river commo communication with Abbieann, is open, via, La Polama, and Francis Atlanta, and thence from Mildregreen and to Mildred Greenburg, and then straight for Abbieann. If sir you get a fast boat, it will take you only four days to reach the spot.

Even now the important Government work up north is still partly suspended so that ships with supplies might be dispatched ormp promptly.If you can engage the use of one of these ships for your trip you will get there quicker.You can therefore be able to investigate the true nature of this greatest of calamities that had befallen our state.The Governer of Calverinia has telegraphed by cable from Pandora, stating that the disaster is complete, that the city of Abbieann has ceased to exist, and that it is true the whole population has perished.He is informed that in Adeleheid city also that thirty five thousand to fourty thousand po people had lost there lives, and of same city one hundred thousand are homeless and hungry, that there is need of all kinds of information, and that the visit of ships for the work of supply and rescue is imperatively required.If you go there sir maybe you'll hear much details of the explosions from the survivors.

The Government of Calverinia, while expressing their thanks for the shows of sympathy informs us that Calverinia are still more threatened by the fires. They

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therefore had requested that for the purpose of rescuing the poor people were were in such deadly peril and threatened with starvation, the Government of the Abbieannian State by send, as soon as the conditions of the floo will flood will allow, the means of transporting them from the stricken regions. This had been attempted but I have not yet heard anything of the results. The whole northern part of the state of Angolinia had also been seriously menaced for weeks by the same flood camality calamity which has taken so appalling a form in Calverinia. As I read in the papers the Emperor directed the Departments of the Treasury of war and the navy to take also such measures for the relief of these stricken people as lie within the executive discretion. The flood seemed to have frustrated this too, and maybe also the enemy. I know that throughout the nation most generous contributions had been made by the people throughout the States of ABbieannia, and every day the ammount had been increased, and which had been believed to be sufficient for the present. Prompt action was necessary as we all n know if the people to be affected were to relieved and rescued at all, but the flood prevented this to a terrible degree, if not also the enemy. Some Some of the Aurtoharities of the Abbieannian Government expressed as I heard a great deal of objections t to the proposedlegis proposed legislations, because they feared that no efforts to rescue could be accomolished on account of the nature of the flood. The suffering people victims of the worse of all disasters were suvjects of the great and powerful Kingdom of Abbieannia, a nation whose proud boast i it ha chad been alwaysthat it was able to take care of itself and its own people. Therefore this time the situation was different. Abbieannia could ke help itself it is true, but not its suffering states.

Count De Biff told Violet and her sisters, when he interviewed them on the flood situation that he was glad the people of Abbieania were more willing that their governments should not only express their sorrow for the suffering, but that they were willing that the government should extend the relief as far as possive possible, but that because ot the situation of such a flood, he did not then see how it could be done. Yet many tn things were done by the Emperor and his assistants to show how throughlty throughtly they sympathies had been enlisted by the distress of the stricken states, and that many ships, including the two warships of the River Mic-Hollester was ordered to sail imediately from Calverine wi with relief supplies, millions of dollars worth of food was to be sent by river transports, five hundred thousand dollars worth of medicine, and an immeasureable ammount of clothing, but just then no army surgeons and doctors could be spared, because of the woeful numbers of frightfully injured from the battles,, yet other boats were ordered to load with stores, at Prunia,, Albrahambrai, Heidi Turn, and Francis ity and proceed for the disaster zone, river craft of all kind in the north and extreme osouth and east were ordered to get ready for carrying fresh water to the sufferers, and transport steamers were ordered for carrying sup supplies ory to take away the survivors, and all other boats were asked to co-operate, but all efforts proved fruitless, as the flood took such an extent and had such a force that to navigate the flood rivers and the main floods was sucide.

From this result it will be seen Mr Mayor that Emperor Vivian was worried exceedingly day and night for days. Not on nce once did he escaped a busy day... It was indeed so I was informed by Violet, and her sisters that those days were very bu busy for all members of every state Government in continuing the good work they had begun in trying to get relief and rescue sent to the destitide of the flood and explosion disaster, and still working to succor those of the past disasters. Count De Biff himself continued also the goo work good work he had begun in ordering all surviving boats to the disaster zone, authoriging the commanders at San Juan city to send the fleet of workships from Francis Atlanta, and directing that the ships in Francis Anna be made ready for the expedition also. The Secretaey of war Hanson Turmer,, had also directed the Commissary general, The Quarter Master general and others to order the full concentration of supplies at the Calverinian River Yrads for shipment on the vessels there and to be sent to the Disaster Zone. The Secretary of the Treasury sent notices to the proper offices of his Departments to get revenue cutters and coast survey vessels for readiness for instant s service. Even when Emperor Hanson Vivian went to His palace the morning after the disaster occured, and he had learned of it he had made up his mind personally to supertend superintend the at arrangements for furnishing assistance to the people of the flood and explosion zone, and the first thing he did was to direct all of his Royal Cam Cabinet what hewanted done. The relief measures was not only restricted to Calverinia but to all points, and it was understood that if Abyssinkile and other stricken communities needed assistance it also was to be furnaced. In dact the instructions to ever every one needed permitted them to call at any of the disaster zones where relief may b necessary.

But when either one of the emperors learned that, the Mayors of thirteen cities had lost their liv es, that hundreds of cil cities were swept away, and that the loss of live was te rible terrible beyond figuring and would never be known, and that for weeks no relief could reach the sufferers because of the flood, they were at a loss of what to do. The rain news came to Emperor Vivian from The Vivian Girl Princeeses themselves who easily learned all of the terrible details, and Violet herself wrote that the disaster was complete,, cities wi a ead, flood all over the country, and that the loss of lif w [illegible] five million had perished

, and fifty million were homeless and starving. She suggested that some of the Red Cross be withdrawn from the armies, or be asked to send provisions as quickly as possible. It took three weeks for her message to reach him. Feeling confident that the Government would not neglect his appeal for authority to render assistance to the sufferers of the flooded states, Emperor Vivian and also hisbrother, ordered the immediate selection from all stores of supplies, to the ammount of $900.000.000 that being the sum requested. All shipping captians were ordered to get these supplies ready, and soon the relief vessels were well u on the way..

The first discouraging news which Emperor Hanson himself had, was that the first ship, called the "Key of Heaven" had gone on the way to El Verso, and two days later was wrecked by the flood. The War Department also got a Telegram from outside the flood zone, reporting that the relief expedition could make no headway because of the raging floods, that to nav navigate the flood was impossible. This if true sure caused intense suffering among the refugees, who also because of the flood would suffer terribly from want of good water. Naturally the flood waters would be strongly impregnated with all the filth caused by the flood, and therefore not fit for drinking purpose. A good water barge that had a capacity of eight hundred gallons ready for use, and proceeding from Mildred Greenburg before the flood reached there, was towned by a river steamer to a locality selected for refugees, and this of course was swept off and away by the flood rendering the situation worse. Therefore the Royal Members reported that arrangements were being made for a special meeting of the two Kings to devise means for sending the provisions and relief in spite of the flood. I myself had recieved from some one a dispatch, that told of the inciner ation and burying of the dead in the cities after the flood had receded, but which work was going on under the greatest difficulties. The only men engaged in it were the surviving citizens, and that the atmosphere of all places were so saturated with the estench that many of the burial parties were made ill by it. The men could only work for a short time at a stretch. There was one silver lining in the cloud of horror. The condition of the disaster and flood made it so that no Glandelinian vandals on this occassion penetrated any of the stricken places, and that there was no one found ri robbing the dead or digging in the ruins for treasures.. And over the whole scene from forest fires raging elsewhere ha hung the great clouds of smoke. The flood they said took a month to dimish dimish its force. I also had recieved a despatch from Calverine, that said the disaster was still in full force elsewhere . Even now we all fear further disasters."

"I had one strange and queer experience but that was aftathe after the explosion and when the flood was on" said a middle sized man. I was on a rive ri river boat dispatched for Murcann, and because we could make no headway against the flood which we tried to do we took some chances anyway and cruised along its shores, keeping out of reach of the current. As we spd on sir, we encountered encountered a very dark looking cloud of black smoke ad as it was from a forest fire we were obliged to go far out of our couse to avoid the smoke ad and the heat.. While we were on to the town of Murchann we picked up a small open boat in which were five children and one man. They were refugees. We made an enghty five mile journey from Murchann to Guadeloupe to where we arived after a two day trip with the kids on board. The sky no matter no matter how long we journeyed was shraded in a strange brownish and violet colored haze, which extended over the whole sky like a heavy thunder cloud. Far in the distance the haze shaped like a wall of giant mushroom clouds, where when it was catching the slight light of the sun piercing the haze showed a beautiful amber tint. All during our trip the flooded country side was strewn with wreckage. Many corpses were seen floating. We then reached the town of El Perfecto a few miles north of Murchann, and we observed that the place after being wrecked by the flood had been partly destroyed by fire. The few remaining people on shore begged to be taken off. They were taken aboard. When we came to Guadeloupe we saw that all that remained of that city were long rows of ruined walls, plasted with mud, and water was still in the streets. A nauseating oroe odor came from the wreckage. We hailed another rescue boat, and the latter directed us how to land. In many places scores and hundreds of victims were seen in a single mass. Here and there fire s of great size were still burning. One refugee boat rescued five thousand survivors northeast of the city. Another ship rescued three thousand, and all and all were conveyed northward. I knew on e Nun or Sister who was among the survivors of the explosions, and who was taken to the hospital by train to Pandora. The doctors general made every effort in their power to save the life of the holy woman, but she was horibly burned and their mo t most desperate efforts were in vain. Yet she was coun conscious despite her sev re burns and other injuries, and told me what little she knew of the disaster. She said she was as well as the other Sisters going about her dutues, being a Night Sister, when she heard a most terrific explosion. She was to badly frightened atthe shaning shaking of the building and the falling of plaster, and breaking of windows that she fained fainted, and while in this condition the place took fire and she was terribly burned. She remained unconscious for a long long time, but recovered her si senses. She then saw she was lying in the midsts of the ruins of the bu l building among others who too were frightfully burned, and they died before assistance could reach them. She also stated that she had no further knowledge of the disasterous

and shortly after tell'ing her story she died.If you are going to look over the ruins of what is left of Abbieann I may say that access to the ciy city is much easier now since the big catastrophe, except you must look out for the enemy.You must also avoid the bigforest fire raging near the place.If you reach Adele-Heid city you will see everything scattered by the force of the explosion as if there had been a terrific tornado.The iron and brass beds sed in the houses are badly twisted by the heat, but no other signs of fire are there.Of course no doubt the bes bedding and other materials materials have completely disappeared. After the explosion as they said in one street two thousand corpses were found most of them lying face downward. The northern part of the town of Ad leheid are buried under the ruins.In the neighborhood of Greatgorn Creek many houses were found intact, but strange to sa I saw that many of their inmates are dead their bodies looking as though they had been struck by a flash of lightning, or been shocked by a el eletr electric wire. Near Adeleheid the region ravaged includes Turop. and a hundred other towns.Nearly three quarters of the city of Adeleheid has been annihilated, and the same fate has befallen all the towns around it.I and many others landed, at Adeleheid, and buried many bodies. We brought some of the survivors to Pandora."

On invest gating more starring and even his followers la learned there were only two thousand survivors of Adeleihd at the hospo hospitals at Pandora, whereas there were more than fifty thousand corpses strewn at the city and beneath the ruins , and a many of the dying who were half calcined, were brought also to Francis Anna.Many of these died. All the while Starring and his followers remained at La-Polama city the whole scenery was hidden beneath a thick veil of smoke of a gray leaden color. The ground outside the city was still strewn with wreckage of ships tossed across the landscapes by the flood, and of the ruins of dwellings, trees and other debris.The forests in the far distance continued to burn, and the air was still filled with the odor of burning trees.In La Polama no house is intact even now. Every where there are masses of wood, and debris ad broken twisted houses.

The very streets have disappeared. A guide pointed out to Starring, one spot or one ruined house were the bodies of twenty five women, sixty children, and twelve men had been buried, and where many had worked day and night to release the,!Large trees twisted by the force of the flood lie with their roots upward beneath a awful mass of rubbish, from which the guide said had been discovered the protrding of a a mans arm.

As what was said to be observed in Adeleheid t it appeared that the explosions contained some posious gases in the powders, for Starring was told that all the the victims who had been found apparently covered their mouths in order to avoid death by suffocation.All who were saved came from villiages far from the explosion horror.Not a single soul was saved or recovered from Abbieanian Abbieen itsel. itself. Starring was told that the city of St Vincent De Paul north of Ad leneid was also stri ken, and the loss of life in that place was at least two to five thousand.He was told that the latest reports that had reached Pandora from the horror region only added to the horrors of the situation there.And it had been thou thought that when the hews of the disaster first became known,that though the mater material loss would be heavy, the lea h death list would not be so very heavy, but it is now known up to the present time the fatalities number 7,000 and grave fears are entertained that the list is not yet complete. What made all other work of investigations most desperate was that the forest fires still barred all good ass accessable approaches to the right regions, and it is feared the forest fires willnot cease untill the whole country recieves heavy re rainstorms.

And even now though it is so long since the disaster had occured immense anxiety was still felt as to the conditions of affairs throughout the whole disaster region. The latest news which had been recieved on August the 4th was recieved only the day before starring reached La Polama was to the effect that the forest fires were worse, half of the flood still remained, Abbiean was still inundated, and the number of dead was increased.Since then no news of any kind hadben recieved. The latest information was that the whole flood area, and a part of the explosion area was cut off from the whole whole world by ernormous seas of fire, and no n one was able to reach the place at any point, except throug which starring came.

Boats had rescued five hundred refugees from the fires from points along the river shore, and a gun boat whose officers and crew have been wok working bravely since the disaster overtook the country has rescued two thousand people, who fled the fires when their towns were threatened.Everyboard aboard the rescue ships are exhausted but the vessels had hardly arived at Pandora with survivors, before all hands are eager to again set out on their work of mercy.

The River cable steamers also assisted in the work of rescue and has taken all the survivors that she picked up to other cities, and large numbers of the survivors are occupying tents as al all the house accokoations accommoat accommodations of towns and cities aretaken up, but the crowds of refgees refugees are so large that many are compelled to shift for themselves as best as they can.

"Yes" answered the P leading Ranger.

"Do you know the name of it?"

"Yes it is faithful junction.It's about fourty miles northwest of gound Junction. It has a population of 100,000."

"God Help them, Oh My God help them." said Starring."I know that town.It used to being my home town when I was a child.Ho w How far is the fire from it?"

"A little nearer than Gound junction, though , hear the fire is only reaching Imperial Valley and moving pon two armies one under Hunley and the other under general Vivian."

"Well" said Walter "The Blessed Lord help them, and add all His blessings to those who can and will keep the fire from touching the town, My mother is supposed to be there and my father, and God mother too."

Then he began to go forward slowly with the rangers, but some of the leaders went forward some distance first to do a little scouting.The others went on together continui continuing their former discourses, till they came to go down the hill.Then said Walater"It is very d fficult to go out to make a battle against the fire when you cannot hardly see a thing because of all this smoke.And whenyou cannot see where the advancing fire is it is dangerous to proceed I think."

"Yes " said the Chief Ranger "So it is, for it is a hard atter for a man or for a large bunch of rangers rangers to go down into the unknown recesses of this valley when we don't know whether we,ll run into an inferno or not as we are now and to catch no flank attack upon us by the time we line up for battle, therefore our chief leaders went ahead to see if there is a clearing in the sea of smoke.It is not thick enough to check any one but yet it hides objects more nearer than we like.So they all began to go down the slope but very warily.It took a good half hour to make the descent safty w and without a slip or not, though to starring it was as if a feeling possessed him of reminding him of going down into a densely smoking volcanic crater, and not knowing what he'll meet up in the way.

But now in this valley, they felt all hard up against it for they had gone a little way untill they reached a clearing, where a breeze spring up cleared off ome some of the fog, and here they saw at some great distance a fierce conflagration moving off to flank the ridge of which they had just left.Then did the whole force begin to be afraid, and struggled hard to make up their minds whether to go back or stand their ground.But they considered again that there was no ravine or any bigger breach than the clearing, and therefore though that to retreat would b means sure death and therefore they resolved to venture and work like mad to increase the six size of the clearing as far as possible.They had two hours only in which to do it. It was not to check the forest fire, that was impossible, but only to save their lives..

So the leaders gave the order" Form In line, every one."

The command was obeyed, the mining engineers being first, the axe and saw men next and those with spades and shovels anoother weapons forming on both flanks, while those with the wet sacks and so on prepared for the covering of their retreat.

The condition of the valley was most hadious to behold .Far away it was clothed with gray convulted clouds as if seething p from the bottomless pit, but so far away it appeared to be that evidently two hours was left for them to really work.

The leading ranger came up to Walter and regarding the advancing conflagration with a disdainful countenance said .....

"Whence comes that section of the forest fire, and whether do you think it is heading for?"!"!!!!!"

"It is coming from the I Imperial Valley, which is the place the heart of the left wing of the fire seems to be, and it is heading straight for us." answered Walter.

"I believe we are in a dangerous situation.How are the men working now?"

"Good.They are speeding up.But we have only two hours.I percieve that this is one of the main fires, for all that country is said to be an inferno like a thousand volcanoes in eruption.How is it then that it is spreading this way when it was first crossing Mic-Hollester River and headed for gound junction which is said to have been blown up by a great explosion. Where it not that I hope the fire might be might be checked I would make a retreat to a better position.We'll be surrounded by a sea of fire and God only knows whether we'll survive or not.We can hope it'll chanc change its course.When the clearing is finished the only mere trifle hope for us to escape the terrific heat is to lie close to the ground, and keep ourselves soaked with the water we have in the barrels in the water wagons....."

"Well" said Walter starring the fire " thefirsis indeed sweeping our dominions,.....

but for one do not think we are at least hard pressed I, but yet we cannot be too careful."

"That might be so" declared the ranger " but nevertheless as far as I can say there has been no fire yet of any kind that has outwitted me or my subjects in fire fighting, neither will I yet allow this one to overcome me in the long run, when get the right lay of thelund.They'll soon have the whole nation out fighting it if it if it continues on as it is now.But c since it is heading tward us, and the Government conplains of the causes and the result, let them be content to send you help in your efforts to find out who among the glendolinians ordered the making of these disasters, and probably something then can be done to stop it and stop it for good.And what our country can afford they should give thee if your mission is successful.".

Bgut

"""""But"said Starring I"I was working indeed throughout all of the dominions of Abbieania and her states. even though of course course the service was hard and dangerous, and my wages could have been so small as to not enable a man to live on it, but I did it for the sake of adventure. I am not really a foregoing soldier sir as some think but an adventurer, for for the Abbieanian Abbieannian Government a Professional Spy, but I do it more for the thrills of adventure than for mere profit or wages and reward. When I started out on my first adventure, I did as other considerate persons do when I made mistakes, look out, if perhaps I can might mend myself. But now I have started out on this mission only for the sake of the Princesses, they have asked me to go, and how can I with fairness back out when the government alone may concern. Only God knows what violet, and her sisters have done for me.".

"And Heaven knows you are right." cried the Ranger. "What they too have done is a marvel a record breaker when they could have stayed at home and enjoyed the lives they were born for. They have done everything according to their means, though even then the enemy has changed from bad to worse. Yet it has ordinarily been so that those who have professed themselves to be their aids, have afterwhile given them the slip in cowardilness, and that is wh, in many of their efforts all has not been well. I like you general Starring have given them my faith, and sworn my allegiance to them, and therefore I destest any who desert them in time of danger and they should be hanged as a traitor. Some of my own rangers have done the same to me in time times past, and yet had been compelled to follow their example of mercifulness, and be willing to pass by all. What I have promished to them, and even their father the great holy Emperor was in my very childhood, and besides I count that the Princesses under those banner now I stand is able to do many things for me if I only ask, and besides Walt to speak truth, I lif love their service, their very beings, the Abbieanin Abbieannian government, their company, and country better than my own which I left so long ago with my parents(France) and I will follow Abbieannia in all she asks. And Walt consider yet what you are likely to meet with in the adventure you are on now. You know that recently and that for the most part many of the christian spies g have come to an ill end, because they are transgressors against wicked glandolinia and her ways.

How many of them have been put to the most shameful deaths. and besides you are n on a more dangerous mission and yet no one has been able to deliver the captured christian spies out of the hands of the enemy, but as for pargar himself how many times as all the very world very well knows has he delivered from power and even necessary violence those that have faithfully servided served him and his, though taken by the Glandolinians. find pargar, consult him, and he will have you covered by his members and then your work will be a successful end, and as for the ill end they have come to that will be most glorious on their account. For they do not expect safty in any of their expectations of hazardous work, for they do it for the flory f glory of their country, and they shall have it by and by, iv if not in this world then in the next."

"And " said another Ranger. "Thou hast been already very faithful to the Vivian Girl Princesses and to the loyalty and service o of thy country, and some day you'll recieve great honor from them."

"where in chief Rangers have I been unusually faithful to them?"

"There is records kept of which you have accomplished many great marvels even in first setting out, you attempted many things they couldn't do and came through successfully without a scratch, you have frequently raided the enemys lines lines and secur secure their many important plans, you prevented generals from attempting wrong ways in trying to relieve the pressure of a glandolinian attack against their lines, when they should have sent in better troops, you have prevented many generals from meetting disaster, when they a were almost persuaded to make a retrat retreat, and and when you talk of your journey, and of what thou hast heard and seen, thou art even even now making efforts to accomplished something more record breaking yet. If you do succeed you deserve a great commission."

"All this is true, and mch more which you have left out, but the Princesses whom I have served and honored have done many things also, and besides I have done this for the sake of my n country, for here I've seen enough to make a statue weep, and I tto too have grouned nder under the strain of witnessing these sights, been sorry for the millions of refugees suffering and in want without homes, and have obtained from even Emperor Vivian the pass to do this mission."

"Then" the Ranger said "Often too I have broken out into a grevious rage over these scenes. I am an enemy of glandolinia worst than you, I hate her government and her wicked cause, the massacres, horrors and other disasters she causes. I am come on on prupose purpose to help the nationa withstand her wickedly made disasters. Here comes the time for the start of the work for you and your followers now. but beware what you do, for we are in the " Valley of the shadow of Death", therefore take heed to yourself and don't allow your self to be trapped."

Starring

"Starring answered "I am av void of fear in this matter, lets prepare to frustrate the conflagration, for I swear by all that is godf that is good, that with Gods help the conflagration will go no further, here we will resist its progress to the end." and with that he threw himself with good spirt in the work with his followers. All the others as fast made at the trees cutting and blasting, and when one would fall they would scatter to prevent the danger of being caught underneath. Starring led the whole fracis for with the near approach of the fire he sawcit was time to bestir himself, and sparks were seen far in the sky rising up thick as clouds.

One ne ranger got struck by the large branch of a falling tree, which wounded him in his hand, head and left foot, but he continued working nevertheless.

Though so far away as it was the terrific heat of the conflagration made the Rangers and walt rs f Walters followers give back a little, but they soon followed their work amain, and seeing the breach was getting wide and long in so short a time Walter took courage again, and worked as manfully as he could.

This sore combat by hundreds of men lasted already for about an hour, even till a number of the rangers were quite spent, for by reason of ceaseless toil like this and as as fast as it is in theirvpower to work, they cannot help but grow weaker and weaker. The gap had grown sufficiently large however, and Walter espying his opportunity began to gather up closer to the main line of workers, and while he worked on, one of the rangers was struck by a flying branch which gave him a dreadful dreadful fall, and with that his axe flew out of his hand. He was rescued however.

At this time one of the leading rangers riding p said;

"I'm sure we'll succeed in heading it off now" and with that he pressed them on still harder, so that the work progressed still better. But as bad luck would have it, while the rangers were fetching the last stroke to their battle, thereby to length on the size of the breach, the ranger r Chief rode up and said;

"The fire is moving around tward ur flanks. We will have to give back a little or be caught in the rear and have out our escape cut off entirely."

The order was given l along the line and with that the workers spread out first; and then sped away to the other edge of the clearing on a high rise.

During all this toil and combat, no man can imagine unless he had seen and heard as these rangers did, what hedious and unusual roaring the flames made far away or how the clouds volcanic eruption like rose high into the air all the time of the fighttt fight, and when he saw the battle ending in favor of the coming blaze what sighs and groans bursts from Starrings heart. Not as of them even smiled or gave a pleasant look, not till the captians gave the commands for them to move out of the danger zone, then indeed did some of them smile, but it was becoming the most dreadful sight ever observed. It goes like this; that is the battle to stop the progress through great excitement and perils;;;;;;;

During the progress of the work, and prior to the advance of the terrible conflagration, far to the north eighteen villiages with a good population of nearly 23,456 each, which nestled fourty miles north of the advancing Red Plague, were being mustered out on small trains and handcars and on swift horses to come and help the Rangers with whom Starring was with to crush down the terrible Plague of fire. Near this town there was a large channel being barely two and as half miles wide, some kind of a large section of the Mic-Mollester River both sides so densely forestd that no one could go through except by passageways and small roads.

The city of Majorcian the triving town of that section of Calverinia with a population of over 100,000 also was sending its men folk to aid in the battle for she and the big villiages lay directly in the path of the conflagration and were in danger of destruction.

Walter starring ben being also one of the men of science and a member of the gemini, knew for months before this when the war disasters first started what what lay in store for unfortunate Calverinia... And experience also had told all his observers that when because of the enemy swarms of forest fires begin in the vinicity of southeastern calverinia, the " Glandolinia dragon of horror" is writhing and preparing to make trouble or try to as to say to St Michael who is in this story the guardian of calverinia Calverinia. This was now the greatest forest fire in any volumes written, and so far it has wiped out billions and billions of dollars worth of trees alone not counting towns and villiages, and rendered nearly four hundred thousand to a million homeless, adding continually to the volcanic eruption like enemy made explosions and flood disasters that nothing in realty can ever compare in the far future not alone of the past.

Yet Yet throughout Calverinia Scientific investigation is to be in large measure to be credited with the real small loss of life in the forest fire instances, for it is through the conts continually made up quick warnings of the advance and progress progress and direction of the fires that the inhabatants of any populated town or city directly in its path were enabled to flee from the " RED PLAGUE." In Abbieann and Bengal county on the other hand far past the cataclysm of earthquake, flood and forest fire and combination disasters far surpassing the horrors of a Katmia gruption caught the big Calverinian city of many millions and all its river ports unaware and unprepared.

It was through fire Rangers, the gemin, the Weather Bue Beaur and other persons th that the progress and direction of the great forest fires were predicted, conversely it can be hoped that in time fur future explosions can be prevented. If such

for dosting of the advancing of forest fires is achieved, it is conclevable, that a forest fire of this intensity could have occured with a loss of life something terrible if not predicted on time.The strange phenomena of this forest fire and its a ttending horrors could prove of great importance to the scientific world if actually happening as well as the series of great mysterious explosions is causde caused and the measures which could be taken to safeguard life at the proper time andcwarn warn the inhabatants of towns and villiages many hours before the fire came even within sight.

As Starring know many writers throughout the country had published warnings, that these great forest fires were likely to spread, and even general Pargar was absolutely confident that disasters of major portions was impending.For the last two years and more during the outbreak of the immeasureable war prior to the great flood and forest fire disasters, great eruptive explosions caused by the enemy had occured in all parts of northern Angelinia, and this had made general pargar and many of his members make observation trips here and there, to find out proper details.

The obzervatory at Angelinia Agathia had recorded two hundred and eighty one explosion concussions in the early season of 1913 as compared with an average of 100 explosion made quakes a; annu annually over the first year of the war.

The greatest of the 1913 xplosion shocks occured on June and July, and as the ready well knows by this time did great damage.Most of the disturbances were where the great flood and other horrors occured afterwards.At many pints because of these concussions springs in great numbers ceased to flow, n and ponds and wells in the country dried up during all the spring and summer months throughout all sections of wene wa western and southern Calverinia there had been very little rainfa rainfall, and this too may be the reason why the forest fires had such a good start when once started.

The „iolent violent kind of forest fires causing great eruptive explosions of mysterious cause also began somewhere east of Vivian Wickey, where there were formed also three enormous conflagrations, the last two being on November 10 1912 and also throughout December, and the following month untill great winter snowsts storms finally stopped their spreading.Naturally the inhabatants in all forested regions of the dangerous paths of fires became extremely apprehensive day after day, but outside of the main blazes sweeping eastern Calverinia elsewhere nothing unusual happened.

One great marvel of forest fire fighting was done by tremendous mining by thousands of engineers.The explosions of the mines made quakes and tremendous eruptions, being in swarms of terrific bla' blasts, so that people nearest the dangers jumped.Three strong shocks caused by these mine explosions were felt on the afternoon of September the fifth, followed in the evening by two more.The next morning t ere were a hundred and fifty strong shocks in endless succession accompanied by thundering noises in a long reverberating roll.The concussions were increasingly alarming and people of towns and villiages believed the enemy were up to something.Orlwo growling noisesprecedd some and a roar as of battle followed others.

The mining was done along long stretches of forest with a purpose to breach it quicker than can be done by saw, or dynimite and axe.During The sixth of September 10,000 strong shocks were counted, and scores of greater convussions were being registered by the seismograph at the meteorological observatories west of Angelinia Agathia, five hundred shocks per hour during the morning, eleven hundred hundred per hour about noon, and some twenty thousand thousand per hour in the evening with a maximum of twenty eight thousand between 10 and 11 P.M.

There was a lull in the strange quaking after midnight, but on the following morning twenty thousand more shocks per hour were felt from six to seven.What ever ammount of all this blasting was done, and what ever the breaches were made stopped the way in noway in no way whatever.

THE number of concussion shocks felt in nearest cities and towns could not be determined but they were felt every ten or twenty minutes, and some times every five minutes.Then here would come a respite from strongly felt shocks for about an hour during which period there would be fifteen quakes at very irregular times.The urnings of the ravages of the approaching forest fire which it seemed noting nothing could have stoppee, probably even rain maybe, were heeded.Many towns noted in the path were warned.Every available country train, rushed with frantic speed back and forth from these towns, day in day out moving the inhabatants from villiage and city, their bedding matting, food, everything the people had some time to save.Breach after breach was made by the series of mine explosions, the wind of the fire stopped not for this and the fire raged beyond the breach or around and renewed its spread with terrifying fury.Every day at many points, the army, the navies of rivers, government departments, shipping of various rivers, and river steamship lines were helping in the saving of people from threatened towns.

By the time that Starring and the many rangers, and all those who had come from villiages to help had finished the breach of their own making as far as time allowed, a report came from one of the men that great smoke eruptions was rising from a large forested ridge to their right. This scene regarded by them was strikingly terminated by a volcanic outbreak of clouds nearest to their own center.A terrific heat prevaded the air, it grew dark as if the approach of a hurricane in the Tropics and the sky in the distance reddened as bright as an _letric light..

All other distant forested regions on mountain slopes had all this time been veiled by a dense cloud, while far off there was an incessant din of rumbling which proved that Rangers and fighters elsewhere were still blasting in the hope to stopping the great conflagration.....

At many points in the forests in the path of the advancing fire continual and quick explosions of the most tremendous force were heard for many days and nights, and no of the mines was set off near Evangeline St Clare which again the fire was threatening but from a new quarter, a large explosive puff of smoke being reported at that time, but it was not untill later when a wind broke away the fog smoke clouds that the great forest fire drama unfolded under splendid photographic illumination before the view of many of the apprehensive people of that city.It was also tward this city that Starring and the Rangers were fighting to prevent the progress of the forest fire, and at Starrings suggestion the Rangers decided also to try minding a mining a breach.

The first explosion came at Ten thirty oclock, when in the middle of middle of of the forest near the c clearing already started, the waiting rangers and Starring saw the hard profile of a swelling buloon balloon of black and white smoke rise majestically from the ground, where a few minutes before were trees.The concussion was almost as terrific as a volcanic eruption and many trees were torn away leaving a large gap where they stood.The big cloud shot up obliquely, then straightened to a vertical column and rose nearly a thousand feet into the sky, first balloon shaped then assuming the form of a great mushroom.Finally the top bent majestically westward westward like a great triumphantal arch built to span a hillside.This blast had done good work.It took nearly half an an hour to make the second mine.Then the batteries went to the shock and again a similiar cauliflower column rose high into the air, but this was dwarfted by the towering cloud of the half hour before with which it eventually merged.Another gap was torn in the forest but somewhat smaller.But all this time the others continued working elsewhere with saw,s dynimite and axe for they never took as advantahe of the mining to foolish ly stop their own work.

The breach must be accomplished before the fire came p.With occassional lulls but with ever increasing violence, the booming concussion of mine eruptions grew more and more terrible, but soon it got no further for the munitions of the Rangers became spent and so nothing more could be done.But though fifteen explosions had been made, they done more in that time than the Rangers elsewhere had done with axe, saw and dynimite. The terrible conflagration was coming nearer and terrible shoots of flame danced and shot in undulating forms and writhes through through the great volcanic eruptive like billows of smoke, and in the lower portion of the great wall of rolling smoke sometimes strange verticle lines of upward streaming shoots of flame curling as high apparently as the smoke clouds themselves, or even above could be seen from time to time.Explosions occured occassionally as fierce as a fusillade of cannons as trees filled with turpentinecsap exploded when they caught fire.In addition there were outward spurts of large shooting tongues of flame that apparently shot across a portion of the sky overhead, leaving leaving curving trails of strange glows for a moment in their path.

The Rangers and Starring and his companions were not forced to abandon their work at this point and flee to a great distance before the terrific heat..Great streamers of sparks thick as clouds looked like glaringrock bombs, yet they would darkern after passing the crest of their various courses, or light on trees beyond and set them going in hundreds of fiercely blazing torches at as time...one time...

By this time while approaching the breach the forest fire was graining in fury and just then felt by starring and rangers extra heavy concussions were felt indicating other fighters were doing their own blasting close by.Darkness gradually begun over the city of Evangeline St Claire compared to that of midnight, and continued for days.The work of thecrangers resumed at the further end of the breach where the heat was not felt so intense, and the fall of trees cut down began an hour and ten minutes after they had retreated to a good degree, and continued on untill they again were compelled to make another retreat.The crisis of the work which resulted in the finishing of the breach as far as the heat of the advancing conflagration permitted occured four hours later, when a terrific mysterious explosion on the van of the forest t near the breach hurled down nearly a whole score of forest trees or splintered them, dislodged boulders from cliffs, and threw the fighters on their faces.Some of them come near being trapped in s landslides, and thirty five of them narrowly escaped from being crushed to death.

They just got away on time.The nearest advance of the left wing of the conflagration had begun, and the glare was growing as bright as if the very region of the forces forest was in eruption and ejection hundreds of millions of tons of molten

lavalava
lava, simultaneously with the occurance of this mysterious explosion which in some degree had the means of accidentally enlarging a portion on th of the clearing or breach, a sudden new glow of fire equally as bright in its shade of light was observed through the smoke rolling up on the central line of the conflagration. This continued to increase, and the roar of the flames could be easily heard, while now the fighters were tormented by a terrific wind that swayed the trees with a roar tearing off braches and raising great clouds of dust. It was the advance guard of the terrific fire ahurricane. The concussion of explosions made by miners to try and gap the fire were occassionally so severe and reached at times such a maximum that people who remained in threatened Evangeline St Clare citythroughout the passage of the " RED PLAGUE" testified to witnesses and newspaper reporters that their ears were aching as a result of the incessant detonations and the overlasting rattling of the partitions doors and window shashes of the houses. It was a vertible bombardment of sound. The city itself looked like some big scarlet town from the terrific glare of the distant conflagration.

Religious Processions Headed by the City cardinals and priests were made to ask Our Blessed Lord to save the city from the flames.

Yet it might seem probable that the big concussion shocks happening as frequently as the number of musket shots fired during a battle was the climax of exploding mines used to fell great number of trees in the headway path on the advancing flames, and also that other and greater detonations were the climax, of the explosions in the region of the woods nearest Evangeline St Clare, where thousands of citizens of the city, and many rangers were fighting desperately to check the progress of the flames.....

The glow which increased within full sight of the city at the time,,, of the fusilade of explosions was due to the ever increasing of the flames as they spread, wildly among the greater turpentine forests. All through the time since this great fire first started it had been followed already by many months of intensie intense activity in burning and progressing forward and in many other directions.

As Starring again observed, which gives truth to the statements of the Rangers there was a new danger brought on by the tremendous forest fires. At first something that could have been mistaken for hot lava flows emerged from a slope which was all a mass of flames in the distance moving rapidly the first few hours and then settling down to a plastic flow looking more like some small glacial moraine than a melted rock flow. Evidently the heat of the flames were melting rocks on the slopes till they became of lava formation. similar false lava appeared from another sour r source, where the fires were in greater and fuller blast.

And now Starring and the Rangers had only half an hour more to complete the breach before the flames now roaring in the distance like a hurricane of the Polar Planet would be upon them. A great series of mine explosions almost now within sight of Starring and the Rangers, which had been set off by workers elsewhere,, and during the explosions something else happened which sent up an avalanch of clouds and flames, and rumbled like a thunderstorm. At the front of the conflagration smoulders of great size were as fierce as molten lava streams and seas reaching the ocean and they made a sea of rising tails and rolls of cottony smoke.

Some portion of a nearby ravine before the concussion caved in, and there was a noise somewhere as of a volcanic eruption.

The climax of fire luminousity, accompanied over and anon by terrible detonations and concussions of mining explosions made an appearance as if the whole forest region was being devastated by some enormous volcanic eruption issuing from every mountain and valley and plain in the neighborhood, and like huge skyrockets, burning moss soared over the unburned forests in all directions before the screaming screaming hurricane now blowing. Over the closest mountain still more thickly forested hung a huge black cloud of smoke in which enormous tongues of flames, either undulated, writhed or zizzagged in long white streaks. Suddenly from that ridge with the awe struck men all gazing intently some tremendous force of heat sent a wall of fire seemingly more than six thousand feet into the air. Then along the slopes a brilliant column of flame simulaneously seemed to fall through the wsmoke, and down the slope tumbled like a vast Niagara of fire in wide streams, amaze of burning trees which scene evidenced that many had burned through and crashed crashed down. Newer fires were hurled black smoke, and the tumbling fires of rolling burning trees down the slope seemed to strike rocky obstructions and like like water sent a fiery mist of sparks far into the night. To see what was up Starring climbed a huge pine tree to the top. There he felt the heat as if in an oven and he had all he could do to keep his perch the tree swayed so in the hot roaring gale.

From there he saw a great stretch of fire moving tward a new section of the forest, rushing like molten clouds, across a far off ravine, roofing it in flame, filling it with broken and burning trees, and changing a forest of enormous dimensions into a glowing fire sea. This dreadful scene increased, and spread fire now tward where the great breach was made. Now it was coming. The entire forested region fronting or in front of the big clearing was ablaze. Flames leaped high, and the glowing embers of trees burned down elsewhere glowed like a hellish nightmare of the Infernal Regions. He saw some small villages a score of them which had been built in line and also the fire was catching and burning rapidly along these. A perfect "Rapids of Blizzard glowing ash or sparks" torn from the burning forests by the howling winds seemed to behave like the famous downrushing blast of Mt Pelee on the island of Martinque in the eruption of 1902, setting fire to patches of trees far in advance of the main conflagration, obliterating a big patch of woods near the river at once with flames and smoke, and with ever increasing violence the winds blew, beginning here and there to throw down the trees, with their tops away from the fire, the stumps shredded and pactured by flying stones.

This was the moment of most extreme danger for Evangeline St Claire, for the blasts of the fire hurricane like an incandescent blast w blast was headed in swirling whirlwinds straight tward the city, scarcely more than thirty miles away, but it was hoped the Evangeline St Clare stream being wide at this point would not permit the flames to cross. If the concentrated flames crossed, Evangeline St Clare surely would be destroyed, but the outcome was to be happy for the city, for the explosives used for breaching in that neight neighborhood, and the width of the river, and the efforts of all the men inhabitants of the city in breaching across the river in the ci city side prevented the conflagration from crossing at that point. Al nd also if the conflagration had concentrated tward the clearing quicker than it did, there would have been no hope for Starring and the Rangers in escaping, but the outcome for them was happy for some time, for in the explosions of miles the clearing had been extended, and therefore the fire did not readily reach the clearing proper till that half hour was up in which time they were able to work to partial success.. Near the river immense patches of dead fishes floated brown and all colors, and all sizes, some places in such ashes as to impede rowboats. As the wind was mostly southwest the heavy spark and hot ash hurricane and blizzard accumulated thickest over the woods.

The main line of fire within sight of the clearing, and which was heading for the clearing was forming more than sixteen miles long in three minutes time, and varied in width from less than a mile near the source to three miles at its widest in the region of the river. The more voluminous east fire sea came from three near by valleys, many of the burning trees expld exploding like artillery. From the heights where by heat alone a new fire was forming Starring could see a snake like stream of fire spreading on the forest at the rate of a hundred feet in a half second, to a region further up the slope where the flames spread out to the right and left in into a sudden sea. All three were gaining. The heat of the fire passing down the river was so terrific that even where Starring and his friends were the river water was boiling hot with clouds of steamy vapor on all sides, where if any one fell in it would mean certain death..

Great cauliflower smoke in explosive like puffs were sometimes brightly incandescent in flame reaching a height of thirty thousand feet, and somewhere probably from the heat of the fire, apparent blowholes of paroxysmal gas puffed almost continuously from some terrific pressure, and strangely enough enough which seemed unusual some of the fire streams or stretches when seen at that great,, and unusual distance(everything must be unusual in this case) divided into lobes at their lower ends,,, and one of these burned up the side of a ridge, and covered the summit untill it began to look like one of its fellow hills which were all ablaze. The greater moment when the hill became entirely a hill of fire occured about twenty minutes later when the whole ridge was obliterated by fire and smoke, which began to rise up the sides and summits in seething flames as high apparently as twice the same kind of a mountain. The least of these flames seemed to rise to a height of threese of four hundred feet. At Angelinia ot St Clare the temperature was 138 degrees in the shade but at some other places in the city the thermometer gave such ranging degrees of heat as follows; Northwest city, 100,, then rose to 115, 120,, 125, 134, and 154, the highest I__ 166 where people could not stand it.

A n investigator out in dangerous location in an effort to learn the main course of the fire was caught near a sudden outbreak of a new fire that at that time was masked from him by smoke or masked from him by smoke. It suddenly appeared within thirty feet of him, the heat of which inflicted some injury upon him, and his attendant. Fortunately a large creek was at hand into which they wetted their clothing which was afire, and then fled for shelter.

The remarkable record of life saving, by even Starring and the Rangers in the moment when Evangeline St Claire was threatened a fourth time was par partly due to good luck but also to the instinct of the people of said sad secity, to the wid wisdom of the city's government, and to city Geminian Societies... Also city army, and navy and plice officias in that intense heat and darkness took control , river steamship companies, newspaper men, tourests, sight seers,, and high school school boys organized rescuing expeditions to the endagered cityy, in the face of the terrifying explosions of forest fire tree bombs and awful heat and dense smoke roaring the city streets so you could not see a hundred feet, and helping every one possible to get out of the wind racked city before the heat would gain more and start fires of its own. Yet despite the peril many refused to go. They lived

through all the horror, through heat, smoke and wind which thre threatened to
lip off the roofs of the buildings, and send clouds of dust and debris flying down
the streets.Three hundred persons had been injured during panics and taken to
hospitals, and two persons driven insane by the spectacle jumped into the river and
were drowned or scalded to death..People outside the peril ed city camped in internmd
internment or refugee camps in country cemeteries, there being fifty thousand
who left for the outside.The majority of the men citizens went out to combat the
red demon.There had been a general exodus, all belongings of shops and private houses
which could be moved were taken off, soldiers took up their quarters outside the
city, and guards walked the beats.Officials remained at their posts but the populatim
fled.The general in charge of an army detatchment that was bound for a portion
of general Vivians army which was at this time situated about thirty miles north of
SouthE end,
ound end and about as many miles south of Evangeline St Clare diverted his own
command in rescue and relief work, with Starring and the Rangers helping.People in
outlying towns recieved some of the refugees, and systematically provided lodgings,
even though they too might be threatened by the " RED PLAGUE" sometime later,
on. Many foriegners, who were familiar with the trugedies of St Pierre at the time
of the Mont Pelee eruption, and of other great eruptions, who had witnessed in
America and other places great forest fires, and other disasters, knew the nature
of this big forest fire, and their views had been made public. As Starring had been
told, the highest member of the Gemini kept steadfastedly the record of the shocks
produced by explosions, and atmospheric changes produced by forest fires, and did
not allow anything to frustrate his efforts to obtain anywhat he was after.It was
also a most astonishing commentry on the advanced idea, of the aurthorities throughdt
throughout Calverinia that they should blame weather observers for not predicting
in advance all they " should " know about forest fires.At the time when the forest
fire passed the city without doing doing any harm, aurthorities brought official
bulletins to the effect that for the city the worst was over, so that thereafter
the population straggled back to the city,, and the sh shops and the hotels were
rep reopened.All railroad communications wi th the city were broken, and telephone
connections also.Over the series of disasters as Starring also learned relief funds
were continuing to pour in o from all parts of the world.In the vinicity of Evange
line St Clare city 1,155,000 people had dwelt within the death zone of the most
dangerous forest fire... Yet no lives were lost directly to the fire in this
locality.Probably one hundred and ninty two thousand people deserted that part
of the country and were cared for by unusual hospitality...

As Good luck would have not, the fire beam did not move as directly tward,,
the breach as had been first feared, nay if it had Evangeline St Clare would not
have escaped. So when the battle to keep back the fire was over, Starring said, to
the the chief chief ranger,"Let us all give thanks to our blessed Lord who had
delivered us out of the path of danger, and they all kenlt knelt down and prayed
most fervently.After that they all sad town even in that smokey atmosphere to
eat break and drink some of the warm milk, and then afterwards they all decided to
climb up to a high ridge as best as possible to get a good view of the ornormous
fire, as Starring desired to do so before he would continue the journey, for he
said;

"By that means we could easily know which way my travels would be safer.E e
Even though some other enemy may be at hand, fear the fire worst., It took nearly
half a day to reach the summit and here they had a good view from the great height.
Now million books of words can describe the fury of this raging billowy series
of red lakes and seas and rivers of seething flames through immenser seas of heavy
volcano rollong like smoke clouds.E o Every where great sh oots and spouts of flamek
flames shot up through the smoke along a stretch of a score of thousand of acres
and at that distance they seemed to be something of incandescent light, yellow
when it rose and disappearing like red blood through the smoke.The noise of the
conflagration was a continuous roar like surf, and by a noise like gas rushing
through a lava pool filling a rift, the winds c seemingly to churn the flames to
foam, and flinging up seas of sparks.They proceeded across the summet to a m better
clearing to the immediate edge of a precipice to get a better view of the tremendous
scene.To them it was like taking in the views of a hundred big volcanic erup erupti
eruptions at one time.A large ridge a great distance beyond where they stood was
about five hundred feet higher than some of its near neighbors, and stood or north
west of them stood the highest of the hills, all densely forested .Next to them
immense mountains of flames rose up continuously half again as high as these
ridges, and so many trees all ablaze and burned through were falling that they
seemed eternally scattering n w new fires, and rolling noiselessly or fiercely
down clearings seemingly to be gilded with a mottled fiery pattern. Through the
southwestern wall of the highest forested ridge there, the fire had began to surge
and here in a stretch miles wide and of a length which the naked eye could not
determine rushed a ne new fire surge, from that distance like the sluiceway of
a dam of fiery matter.This new fire only ten miles south of the observors quickly
spread into a fiery sea, with speed up the slopes estimated by Starring as probably
more than fourty miles an hour.At that distance the fire stretch of course appeard
far narrower than it really was at its first formation, with many uprising waves,

and bright surges along its own left. As the wind was off tward the observors
from that direction the heat sometimes became almost intolerable, and they were
forced to babeat a quick retreat. The flames was pouring across the River within
view at this section, and the rangers obtained one glimpse of the flames before
a sudden black shoot of cloud shut it from view.A large stretch of heavy white hot
lava could not have looked any more fascinating.The upris uprush of smoke clouds
at this point, where the flames was sueing up a whole line of slopes seemingly
at once, carried up big branches of trees, and a blinding shower of flaming embers
and sparks showing the force u of the uprushing currents.Some places the flames
played in the clouds like red shoot lightning.When they view the scene nearer with
field glasses they could observe great rafts of hillside rocks, red hot or black or
red below and black above rolling down into a ravine, either smoothly or rolling
over and over showing the terrific heat of the flames almost melting even the
biggest rocks on the hillsides. The color effects of the conflagration through
the immense smoke clouds were sometimes gorgeous beyond description.Over the
highest clouds at times rose sheets of red and even strangely to say purple and
vermillion green and blue flames topped with lilac fume, against a black, or
blue gray bl background.' Elsewhere rose the great buff-colored volutes of cloud
with individual billows, black, white, coffee colored, brown, gray , cream color,
and black sash.All of this was backed by an further distant Columi Nimbus like
yellow and dark gray cloud.

While observing it only ten minutes the great scene had by that time vastly
increased, and the noise had changed from a mild hi s hissing and other kind of
roar to a loud thundering booming.The fires onthe hills increased in size and height
untill the whole series of hills began one gigantic line of conflagrations.
When the wind was strong strange gases quite different from the smoke of the
conflagration which had been suffocating in volume but still somewhat tolerable
with the aid of a wet cloth over the no strils would be whifted over to them, and
they corroded the eyes tissues, and gripped the lungs so as to instaneously
stopped stop all breathing. A wet cloth would produce no improvement whatever,
and there was no possibilitiy of coming too near the smoke belt of the fire and
surviving unless with an oxygen helmet.As Walter had great anxiety which continued
unrelieved by any complete information as to what was transpiring on the ridges west
of them, they made an excursion around to the east side of their observation
post t in order to compar compare conditions with what had been observed in the
earlier stages of the conflagration there.A line of fire was observed at this point
rising in places cloud high above the surrounding country, darkened by clouds as
fierce as a Man Hauna Loa eruption for three times the height of all the mountains.
Over the high summit of the nearest ridge and through the half of the valley beyond
the flames would shoot up in their red sheeted tongues through smoke clouds like
a beginning of a burning world, which rushed on up two immense slopes in an endless
climbing avalanch of fire.The wind on this hot surface and before its advance set
up every now and then small or big tornadoes of fire and smoke lasting from half
an hour to several minutes, moving along the slope and tearing up all the branches
of trees in violent noisy whirls. Taking advantage of the wind at this section
being tward the fire inst ad of from it, Starring climbed a spur on the same side in
order to get a better and clearer view of the Red Plague by as close an approach
as possible.It was necessary to clamber up a slope, where trees and ground felt
unusally warm from the radiance of heat from the distant conflagration which made
him sweat like having a Turkish Bath.Here on this spur he saw gigantic surges
of flames surging forward and upward, and suddenly from somewhere to his surprise
rose a geyser of fiery fragments of trees two hundred feet above the summit,
which evidently told him the fire had exploded something.It was evident from
occassional changes in the direction of the wind, that the greatest heat radiance
from even that distance of the conflagration might at any moment be turned in
his direction, so that it required quick work to get to the summit of the hill, and
get to a sheltered spot on the other side where he would not need to sweat himself
to " death".The sensation of incessantly looked down in valleys over plains and
mountain slopes at that towering sea of flames, and calculating its movements,
with the heat almost insupportable, and the noise uncal uncanny was an experience
never to be forgotten.He succeeded however in getting to the summit, and taking
a look down into the flaming valley below.It all had to be done in much less time
than it takes to tell it in a few words, for a very few seconds of the rising
heat would have ruined his face.A The wall of the spur made a reflector for the
heat , so that but for the wind at his back, it is doubtful whether he would have
reached the edge at all.The valley below where the fire only smouldered after
burning down the r trees was like an ornormous volcanic crater, the seething
flames elsewhere being impelled continuously forward by the wind driving it on
in glowing surges.The whole valley was ablaze and the flames were quite as fierce
in appearance as any sea storm and the fire roaring and thundering, quickly put
one in mind of getting a downward glimpse of the Infernal Regions.

Inc

There was a smaller interior valley which was like some titanic pon chalice of fiery smoking embers, and which looked like a big sea of smouldering coals, with loops of flame like geyser jets flying back and forth. So fascinating was the scene that Starring felt desirable to tarry several days around this section, but it would be extremely dangerous. Further off but in full view could be observed a moving and frightful " desert of flames, the creation and the prey of the mightiest of fires ever heard or written of, dominating every other view, and towering up slopes and hilltops in huge mountains of fire. The whole conflagration was composing itself into a great sea of fire, spreading apparently in all directions.

Now however when Starring decided it was about time for him to continue on his journey withnhis followers he for a while was a m somewhat taken aback.

The whole region before him was a worse than even the Valley of the Shadow of Death through which Christian passed through. Starring and his followers if they wished to find their way to general Johnstons Jackken Manleys army had to go through with the danger of meeting these terrible forest fires from three sides. Now this valley being the extreme northeast section of the great Imperial Valley was a very thickly forested place, a wilderness of trees, yet a land of extreme beauty, a place of surpassing interest, but now with the forest fire soon to threaten it if the wind should change direction was to be a valley of death. Starring feared to take the chances but he had waited so long or stayed so long with the Rangers thatnow now there was no other way, and to remain another day would mean disaster for them all.

Even all the rangers were now worse off than in their fights with the fire. Starring and all the rest prayed fervently that the fire would remain on its own proper course and not head for this valley. When they had descended to the borders of this beautiful valley there met him a group of men making a hasty retrat retreat in his direction. Starring was surprised and somewhat apprehensive, and asked them asked them;;;;..;;;;;;;;;88

"Where in the world are you men going?"

"We are going back out of this valley, and you and your comrades are wise in doing so too if either life of health is prized by you."

"Why what is the matter."?""""""Demanded Starring."

"What is the matter you say?" said one of them" "We were goinghthe same way s as you are going, and went for about half a mile, and indeed sir we a were almost beyond our chances of coming back, for had we gone a little further, wewould not be here to bring the news to you."

"But what did you see?What is it you encountered?" asked one of Starrings follows followers.

"When we were almost half a mile in this valley, but that by good luck we happened to look before us and saw the dangers before we came to it?"

"But " said Starring impatiently" what have you seen. For the love of Mike speak plainly, not in riddles."

"Seen, why the fire is spreading north of the valley itself, the smokecoverhead it making it as dark as pitch, we heard also in the valley a continual howling and yelling as of many fugitive animals and over the whole region hangs the discouraging scenes and confusion brought on by the fire, in a word it is beyond measure dreadful being utterly without order. The fire is flanking the valley."

"But" said Starrings I perciever not yet by what you have said and seen, but we must go through this way if we have to fight our way through the fire."

"Well" said one of the men" be it thy own will, we will not choose it for ours."

so they parted, and Starring, his followers and all the rangers went on on their way. On the right of the valley there was a long deep and wide ravine. Again on the the opposite side there was a very large and dangerous quag of oily tar. The tar if it caught fire surely would smoke the valley out. The ravine ran for miles and Starring and his followers decided if there was immediate danger to seek shelter in the ditch and fight for their lives there. The pathway too between ravine and the tar quag was only about ten feet wide. It was quite narrw nnarrow at some places , and also as the heat of the advancingconflagration was growing grene greater and greater, Starring became more and more worried, and even it began to grow so dark and smoky that when he sought in the darkness to see where he and his comp anions were going he and any others of them were in danger of either falling head first into the ravine or tip over into the mire into which if any one falls and no one is around to help him he can find no bottm bottom. Thus he and his companions went on, and once in a while of o one of them would sigh bitterly, for besides the dangers ment ioned which they faced in the ever increasing darkness, the pathway in some places was so dark that very often when they lifted their foot to set forward they new not where or upon what they should set it next. nextt.

Some places afar off scenes broke out as if a great number of mouths of hell suddenly appeared, and ever anon and anon the flame and smoke rose upward in such abundance, with clouds of sparks, and sheets of flame and hedious noises, that Starring and all those who followed him were forced to Pray with all the power they could infuse in praying..One of the Rangers cried out loudly;;;;;;;

"Oh sacred Heart of Jesus I beseech Thee deliver us from unseenn perilss."

Thus they went on a great while, yet still it seemr as if flames would sear the patches of trees nearest to them and reach tward the adventurers, also they heard strange doleful noises and rushing sounds seemingly to and iro, so that sometimes they feared a wind would come up that wouldet a would tear the forest to pieces and overwhelm the whole region in a sea of flame in h which there would be no escape but the ravine. These frightful lights was observed, and these dreadful noises noises were heard by them for several miles or more altogether, and coming to a place where he thought he heard an extra rear of the conflagration coming tward him and the rest,, he shouted to them to halt, and then stopped and began to muse whether they all should seek the ravine now in the dark or go on..Sometimes he was tempted to retrace his steps. Then again he thought he might be half way through the valley, he remembered also how he had already vanquished many a danger, and that the danger of going back might be tenfold more than to go forward, so he resolved to go on. Yet the roaring flames now showing themselves in a long rising clouds of shooted tongues seemed to come nearer, and nearer, but when they were come within a mile of them, they came no further but changed course and went in tward the heart of the forest. The heat it gave forth however was terrific.

The noise of the conflagration was so confounding that Starring and all those,, with him were so confused that they did not know their own voice,, as any one c could could have perciever. Just as they halted to watch the forward progress of the seas of flame and wondered where all the noises came from...

.One of the Rangers who was behind him, stepped up softly to him and whispering in his ear suggested some plans to him. It was hard to make up his mind, for this situation which he met with was something never in his life before, even to think that it seemes as if the whole world was on fire and he and his followers were facing a hellish d scene and yet not participing in it, not could he haved helped it, he would not have doe it done it, but he had not the discretion to dare to go back, even though he did not know from whence the wings of the forst forest fires came.

When they had all traveled in this fearsome and disconsolate c condition for about three hours,, they th ought they heard the voice of some man going before them saying;

"Though I walk through The valley Of The shadow Of Death, I will fear no evil for Thou art with me.".....

They all then felt before cheerful and that for these reasons, if there can be any.,First because they gathered that so e one who could act as a guide and knew the dangerous valley, were going through this valley as well as themselves. secondly for he and they perciever that even now God was with them,though in that dark and hellish dismal stae state, and why not thought hewith us though by reason of the impediment that attend this fire threatened valley, they cannot perciever it?

Thirdly , for that they hoped(could they overtake them) to have more reinforcements reinforcements by and by(providing they were not enemies?0) so they went on, and shouted and called to those who they heard in front of them, but there was no answer. By and by a bright glare rose in the sky turning the valley almost as bright as day. With the sudden light manesfesting itself, They all looked back to see why the glare, and what hazards they had gone through in the dark.

Evidently he and his followers saw by the help of the terrific glare more perfectly perfectly the large ravine that was one the one side of the narrow roadway, and the big tar quag that was on the other, also how narrow the way was which lay between them both, and also he now saw, scenes as of the main entrance of the hell p pit, but all afar off, for the flames were not as near as at first supposed yet they were all revealed to him by the g light of the flames.

Yet Starring was much affected with his unusual deliverance from all the day dangers of the fire swept Imperial valley, which dangers though he and his companions feared them more before yet he and they saw the perils more clearly now, because the glaring lights of the conflagration made them more than ever reveal themselves to him, and by this time the distant flames was rising higher and higher, and the increasing lights was another mery mercy to the adventurers for though the first part of the Imperial valley was dangerous because of the near possible fact of the fire changing course and sweeping right on them, yet the other section of the valley with which he and his companions were yet to go through was far possible more in danger of the fireses the formation of the valley and its course at this section turned in such a direction that if there was the slighrest slightest change in the direction of the wind, they'd never escape and they were far from the big gully or ravine by now. And also it was a long ago left snars by the retreating enemy who after the Evangeline St Clare horror left snares, traps, gins, and nets here, and filled so full of pits covered over with brush, deep holes, and se shelvings, that had it been dark, as it was when they went through the first part of it, had he had a thousand hundred men with him they would have been caught and injured badly or killed, and his trip would have to be abandoned.

Taking advantage of this fire glare they continued on cautiously and after two hours finally came to the end of the valley. Here they came upon bones and skelentons of men and animals, and mangled bodies of men, evidently some victims of a cutasrphe not found till now, probably of some party of soldiers that had gone rh this way formerly, and while Wal Walter Starring was musing what should be the reason, he copied before him the results of some explosions by which they evidently had been killed. Yet by this section the adventurers went without danger, whereas they much wondered. Lots of animals were flaying past ..

Starring and his followers continued on their way, yet at the greysome sight

The hey could not tell themselves what to think, especially because a mysterious, explosion o killed them. And there was no one in sight. It might be they had lain dead a few days only partly eaten by wolves, and as for the horses, though one be yet a little alive they could not hardly move.

Now as Starring and his followers continued on their way, they ascended another hill. Up the slopes they therefore went, the Rangers now remaining behind to do more work against the probable turn of the fire in this locality. When they reached the summit they saw a young boy and girl scout going before them on horseback.

Who it was no one would say riding with the girl scout, but Starring called aloud;

" Stay and we will be your companions."

At that the boy scout looked behind him, to whom Starring cried again;"Stay , stay till I come to you."

"At that the boy answered."Come on, but hurry, for we have no time to waste. The fires are spreading behind us."

At this Starring was somewhat moved, and he and his comrade companions putting to all their their strength, they did quickly catch up with the gir and boy scout,, but Starring no not taking good heed to hees feet, he suddenly stumbled and fell, and could not rise again untill one of the men came up to help him.....

Then they still continued on their way with the two scouts, and then had some,, conversation,, of all things that had happened since first starting out, and thus Starring himself began;;;;;

"It seems a wonder to be able to overtake two child scouts of your age out herevin a dangerous fire threatened wilderness, and as God has brought us together, we can continue on as companions in this as dangerous a path untill He sees fit to brings us through and into a safer spot.."

"I had thought sir Starring, that you as and your followers were out here and were searching for you, but you did get the good start of us, wherefore we were forced to search and search and come this much of the way alone. The Vivian Girls sent us to be your guides as we know the country well. Had we found you you would not have faced such troubles as you did."

"How long did you stay in general Vivians lines, before you were sent out to looked for me!"?" ?!!!"Asked Starring.

"As soon as they gave me the advice to go forth, for there was great talk presently and after you were gone away that the whole country side would in a short time be one vast conflagration and as the Glandelinian camp in which they were working to secure the information they sent you for were destroyed, and they had to go, for their own safty, they set us. I'm Jennie or Angeline Vience, and the boy with me is Radcliffe."

"What did the camps under Manley get struck by the fire.!"

"Yes. Was a terrible disaster. But all of us escaped. Violet and her sisters are again with general Vivion."

"Did everybody talk so about the ravages of the forest fires."?

"Yes. It is in every ones mouth. Especially the peril you might be in. Violet and her sisters were greatly worried."

"What! And did no more of them but you come out to search for me?'"

"Well, though there was as I said, a great talk thereabout, yet I do not think think any as but violet and her sisters firmly believed it at first. For in the heat of the discourse, I heard some of them speak of you and your desperate journey as a journey through the regions of hell, but violet and her sisters did believe and do still, that the whole countryside will be swept away, by the worse forest fires on record, and therefore they sent me and the boyscout to look for you. Instead of we finding you, you found us."

"Dear you hear of any talk whether general Vivians army was in the path of any fires or not. I heard the fire crossed at Sound pend and the armies were encamped somewhere northeast of it?"

"Yes, but he escaped after a hard fight. But I am sure his army had a thrilling tim time of it. In his own thrilling escape general Vivian was caught in some sort of a bog, having fallen in in his excitement, and though he got out himself he was covered with the mud. But he pulled his army through the danger zone. It was like a fight through the infernal regions."

"And what said many of the officers about it."?Asked Starring.

"They saythat it is probable that even Violet and her sisters did not know what they were doing when they sent you out on this long adventure, that the very elements may be greatly in derision, and that with the War torn states ten times worse than before you are sent on sucide in your mission//"""""

"But why should every one be so set against my mission for Violet, and her sisyers Violet and her sisters, since it is the only hope I believe for the winning of the cause.!!!!!!"

"Oh"they say" you are too venturesome for a general when others could have taken your place and you should havecremained with your command."

"Had you no talk with violet, or her sisters since the fire struck general Manleys camps."

"No" We were seperated during, the confusion....."

"Had you any talk with any of the glandelinian generals before you came out of the camp."

"I met some of them during the confusion in the company streets, but they were too busy conducting the retreat, and did not converse with any of them. at all.""

''W ll I declare Jennie.''Violet exclaimed with almost a hu laugh.''We are in a pretty fix I can tell you that and we haven't the least h dea either how we are going to get out if its''

As if to add to their trou A troubles the night was now creeping on and gray clouds which had overspread the sky was changing to inky blackness. But the sound of the distant battle had stopped and the slight breeze of wind that had been blowing had wifted the smoke away and the little waves of the creek began to quiet down and not be quite so rough.

It was luvky for violet and her sisters I think that the horses had ra ran away in fright and taken the wagon with them or otherwise violet and her sisters might have been killed as a she, shell would have hit the wagon and exploded the ammunition boxes in the wagon. Many little girls and boys in the place of vio let and her siters might have wept and screamed or even given way to despair, but because violet and her sisters had encountered so many adventures and perils and come safty saftly through them it did not occur to them at all to be even the least bit afraid even when they were in a wagon loaded with boxes of bombs and cartridges and even dynimate. The little girls were wet and uncomfortable it was true but after sighing once they managed to recalled some of their customary cheerfullyness and decided to wait patiently whatever their fate might be.

By and by the clouds rolled away and showed a clearer sky overhead, with a large full silvery moon sining shining brightly and sweetly in the middle of a large rift in the clouds and little stars winked merrily at violet and her sisters when the little girls looked their way. The raft did not toss much any more now but was moving along gently and quietly so that the floor upon which the little girls stood or sat was not any more being swee swept by splashes of water coming through the wagon side slaths. Seeing this and indeed being quite exhausted by the excitement of the past two days the little girls decided among themselves that sleep and rest would be the best thing to restore their strength and the easi est way and they could pa pass the time. The floor of the raft was damp and the little girls were themselves wringing wet but fortunately the day and night had been warm and sultry and nei neither of the little girls felt cold or chilly.

As there were too many of them to lay down they had to sit as comfortably as possible but nevertheless it was not long before any of them were fully fast asleep and floating down the stream as if on a large rocking cradle.

A most peculiar and still more strange noise awoke first violet and her sisters afterwards, and violet and Jennie who first awp awoke opened their eyes and found h that day had dawned, and the summer sun was shining brightly in a beautifully clear and blue sky. Violet herself had been dreaming that she and her sisters were back in the christian encampments again and playi g with gertrude Angeline and her other friends and with the boyscouts and even officers and generals and at first as she herself rubbed the sleep from her eyes she really imagined she was there with her sisters still.

''Hallo little goils. what ye doing here on the wagon bottom.''?

''Ah here was the strange sound of a still stranger voice again that had awakened violet and her sisters. Surely it must be a man or a boy speaking. But her wide open eyes first saw through the wagon slats still adherring to the bott m the blue and green waves of the stream of water now calm and placid like it should be, and her thoughts flew back to the past night so full of danger and much discomfort. Also after looking more carefully she began to remember or discover at least that she and her sisters were still f g fugitives of a past battle and now adrift probably upon a strange and treacherous river of much immense width for now they were not on any creek for the land on both sides was far away.

''I say little goils what ye doing here on the wagon bottom?''

Demanded the voice more firmly.

''What's that.''!!''Cried violet starting to her feet and looking at her sisters who was beginning to stir.

''Why I just discovered you on this wagon botom floating on the river that's all.''Replied a stern grim and manly voice but sharp and distinct and looking around her Violet discovered a tall man standing upon the bottom seat of an immense river rowboat wearing a yellow coat and blue pants while a little pretty bobbed haired boy was siting on the other end of the boat.

''Dear me'' he exclaimed in great surprise'U''H ve you been afloat on the river all night too.''?

''Indeed not.'' answered the man still roving tward the raft to get closer and yawning. ''Early this morning I and this little son of mine were persued by rebels and escaped byour boat and while rowing down the river I discovered the wagon bottom floating tward us and wishing to see what was up discovered you on it with your little companions and strove for ten minutes to try and awaken you little girls. The wagon bottom was floating on a small sand bar and was tipping and so I had come with the purpose to take you off or tow you to shore for I knew if you little girls fell in the water while sound asleep you would surely be drowned. Indeed I nearly drowned myself and my little boy as it was inattempting to overcome the raft you are on and nearly captized my boat. I never found y little children so wet in my life and even sound asleep. Are you not cold.!''

''Yes''agreed violet as she shook Jennie and her other sisters''It was pretty wet for us all at least for a time you know.''

''But do you feel more comfortable now!''''''Asked the man.

''Not very.'' The morning sun has of course helped to dry my dress as it seems to have done to the dresses of my sistershere but I feel better in mind yesterday evening. We happened to be in this plight on account of a fight and of two runaway horses. But what's to become of us I should like to know now afloat on this bi unknown rivers ! What river is it sire?''

''It is the Porra una.''Said the soldier.''But I'd like to know what is to become of us too. But nevertheless I'm going to tow you ashore as this raft of a wagon bottom won't float much longer I'm sure.But tell me how does it happen that pretty little girls like you so young and delicate looking happen to be able to pass through such a night like this without even being afraid. You don't seem to show even the slightest fear .''I expected to see you cry and scream as s on as you would wake up.''

''Why as for that''Answered Jennie herself r thoughtfully as she slowly aw arose''I have gone through one thrilling adventure after another with my sisters and never knew that there was anything to be afraid of especially that I can remember except sin. But when you asked my sister Violet a question a minute ago when you awoke us it seemed the most natural thing to answer you. o we spoke and we seem to keep on feeling no fear just as you mentioned to her a moment ago.Strange isn't it.''

''Very''Replied Violet herselff.''If we were not going through all our adventures in this land of Galverinia where there is no much trouble going on I or my sisters would not think it so q queer, because many of us Angelinians have no fear whatever tha that we can remember. But also out here in this big river we must be a long way off from Julio Gallio by this time I'm sure.''

''How is it that you suffered from a runaw runaway and got in this condition?''Asked the man tying the rope to the raft from his boat and looking anxiously and lovingly at the little girls. ''no I speak properly without too much curiousity in your judgement.''?

''Yes.''Said Violet while her sisters looked on.''you do very well, for a new found friend.''And she told him all about their experience of the in evening and night before and confessed to him who they were . He was fully astonished at being confronted abou by the Vivian Girls who he happened to have heard about and he said joyiously;

''I'm glad indeed to know that I'm in the presence of the daughters of Governer General Vivian and that I can atleast be of some service to them.''He continued with a salute of respect and in a confidential tone.''Because if one is going to have further adventures like I expect it is best to have it in company and o not onlyone or two. This little boy is my son andmay have often said that my son and my daughter were quite perfect in ways and manners and now it is a cof comfort to know that I have come within contact with the brave Heroines of Angelinia at last. A thing I prayed for for a long time and finally gor got answered.

''Not p paying any attention to his pr praise Violet remarked;

''I'm beginning to get hungry and probably so are my sisters. It's breakfast time but there is to be no breakfast for us yet.''

''You may have some of my pro iprovisions I have in my vboat.''Said the man. ''We have enough for a while and I would not like to see you little goils g go hungry.''

''Don't you want tosave it unless untill you need it?''Asked the little girls in surprise.''We can wait for a while.We are hungry but not starving as we were only one night on this things.''

''No indeed.'' Answered the man.''If you little goils are hungry you should eat.I never care to let any of my friends go hungry unless I have nothing myself and then it cant be helped. Th ere is thirteen boxes of food in my boat which I secured from the wheeler Gendelinian encampments and its a lucky number for us since I found you here on the wagon bottom. So you may as well take away your hunger and eat something in one of these boxes.

''Oh I or my sisters could not possibly eat it untill we get ashore.''Exclaimed Joice.''I'm much obliged for your kindness to us and will wait if you dont mind.''

''Don't mention it my dear little goils.''Answered the man calmly and began rowing with all his speed while his little boy and girl who also appeared from under a seat rylooked at the little girls with great admiration and curiousity. For a moment Violet and her ever her sisters st o stood looking out over th the wide expanse of water. She and her sisters were still thinking of the food boxes so presently Violet again asked.

''Why did you bring all those provisions on one boat when you dont expect to remain on the water very long.''

''It is not all eatables.''Replied the man.''Only two boxes are food.The others have ammunition, that is bullets.It has always been my pride to do something for my f country and so has it been for by boy and girl here and so I thought I would need it in case I found some soldier refugees or escaped child slaves or other fugitives.I never feel like being happy or contented till my hopes are realized and without the chance of doing something for my country I I or my son and daughter would not be happy. Thelittle girl is seven years old and the boy is ten.''

''It is strange.''Said Hettie reflectively''But as I'm not a soldier I cannot expect to understand that.''

''Im coursenot my little dears.''

Then Violet and even her sisters fell silent again if you please to mention. The man and his two children was some company, and a big of comfort too; but it was dreadfu lly lonesome on the big river nevertheless.

After a very short time thereon himself stood up and looked in several directions while his little daughter fairly perched upp upon the torment part of the boats runway which was a little higher than the raft which was being towed aboreard. Violet and her sisters having nothing else to do had been all sitting down close together upontho bottom for some remarks past.

''Why we are not far away from land now.''Exclaimed the little h girl herself looking at her pap earnestly.

''Where here is it little girl.''?Cried joice jumping up in great excitement and nearly trip ing o ver one of her sisters and tossing the raft almost dangerously and causing her sisters to warn her to be ca reful.

''Over there a little way.''Answered the boatmans daughter pointing her little finger in a certain direction.''The we are going tward it now so that before long we ought to be on shore again.''

''We are reaching the shore.' Declared the man and by noon at least we ought to find ourselves upon dry land again.''

''I shall like that but we have to be careful of enemies.''Said Angeline with a little sigh for her feet and legs and also of those of her sisterswere still wetted now and then by the river water that came through the bottom of the raft.

''So shall we.''Answered her sisters.''There is nothing so miserable in the world than to have feet and legs wet.''

The river shore which they seemed to be rapidly approaching since it grew more distinct every minute was quite beautiful as viewed by the little girls on the floating and towed wagon bottom raft . Next to the western side of the river was a bo broad beach of white sand and even grave, gravel and distant houses and further back where forests and high foothills while beyond these a trip of different i kind of fir and pine and evergreen trees marked the edge of a Galverinian forest.There were also many houses half in ruins to be seen but there was noeign of any christians or any one else.who might inhabit this part of the Galverinia region which was north of Vivian Pickey.

''I hope we shall be able to find something to eat and then the man can can save his little provisions.''Said Jennie looking e eagerly at the pretty river beach tward w which they were being towed.''It is long past breakfast time now.''

''I'm a trifle hungry myself.''Declared the man himself.

''Why dont you he eat what you have in your box then?''Asked he his own child.

''No I cannot stop to eat now.''Criedthe man impatiently.''I do not want to stop rowing now or the current or of the river wi ll pull us out again.''

''I beg your pardon sir, I'm sure Mr, Mr, by the name may I inquire your name sir?''''Asked the little girl.

''My name is William Gauter.''Said the man somewhat gruffly.

''William? Why that is an english name and not Angelinian.''

''What differences does that make little goil.''

''Oh In course I am.''But when I first came into the world my mother gave me that name for no one could tell where whether I was going to be a boyor girl so my parents after I was born called me William and many of my friends made a pet of me because I was the only real Angelinian without an Angelinian name. When I grew up and when I found that i I did not care to quarrel or fight with any one as all boys usually do, and girls too, my paprents did not think it probable to hon change my name and every creature now know me as Whillions.so Williams I have always been called and Williams is my name.'

''But it is certainly all wrong you know.''Declared joice very earnestly earnestly'' nd if you certainly don 't mind I shall call you u only Gauter.It sounds better for an Angelinian you see.''

''Oh I dont mind it in the least.''Returned the man as they were now close to the shore.''It does not matter at all what you call me so long as I know the name means you are talking to me.''

''Very well.Gauter.My name is Joice Vivian and these are my sisters--just Vivian Girls to my friends and Miss Vivian to strangers. You may call us by our first names if you like.We are now getting very near to the shore. Do you s suppose it is too deep for us girls to wade the restof the way or swim to the shore. We can swim you know.''

''Wait a few minutes longer.''As Advised the man. I don't l like to see you wet o your clothes again and the sunshine is warm and pleasant, and also we are surely not in any hurry whatever.'

''But our feet are all wet and soggy.''Said the little girl'' ns so are those of my sisters.''Our dresses are dry enough to be sure but we don't feel right untill we get completely dried foot and top together.''

The little Vivian girls waited however as the man adi advised and before long the boat had reached the shore and the man and two children got out and grabbing the rope started h uling the wagon bottom as near to them as possible and soon the peo peculiar raft grated gently on dry land entirely and the dangerous river trip was entirely o ver for the time bwing. It did not take the fugitives long to reach the river shore you may be sure. The little girls got off the raft at once and soon all were safe ashore dfa drawing off their shoes and stockings and spreading them upon the sun warmed stones to dry. Then they sat down and watched the two other children as the man went off to see where he could place them all, the two children digging away with their hands in the sand and gravel which they scratched up and started making m sand pies out of.

''Oh what are you doing?''Asked Jennie.''

' Making sand pies of course.''murmured the boy briskly working away.

''What do you find in making such things as sand pies?''Inquired the little girl in a curious tone.

''Oh just to find something to do so that I can see ants and bugs and other thin s things mingle in the sand and the like. they make a very sweet and niv nice sand pie I assure you.''

''How dreadful it is indeed.''Exclaimed Violet in a shocked voice.

''What is so dreadful?''Asked the boy lifting his head to gaze at the little Vivian Girl with his bright eyes.

''Why putting live things and bugs and ants in a sandpie full of water. It is cruel. You should and ought to be ashamed of yourselve little boy.''

''Goodness me.'' said the boy in a puzzled tone.''How queer you Vivian Girls are Violet.''Live things won't die in a little sand pie and surely when you make mud pies of your own you put all sort of insects in them don't you.''

''No we don't indeed do no such a thing.''Said Violet.

''You do indeed.'' answered the boy.''I believe you even put flies, and grasshoppers and even birds in sand pies.''

''If we did we don't remember it.''Said Violet triumphantly.

''What difference does that make.''?

''A good deal ''answered the Vivian Girl in a graver tone''There are many things a person did when they were very young which they could never know or remember when they grow older. Of course I or neither my sisters cannot really explian the difference but it is there anyhow. And anyhow we would never put such thin s as insects in sand and mud pies. It is cruel.''

''But we don't intend to do it to be cruel.''Stated the boy with an odd look.

''So we are not doing anything wrong little girl.''

This made Violet and even her sisters very thoughtful. What the little boy said was truthful enough and strange enough to say the sight of the sandpies with all kinds of peculiar insects crawling among the watery substance almost took away their appetite for breakfast at that. As for the boy and his little sister they continued to work on the sand p ies and indeed seemed quite contented with their play .

Finally down near a small rock at the edge of a tree stump the little girl Violet herself in picking up a small stone she saw which looked curious drew her hand back and shivered. Her finger was cut and bleeding.

''Ow'' he cried.''I struck metal or something sotp that time, and it nearly cut off my fin e finger off at that.''

''It probably was a sharp stone.''Said Jennie carelessly.

''Nonsense. I know a rock or stone from metal and something sharp to cut you with I guess ''he answered. ''And there is a large cut on my little finger of my right hand.''

''But there surely could not be anything like sharp metal or knives on this wild deserted river shore I'm sure.''Persi persisted joice herself.''There's the place sister.! I'll dug it up with a piece of stick and prove to you I'm right.'''

Violet showed her sister the place where she had cut her finger and Joice and Jennie dug away the dirt and sand untill they felt something hard deep in it. Then thrusting in the stick deeper they drew the thing out and discovered it to be a small cutlass, rather old but still bright, pf ps of perfect shape and as sharp as a sword.

''What did I tell you.''''Cried Violet with a smile of triumph.''Can I tell something like a knife when my finger gets cut in on it, or in the cutlass something like a rock.''??''

''It is a cutlass sure enough.''answered the princesses gazing thoughtfully at the curious sabre she and her sisters had found.''I think the cutlass was made of pure gold or stell astcel coated with gold and it must have lain in the sand or graven gravel a very long time. How do you suppose it came there Violet. And what do you suppose this mysterious cut lass was used for?''

''I can't say.''Replied Violet.''You being older Joice ought to know more about golden cutlasses and swords more than we even do.''

Joice glanced around.There was no sign of a house or even an encampment in that part of the Calverinian country and the little girls finally reasoned that every sabre and cutlass fitted its own scabbard and every sabre and cutlass must have its own purpose for use. Perhaps the sabre was lost by some rebel soldier of Angelinian during a conflict somewhere and the soldier who may have been wounded w unto death wandered to the very place and buried it so no one would find it. Musing on these things Violet herself claimed the cutlass as she had found it found it and put the sabre in between the band of her dress and then she and her sisters slowly drew on her their shoes and stockings which the sun and warm rocks had fully dried. .

''I believe Joice''he said as the man was coming back''We'll all have a look around and see if we all k can find some christian encampment.''

Trotting almost a mile from the shore of the river but still walking along the waters edge so as not to be too far from the river the little boy whoaccompained his father and sister and the Vivian Girls came to a flat stretch of land covered with velvety grass and the boy looking down s saw a handkerchief lying there.He picked it up and saw that the cloth had some queer letters or engravings upon it just as one would r write a code upon a piece of paper.

''What does it say?''He asked Jennie who he came up to and who was trotting along ni with her sisters in a rather dignified fashion.

''You surely ought to know.''he answered pleadingly.

''How should I know what it is?''Returned the boy reproachfully.''I cannot read it''.

''Oh can't you.?''

''Certainly not.I have never been nisehool long enough yet to read letes yet.''

''Well I have .''Ad i admitted violet''and she took the handkerchief.As she looked at it she gave a surprised exclamation.

''Why it is a code and the strange letters are very big and far apart and it's hard to spell out the words.''She said.I'll have to examine it.It ma'be something worth the finding.''

So they continued on their way she looked at each letter carefully and finally discovered(As who could use cut codes) that these words were written in strange letters on the handkerchief;

''BEware of the Vivian Girls. They are dangerous spies. Beware of the Vivian Girls. Look out for them.

Signed the wheeler Landelinians.''

''That is rather strange.''Declared the bashful boy when Violet had read aloud the words.''What do you suppose the Wheeler Landelinians are. Folks that wheel baby carriages or her hand carts.''?

''Perhaps they are men and women to have automobiles and other machines''suggested his little sister.''There is no need to beware of such things except automoboles which are extremely dangerous things. Several of my friends a boy and girl were run over by one of them.''

''They are not automobiles or any one who push baby cabs and the like.''Replied Violet whose they all truded on recognized that this part of Calverinia was a new wild country to them, without even tracks and trolly cars or even topephone wires''The Wheelers have not seen us yet I'm sure that is we think they didn't . So I don't think we need fear of danger. And she explained to the boy and girl what the Wheeler Landelinians were. They were Gargoylions but which wore onthe front of their robe a design of a wheel and thus recieved their name from that.

''Perhaps not.'''Admitted the man.''But where are wegoing now?''

''We think of going over to some of the woods so to see if we cannot find out way to some christian camp.'' answered Jennie.

The whole party tramped across the meadow, skirting o the foot of one of the smaller but rocky hills that stood near, and soon reached the edge of the forest. At first they were greatly disappointed because there was no encampment within sight, all the trees being pumtts or c' cottonwood or what you usually call eucalp eucalyptus and at no distance c ould they even see the sign of a single house. Everything was woods. But bye and bye, when they were almost in despair, the little girls and the rest of the party came upon two distance houses that promished to furnish them with shelter and allow them a chance to eat some breakfast.The man had drew out of the boxes the cartridge belts and placed them around himself and what was left around the little girls and even his son and the other boxes were paper boxes of food, but now as they proceeded tward th the houses Violet thought she saw far in the distance full square shaped tents which stood in great clusters in all directions and in the font of the tents stood the biggest and largest house like tent. The trees which were of all kinds in the woods seemed to be a a forest indeed bordered by a dinst distance encampment for look where they sill there were all kinds of tents and further off from the ren main camp tiny little huts and tents were to be seen that were quite green in color. The color of most of the bigger tents were of paper napkins and the encampment when they drew nearer presented a very plean pleasing appearance to the hungry little girls. But after a while they saw further off to the right another encampment which was even more wonderful for it bore immense quantities of batteries, and within were cities of barracks and other army houses and there were so many tents that the little girls could not count them all . Over some of the furthest branches were blankets slung so heav y that the branches bent underneath their weight. Some of the big barracks buildings were dark brown in color, these still larger were of a dull tin color, but the others were if or seemed to be coated with bright tin that shone and glistened beautifully in the rays of sunshine that touched them. Violet and her sisters were delighted, and even the man who had rowed them to shore acknowledged he was delighted and surprised but cautioned them to be careful as he knee from the shape and color of the tents it was a rebel encampment of some sort.

Nearing the house however the party finding it empty went in and the little girls recieved the nicest of the lunch boxes from the man and then they sat down on the chairs found in the row room and eagerly opened the boxes. Inside they found nicely wrapped in paper and cloth, han ham sandwitches, pieces of cake, of three flavors,-picke pickles pie, cream and swiss cheese and ap apples and or n oranges. Every box cont i contained exactly the same but the little girls found the food very delicious and they ate every bit of the luncheion in the boxes before they had finished.

' L A lunch of this kind is not really a breakfast fo for us girls.'' said Hettie to the manwho sat near her and her sisters curiously watching.' But when we are hungry we can even eat anything and not complain.''

''I hope you did not eat too much.''Observed the man in an anxious tone.''So much sickness is caused by overeating.''

''Oh we are sure we did not eat too much at that.''Declared Daisy.''We however did not eat the pickles as it they are green and we don't like anything that is sour or sweet and sour combined. But everything else tasted perfectly splendid

and we would rather have this than a regular arrangement. And now I think sister if you don't mind we can save the rest of to the food so we will have it when we get hungry again, and now we'll start out and explore the encampment at a safe distance and see where we really are.''

''Have you not any idea what part of the Galvardinian country we are in?''Inquired Catherine herself of her sister.

''None at all.But listen.I'm quite sure we are somewhere north or south of Vivian Wiskey as this is the normal river and we remember last night we drifted northward on the creek. At least if we were not we could not come across an encampment of the enemy so soon. Besides Cathy being in this part we would not be able to get through a water way route like we did without danger if we had been going north.I bet we are south.''

''Perhaps we are in the state of Om Ozma.''Said violet thoughtfully.I''It is south of Vivian Wiskey''

''No that can't be.''Answered her little sister''Because I have been all through parts of that state and its all surrounded by immense scenery more beautiful than even a paradise and I only hope the horrid rebels will never make it.''

''Then how could we get here and not be destroyed or fired on m by the rebels?''Asked Joice.''We could not have passed the city of Vivian Wiskey or through it on any of her waterways without annihilation.'

''I believe we entered the river by the creek, but nevertheless nevertheless it does seem as if we had lost direction.''Said violet.

''Ah indeed.''Remarked Hettie in a tone of surprise.''Don't you see the sun in the west.''

''Anyhow ''Resumed the little girl ''There is no such thing as a wide beach anywhere near Vivian Wiskey as the river banks are steep like precipices, so this surely must be a part of the state of Ozma indeed.''

While she and her three sisters were arguing about where they were the lot of them selected a bright dusty roadway that seemed to have a winding form and then accompanied the man and his two children and walked out of the shadow of the trees toward the main stretch of woods. They were partway to it when the little girl the daughter of their companion cried in a a voice of terror:

''What is that, Vivian Girl?''

Violet and her sisters turned quickly around and so did the others, and saw coming out of a path that led from between a mass of pine trees toward the road the most peculiar ly dressed or uniformed Gandelinian their eyes had ever beheld. It had almost the form of a tall ghost on horseback which was robed in a similar way, except that the horse galloped at a furious speed instead of troddvtrotted raising a cloud of dust, and the horses legs were covered the same as the mans legs were all in mist gray color giving them both the appearance of a gray man and horse p phantom at the same time. Yet really it was no ghost horse and man that the party of adventures really beheld or discovered for the persons cold shoulders was covered with the most gorgeously embroidered designs of many colors that could be imagined and he wore over a fierce looking gray hood a large hat more like the form of a girls sailor hat with two big ribbons floating from the side of it, the hat being worn or perched h jauntily upon the side of his head. But he differed from other Gargoylians in this respect that instead of having the Ku Klux Klans designs on the front of his robe on the chest there was designed two pictures of spinning wheels, under which was a plow and cross bones and other rounded wheels. He had a terrifically long sabre upriased and his horse was galloping swiftly over the level ground. Afterwards violet and her sisters found when some of them peopples had been captured that these odd wheel designs were of the same description as of other Gandelinians captured later on and they also learned that Gargoylians of this kind are no fiercer than the others but have the swiftest horses ever known. But having not seen any real Gandelinians like t hese at close quarters before the little girls when they first caught sight of the first individual of a race of Gargoylians that was destined to cause them lot of trouble they had an idea that the brilliantly ghosted robed creature and horse was on because roller skates so swift did the horse ride forward at them.

''Run''Screamed violet as she and her st sisters started away as if in great fright.''It's a Wheeler Gargoylian.''

''A wheeler Gandelinian?''Exclaimed the little boy.''What can that be?''

''Never mind what that can be. Run and run for your life. Run I tell you run.''Shouted Joice as she and her sisters drew their pistols.''

So the man and two s children ran violet and her sisters following after, and the wheeler seeing them rush away gave a sharp wild curse and blasphemy,,and now came After the fugitives in full chase and was upon them in a o moment. violet at once fired her pistol and down went the horse throwing his rider headlong. Though they had thus stopped the man for a moment he tried to rise and shoot at the little girls but Jennie seeing the danger fired her own pistol and the bu ll laid him outstretched on the ground.

Looking over their shoulder however as they ran the little girls and the others now saw a great procession or column of Gandelinian wheeler Gargoylians emerging from the edge of the forest from the direction of the encampment--scores and score of them--all clad in similar style but the leader seemed to be more splendidly dressed though his robe and hood was black in color and all the horsemen galloped swiftly toard the fugitives with sabres upriased and uter uttering commands to them;

''Stop you dirty christian dogs or We'll cut you down without mercy.''

''They are sure to catch us.''Panted the man who was still carrying some of the food boxes.''I'm fat' fatigued and can't run much farther little girls.I hate to do it but I believe you all will have to fire like wild and stop them so we can get away or they will ride us down.''

''Climb up this hill quick with your children.''Said violet ''And we will do what we can to check them for a minute.''And while the brave Vivian Girls started firing in general but not hitting any one as they did not wish to the man and his boy and girl found they were very near to a heap of loose rocks and stones and jagged rocks they had passed on their way to the hose house. The little girls were even now working themselves from rock to rock and firing occasionally, the rebels having drawn near returing the fire fiercely but neither side doing any damage, and as the three got to the upper part violet and her sisters followedas best as they could, Half climbing ,half stumbling up the rought rough and rugged steep and pausing every now and then to open fire. The fugitives however had been none too soon for the foremost wheelers had reached the foot of the hill a moment after the little girls had been half way y up but while the little girls scrambled up the rocks.the rebels had stopped their swift horses with howls of rage and disappointment. violet was now laughing.

''Don't hurry my three friends.'' he cried.''The rebels cannot follow us too closly closely among these rocks And if they start to mount by foot we have them badly exposed while we are safe, perfectly safe now.''

The man and his two so,d s children stopped at once and sat down upon a broad boulder or they were all out of breath. The two chilren were terrified while violet and her sisters looked only excited and interested. The rest of the wheeler Gargoylians had now reached the foot of the hill and dismounted from their horses as it was evident that their horses co ld not climb up the rought rough and jagged rocks, and also they were therefore helpless to follow the fugitives to where they had taken refuge for they know that the fugitives having plently of ammunitá ammunition cul could shoot down any one who started up. But they circled all around the little hill, some going back to the engagement for some reason, so that the man and his two children and the Vivian Girls were for the time being fast prisoners and could not come down without being captured or shot to death. Some of the rebels shook their fists at violet and her sisters in a most threatening manner, and several others of them shouted;

''We will get you in time you dirty Vivian girl hellhounds never fear. And when we do get you we will tear you to bits for killing one of our comrades and his horse.''

''Why are you so anxious to tear us to bits?''Asked violet.''We are mere children strangers in your country who at the beginning have done you no harm until you persued us.''

''No harm.''Cried their leader shaking his sabre at them.''Did one of you not kill our comrade and his horse. Have you not smoking pistols still in your hands you reckless little fools.''

''We had a right to shoot him.''Jennie Answered.''I killed the man and violet shot his horse.It was a matter of life or death between us.''

''That is no excuse ''Retorted the leader angrily''It is the law here that who ever comes lurking around our encampments whether they be men women or children are spies and must die immediately.''

''Don't you believe it.''Said Joice''We we re we were not spying on you rebels and our own affairs do not belong to you in the first place. You Gandelinians seem fit for any kind of mischief and it is my opinion your men would have tried to kill us just the same whether we spied on them or not.''

''I think so too.''Agreed Angelina.''But what shall we do now.''She asked in an undertone.''

''I suppose we will have to stay where we are.''Advised the man himself.''We are safe from the wheeler Gandelinians untill we have to starve to death or so,ething and I m sure before that time comes a good many things can happen.We may find a way to fight our way through yet and even secure their horses. Never can tell.'

After two hours or so going to know most of the band of wheeler Gandelinians on horseback had galloped back into the forest, leaving only six or seven of their number to f guard the hill and prevent the escape of the fugitives or prisoners. These had dis mounted and even laid down on the ground beside the hill within view of the little girls and the others and pretended to fall asleep, but neither violet and her sisters or the man were fol fooled by this trick of the Gandelinians, so they all remained in the utmost security among the rocks, and also pretended to pay no attention whatever o to the Gandelinians.Finally the man senior scrambling over a mound of rocks and earth,, exclaimed suddenly!!!!!!!

''''''''My here is a verylong but narrow p path.''

So to see what was there violet and her sisters at once clambered to where the a man sat and there sure enough was a long narrow but very smooth path which ,looked as if it had been cut in the rocks but which was really had been formed by some natural cause if not anything else.

The most peculiar peculiar thing about the strange path it seemed to wind around the mound from topto bottom, almost in the fashion of a cork screw, twisting here and there among the rocks and boulders but always remaining,, level, and easy for any one to walk on. Even a horse could do it.Indeed at first violet and her sisters wondered why the Gandelinians did not come up this narrow path ism purpose to surprise them, but when the little girls in single file followed it to the foot of the mound'S (Was it a real foot or a log) they found they that many

big pieces of rock and gravel and earth and other debris, had either fallen or been placed directly across the end of the path right of way thus probably prent prevent ing anyone on the outside from seeing it or the way o up,and it was also the reason why the healer landelinians did not see it or e use it to climb up the mound and surprise the fugitives by a flank and front attack at the same time.(Get your time) then Violet and her sisters walked back up the same path, and followed it untill they came to the very top of the high hill, it being an hours climb or walk and here they came across a wa ll of great rock all solid and immo and which was like a immense barrier. he path came to an end here also just beside this great wall of solid rock and for a moment it pu z puzzled all of the little girls and even their friends who had followed them to know why the strange path, had been made at all. but Jennie who had been gravely following them all in the rear, and was now sitting upon a rock behind her sisters suddenlybremarked;

''It looks something like a small hole in the rock, doesn't it.Maybe the entrance of a cavern.''

'' hat looks like a hole in the rock.''Inquired the brave child violet herself.

''why thatlittle hole in the rock just facing you.''Replied Jennie whose little blue eyes were very sharp and seemed able to see everything. It is as large as an open doorway but wider acro ss the top and bottom.''

''what does!''

''hy the hole. Can't you see it Violet dear r or have you gone blind? I must think it is a opening to some cavern or a door in the rock or something, although it does not seem large enough to admit but only one at a time.''

''Oh yes I see it now.''said violet now observing for the first time the hole in the rock a little beyond where she had been standing.''and is not this a small cavern Jennie ?''Ri pointing to the round hole at the side of the rock.

''Jennie came down and looked in.

''he opening ends into something like a strange stone door does it not!'' he said.

''hat looks like a door or of stone.''Enquired violet.

''hy the cracks in the closeing part just fadning you.''Replied jennie. he crack seems to run up one side and down the other, or even across the top and also the bottom.so I think it must be a stone door although we cannot see any hinges.''

''Oh of course it does.''Said Violet now observing for the first time the crack in the so enclosed opening.''This also looks like a large keyhole'' and she pointed to a round deep hole at one side of the door which when she felt of it found it was colored like stone but of real hard wood.

''Of course ''Said Jennie.''If we only had the key now we could have the chande to unlock it and see what we could find in the cavern.''Replied Jennie with her sweet childish smile.''Maybe it is some landelinians treasu treasure chamber where some important information may be kept in books and papers or at least diamonds, rubies and shining gold or------ ''

''that reminds me.'' said Joice of a large black ket I picked up in the path on these hill. do you think sister th that the key would fit the keyhole, Jennie or violet?''

''Try it and see joice dear.'' uggested violet herself.''

so joice searched inthe pocket of her waist and found the large black key nearly six inches long and an inch broad. She put it into the keyhole of the door and then turned the lock. A sudden sharp snap was heard more louder than they expected to e hear, then with a loud solemn creak that made the shivers run down the back of every one of the little girls the door fell outward, like a regular door on hinges and revealed a large dark chamber just inside.

''Good gracious s ''cried violet in consternation chrik shrinking back as far as she could. for standing within the narrow chamber tied up hand and feet was the form of a tall man. He was only about as tall as a five foot man and his body was stout and strong looking. He had on him a h hat made of burnish copper as it seemed. He was perfectly still having been also gagged and where the light struck upon his form the little girls could see he worea gray uniform.

''on't be frightened violet.''Called Jennieand her other sisters from their own perch.''It is not a devil yet.''

''I see it is not.''Replied the little girl drawing a long breath.

'It is only some soldier wh se head must beamade out of copper to have allowed himself to be taken prso prisoner so easily.'' ont inued Jennie looking in more closer so that she could examine the man more better .

''Once''Said violet''I knoew a soldier a man who served in the army for over two years without being wounded or captured once whose name was general ick hopper.. but though he went through many battles and experiences he is still alive as we are, cause he seemed to have been born with a charmed life, and got his experiences a little at a time---first spying on the foe as we do, and then being a flag bearer, and then for hisbravery getting the commission of a general, for the reason he had went through many accidents during his experiences and though he had done things in a very careless manner and caused us to go through the dangerous trouble to rescue him he never got injured once.''

''Oh''said the little boy, with a sniff as if he did not believe the story she told him.

''but this man inside the cavern.''continued violet looking at him with big eyes fill of pity and curiousity at the same time''Is not like him at all, and I wonder how he one to be left this way for, and why it was that the landelinians may have locked him up and bound him up in this queer place.''

''hat is a mystery to us indeed/''Remarked the little boy more politely.

violet alone while her sisters remained outside stopped inside the cave to get a more better view of the man and to have arrange a way to release him and after he was released and helpled to his feet and unbound, violet discovered in his pockets a peculiarly printed card that she placed inside her waist, and

which was suspended at the back of his neck and she found a peculi[illegible] beat[illegible] thing that was suspended from a small copper tag at the bac back of his [illegible] After looking over his carefully the little girls saw that the man was only unconscious and while Jennie and some of her other sisters started to revive him as soon as possible violet returned to the path where the light was better and sat down upon a large slab of rock to read the printing on the peculiar card..

''What does it say!''Asked the little boy curiously while the man and his daughter came up to view the unconscious man.

Violet read the card very loud so all could hear spelling out some of the letters with some difficulty for they were l almost bu blured out and this is what she read;

TO general Smith Trinker.

Be patient with the double action of your lines and have your generals be extra responsive t o your orders. Rebels advancing on your right wing. Be careful and take w warning before it is too late.''

''How queer''Said the little boy.''Do you think it was alltrue violet?''

''I don't know '' nswered violet who had read it. ''But he wasno doubt the victims of the landelinians during the batt le of Julio Callio just past. Listen to this other note to it sister;

''general Manley intends to move vast forces to prevent gener general Hansons movements upon Julio Callio. He intends to strike the christian armies undwr the two vivians combined and smash them before they can id one another.

I advise you to notify general Hanson that Manley is moving immense forces to take general vivians rear in full force...

''signed . Gertrude Angeline and Jennie Turner.''

''Well I declare ''Gasped Joice herself in great amusement.''If general Manley had certainly intended o to do these things he certainly was a wonderful general for the side i he is on for no matter what he did he won the battle anyway. but I suppose it is all humbug don't you think so. Violet. Just some decoy writings to decieve some one.''

''Not knowing whether he was a landelinian or not we might as well hold him untill we get some satisfaction.''suggested . violet.''We don't know whether he was attacked by christians or rebels for if the rebels had him they would not have placed him there I'm sure. We will unbind him and take out the gags and have him fully revived and then we will see who what he will do.''

''where is the key to the door of the vacern!''Asked Angeline.

''Hanging on string in my pocket, where I replaced it.''

Then'' said joice let us try him and find out whether he is a friend or foe. He is therefore if a friend warranted to be a guardian for us on our journey for the christian lines, but nevertheless we have to be careful for we do not know even how long he has been standing unconscious inside this rock. Maybe for days. and without food.''

Joice had already taken the key and showed it to them and then replaced it inside her pocket.

After having ungaged him they found that the bonds around his hands and feet were to peculiarly tied that neither of the little girls did not know where to find the beginning.

'' hich shall I untie and unwind first!''Jennie asked looking again and again at the strange bonds.''It's too hard none of us have a knife.''

''hy not use the cutlass. It would cut the bonds all right I should think.'' returned Angeline.''that would free him do you not think.''

''Yes.''Said violet but his bonds are not ropes but heavy wire.'' he attempted to cut the bonds under his left arm but failed.

''It does not seem to be any different .''Remarked Jennie critally.''It does not cut such material.

''hy of course not.We will have to think of some other way now.''Said Angeline.

''I wonder if we could not force one end to loose by all of us twisting.''

''I have one end.'' o cried Violet. ''If he only would come to we could have him tell us why we found him in such a way.''

''After some further difficulty they had him finally all free from the bonds though it was a good half hours work. as soon as he completely regained consciousness the man immediately said, without moving any part of his body.

''Good morning little girl. good morning little friends.I'm thankful to have you rescue me.''

The words sounded a litt le hoarse and even coracky and they were uttered in an agonis agonized tone, without ah hardly any exchange of expression whatever, but violet and her sisters and the others understood them all perfectly.

''Good morning sir.''They answered politely .''

''I thank you again for rescueing me.''continued the man, who they finally discovered was even wounded bad ly.

''D n Dont mention it at all.''Answered violet removing his coat and shirt and starting to work on his wounded and still bleeding arm.''And then being curious very curious and yet wishing to find out for her countrys cause' she took the nerve to ask ;

''How did you manage to be looked up in this old cavern sir!''

''It is a very long but true story little girls.''Replied the man in agony.''

B''ut I will tell it to you as briefly as possible. Ouch , be tender with my arm. I was sent by general Galo to take two messages to general Hanson Vivian during the battle just past but while on the mission I was secured without a chance to defend myself by a bunch of Zimmermannian Gandolinians who dragged me here with some child slaves whom they beat untill they died. However as I would not give them any information they did not kill me as I suspected but nevertheless searched me, and took the information papers away from me, and gave me duplicates in their place in yellow paper. he real ones were white. All of his beating did not All of their beating did not get any information out of me and merely made me all the more determined. These cruel Gandolinians who had secured secured me had with them a lovely woman and thirty beautiful Galverinian children, five boys and the rest girls which in a fit of anger they had intended to massacre but to whom they sod sold to some other Gandolinians who by means of their own ways changed them into children of miserable toil and put them into underground mines as the rebels dared to tell me. Afterwards the Gandolinians being closely persued by Concentinian soldiers on horseback tri tried to escape the christians and seeing themselves failing made for this hill and in despair locked me up in this rocky cavern tied hand and foot with some kind of strong wire, and then surrounded by Angelinians who were pressing them hard, and seeing there was no escape at all hurled themselves down into the river below this hill and drowned themselves.''

''How dreadful.''Exclaimed the little girls realizing that the man was really telling the truth for his face was honest and not only that for under his gray uniform was the Angelinian uniform.

''It is indeed.''said the wounded man. ''When I found myself imprisoned, I shouted and shouted for help untill my voice was hoarse, and with my wound not attended to I was not able to do anything being bound as I was. After that I remember nothing untill you came to my rescue. I do not know how long I was here.''

''It's a very wonderful yet shocking story.''Said Violet while her sisters nodded''And proves that the enemy were really bound to whip general Hanson at any cost for the issue of the battle really would decide Julio Gallio.I believe it was general W's Gandolinians who did this to you.''

''Of course it was.''Answered the wounded soldier.''Idid not s uppose however that such a wise and alert man as I am could be so easily surprised by the Gandolinians as I w was. But I was ambushed.''

''I never seen or heard of such an occurance before.''said Violet.

''But where did you get the means or the key to unlock the cavern entrance!'' asked the man seriously.

''My sister '''--pointing to Joice) found it on the small pathway here, where it was prbably l dropped by one of the rebels who locked you in.''I believe also now why we found the path blocked down at the foot of the hill. And now sir if you don't mind we will like to know if you are able to walk. And are you hungry?''

''That will please me very much for my other members are in good condition.'' said he.''But I had too much excitement and so long as I may have lain or stood tied up in there I do not feel even a bit hungry. ''

The man was helped to his feet by the other fellow who had rowed the little girls ashore and so in a somewhat stiff and jerky fashion he walked out of the rocky cavern, took off his hat with his well arm and bowed politely to the pretty little girls who w he admired beyond describing, and then kneeled before them.

Said he.''

''From this time fort h for rescueing me I will be your-obd obedient servant for I recognize you to be the Vivian famous Vivian Girls. Whatever you command that I will do very willingly.''

''What is your name?''Jennie asked.

''Brin Wrigly Galler.''He replied.''I wonder if my watch is still going.My former comrade who was killed in batle gave it to me.''

He took it out and saw it was safe.

''I can hear it.''Said Angeline.''

''S can I ''said Violet.''And then she added with some anxiety;

''The rebels did not strike you with any heavy implement did they.''

''No'',Answered the man.''I can tell the time though I was captured and that was exactly two oclock that afternoon. But to morrow if we aint t the times yet I can waken you little girls at any hour you wish to get up in the morning.''

''That is nice ''Said the little girls''But we never do wish to get up too early in the morning. It ain't healthy for us without work we do.''

''Y u can sleep sallep untill nine o-clock.''Said he.'

''At what time do you want to get up!''Asked the other man.''

''About eight o-clock''Replied Violet.''And everybody ought to be up by that time we are sure.''

''''''''I w Now I'm Galler my dear friend and new companion.''''''Said Angeline, with a voice full of fear''''''The first thing to be done for us all is for any one of us who has the nerve enough to to find a way for us t o escape from these mounds of strange rocks.he Gandolinians or Gargoylians called ''the Healers are down below surrounding us, you know and threaten to kill or do some thing to us because they charge us withbeing spies for being near their camp.''

'' here is no reason why you little girls should be afraid of the Healers.''said Galler the wounded man.'

''Why not!'' he asked while her sisters looked at him almost reproachfully.

''Because they are- -''

the was the sound of a shot from some where, he gave a sort of gurgle and stopped short in his speech, waved his hands frantically, and then dropped and lay motionless, with one arm t with one hand to his shoulder and the other hand held out stiffly before him with all hthe fingers of the hand spread out as if he had been killed suddenly.

''Dear me.''said Jennie in a frightened tone, while her sisters were amazed.''what can the matter be and who fired the shot!''

''He's shot down I suppose by some old sniper.''said Violetin a voice full of distress but nevertheless calm.''You couldn't really t hink Gandolinians are trying to snip us do you.''

''I did not know they would make any attempts to get up to us among the rocks.'' replied Catherine.''But we will have to look out now and see that we don't get it ourselves.''

She and Jennie ran up to where the man lay and seeing he was wounded mortally and probably re nearly dead was horrified and finding a small spring washed the wound and brought him around, and then Violet looked for the bandages she usually carried with her. But it was not in her pocket.

''It's gone o''Cried in Jo Violet in dismay anxious over too long delay.

''What is gone!''Asked Catherine also anxiously.

''the ban g bandages.'

''It o probably fell out of your pocket when to you ran to a rock when the shot was fired.''returned Angeline impatiently.''Look around please Violetand see if you cannt findit again or we will have to use our dress.''

Violet looked impatiently worried beyond describing and some of her sisters even Helped her, and in a few minutes the little girls discovered the small rolll of bandages, which had fallen into a crack of the rocks rocks. At once she wound or bandaged the wound taking care to put on as much as possible. It had been quite a task to remove his coat and shirt and bandage the wounded and bleeding shoulder with the help of the ot her man as you may imagine but the wounded mans first words were to assure Violet and her sisters who looked worried and afraid that he was not going t o die as yet, and that atleast he would have time anyway to lead them out of reach of the fierce gargoylians.

''I did not see the sniper at first.''He calmly said.''And we stood up so long an while I told you the story about myself that it is no wonder that either I or even the rest of you were dangerously exposed to snipers. I bet there are rebels crawling up tea twird us among the rocks. We will have to be careful now.''

The other man slowly helped the wounded man to his feet and then as they all went to where the rocks were high enough to shield them Violet and her sisters drew their pistols and kept a sharp lookout for approaching snipers. While they were going cautiously forward the conversation was continued.

''And now''Said Violet, when all the latter was accomplished.''Tell me what you were going to say about the healer Gandolinians below who have surrounded the hill.

''Why they are nothing to be frightened at if we know how to manage the affair.'' said the wounded man his arm in a sling now.''It is no doubt though they are as fierce as any ordinary Gargoylians or other Gandolinian soldiers, and all folks believe they are more terrible than any Gandolinians but as a matter of fact the healers or other Gandolinian gargol gargoylians are completely harmless enough to any one compared to the fury and savagery of the fierce Zimmermann Zimmermannians and Mic-Hollestinians.The healers of course I know have very swift horses and are good o crackshots and might try to capture the whole lot of us perhaps for they are very fierce. But if I was able to do any shooting I could cut a path through them for you girls and secure some horses for you before they saw or realized what we are up to. But m I am helpless as my left arm is wounded, and now my right shoulder i s gored.''

''Haven't we any means to slip pasg past the Gandolinians without them seeing us?'' sked Hettie.''

''No ''Said Galler.''

''And you won't find such a good s chance to get away so easily with them already swarming around us among these rocks, either.''Declared declared the other man. ''I saw ten of them not far away either and they are coming closer and closer. The only escape ix is by the mysterious path.''

''Then what shall we all do to get away?' 'Asked Daisy anxiously.

''Give me a few moments and I will try to think of some other plans.''Said Galler. Feeling very secure wherethey were already hiding justnow and while the wounded man was thinking of some plan to get them through the besieging lines of Healers Healers Violet and her sisters feeling very hungry decided to eat their dinner or at least what they had left in the boxes of food.

Her sister Jennie was already totally eating away at her own bowl of meals, so her sisters sat down and opened their own boxes. In one part violet found something that looked like a small tank which was full of coffee. It was covered by a large coffee cup. Within the other parts were three large slices of chicken, and other meats, while her sisters had nearly the same except that violet found something extra being what you would call a tongue that is cold, some lobsters(not slices though thank you) six slices of bread and butter numbered enough to feed a whole company of soldiers, full custard and mince pies(A punch in the eye) oranges, pe peaches, boxes of strawberries(Maybe to they were made of straw), and a lot of nuts and raisins.. Singularly enough the nuts in their boxes were already cracked, tha so that violet and her sisters had no trouble in picking out their little b nutty meats to eat. violet and her sisters spread their fe feasts upon flat rocks, first offering some t o the wounded man, while the other fellow and his two kids eat their own. violet seeing that each had different things that she had offered to exchange one or the other something which she did not like but which the others would like for something they disliked and it looked like if they were going to make exchanges by the whole sale and both man and even the other children almost laughed the fun was so great.

''No the Mino-ollestinians and the zimmermannians belong to different kind of landolinians like the healers.''the young girl child asked violet h herselff, while all were engaged in eating their meals.

''Oh Of course oh not .''she answered.''no matter what they are called they all are the same but they are called according from what landolinian state they come from. he main generals who used to command the ichollentinians was generals Eve and Evoldo and general Homa and Ruggido Ruggido but they were all wounded in some of the past battles and have not been heard of since. o as there was no one to command them and as Mino-ollestor johnston also was put outof the war by his wounds the Manleys had to command the Eve landolinians as they are generally called. the zimmermannians on account of their fury are usually called the Longhkins or Homes, or ornera or something that I can not think of. Perhaps it is for this reason that the healers are supposed to be equally as fierce as the others, but I for one do believe t hey are for they look so horrid in their queer uniforms and hoods and designs they wear on them. but whatever the landolinians are called, io-ollew tinians, zmmermannians, and Gearions, and the like they are to the name of their states. The Garfoylians are the Ku Klux Klans of the landolinians and are called Gargoylians because of the hoods and garbs they wear.''

''Are the Gargoylians something like the Gorgoly Gargoylies little porpthy Gale encountered in the one of the Oz bol books.''Enquired the child .

''No these creatures were made of wood and couldnot hurt e hurt even us.'' said violet with a laugh.''the Gargoylians we mention are landolinians but as I said before are called by us Gargoylians because of the garb and disguises or masks they were wear wear. they don't call themselves Gargoylians though. but I have heard they are very dangerous when aroused and the io-ollentinian general who was mortallybwounded in the battle of Cedernire used to command some of them, and so independent did the Gargoylians not that he had to place special commanders over them to keep them in order and prevent them from becoming too reckless.When I first was with my sisters encoun captured by healers we secured some of their horses and in that way escaped them and even their camp and from that those rebels soon found we were too b brave a bunch of little girls for them to secure. But these have us surrounded on this hill, and we have no means to secure their horses.''

''you little vivian girls seem very brave and durable for all the experiences you went through so far.''said the woundedsoldier.''who made you that way.''?

''the horrors of child slavery we wish witnessed.''answered violet.''

''did the landolinians make you work.''Asked the man.

''No. s only spied.''

''Are the Manleys really as wicked and as dangerous as they say!''Asked Jennie.

''No.''the Manleys are worse enough it is true but generals germania vivian , the Peace Federals, the Ismerlinas and some others are more wi ked than they and the most devilish landolinians that the Devil ever sempleted in nature.''He replied.''some of those landolinian generals however as I have learned are not only great soldiers but wonderful inventors, are great at histories, and speeli xpee spelling, and also know all the Geographies in the world by heart, can mention anyt hing in them without looking at a map aor a page, and tell the exact location, and are also quite artistic in all they did and do. his make them very dangerous to the christian cause and landolinia's most able generals, generals to be feared by the christian world.''

''I8I'm sure of that myself.''said Angeline without any surprise.''Do they have armies close around here anywhere now or near the riverEvna!''

''Their armies are b all gone out of this location.''Replied the wounded man.

''general smith francis-smith was an artist and a hi historian and also a general who not only knew all Geographies by heart but wrote and made them, was a great inventor, and could also paint pictures, ma make all kinds of maps. one while making a map of a christian encampment while out spying he had just time enough to jump into the river and escape a party of christian soldiers on horseback.''

''Oh I'm sorry for that indeed.''said the little girls hating to hear of a spy escaping with nything important about the christians.

''general Thinker violet is another great general of the rebels. is name is John Tinker violet .'' continued Soldier.''he had an army so dangerous that I believe if he would have stretched it up heard the sky he could h ve easily rested the rear of the line of men up e against the moon, while he would have been able to make a line two miles long of his generals and other senior. but when he got wounded in the frightful ca nage at big ard Knool or big attend pinchorts we have never seen him or heard of him since.''

''It was said he is a great loss to his own country and c u cause.''said Jennie, who was by this time eating her piece of p mince pie and offering another piece to him.

''Is is a great loss.''Acknowledged soldier.''Too he is a great loss to the wicked Manleys and the still more wicked Tamerlinas. or if one of them or even the Manleys h should in a battle receive wounds too severe to recover from in time, there would be no one found to replace them for the situation of the reb rebels cause is so complicated now with so many disasters happening. You have no idea how near our success we are despite the my everything seems.I but the rebellion is on the verge of its downfall.''

''I can imagine it.''said violet and her sisters readily.''but the war never seems to come to an end and it is nearly four years and two months long now.''

A''and now if you pls please my Princesses of Angelinia.'' continued the man''I must stop the talking or conversation for a while and begin to thi te do my thinking again if you please as we may have a way to escape from this hill without being all shot down by the landolinians who have us surrounded. we will have to fight our way through alive.''''

So he turned half way around in order not to be disturbed by anything while he tried to think of someplan.....

''''''One of the worse landolinian generals I ever knew or heard of.''Said Jackie vivian to the little boy''''''''Ran general Raymond Richardson federal.''

''yessahee.''mapped the lad.

''It is true.''answered violet .''I met him in the Galvorinian state of Osma a little before the batt le of big girlkool and he ch ch ch chased me all the way to the city of pittsburg pinchorth, in his efforts to get me, and to me it seemed as if he had wings on quick run he after me and so long did he chase us. ut it seemed also to me that he thought just as well to keep his distance from my sis as I did to keep my distance from his swift horse.''

''Do you expect me to believe all that rubbish about the rebels generals.''? Enquired the lad, who seemed a little cross-perhaps because he had been forced to leave his home on account of the recent battle of julio Callio.

''What rubbish do you mean!''asked Jackie or Daisy as her right name was, and who was now finishing her nuts and other food.

''Why all your impossible s tales and stories about the rebel generals who would pursue little girls and boys alone without soldiers to help him, and yet not catch you,or even dare to face your guns.''

''They are all there in truth.''Said Angeline''for I have also seen him and we do not tell people lies.''

''Just the same I don't believe it.''cried the little boy with a toss of his head.''

''That's because you are trying to be ignorant.''Replied Jennie who was a little offended at the boys speeche.''Bof Be careful boy. we are Princesses of Angelinia and if you dispute one of us you will be sorry.''

The lad realized this and did not argue further.

I''In the Galvorinia state of Osma where the battle of big g rl Girlkool raged.'' remarked the wounded soldier, turning toard them''anything withthe wickedest of rebels is fully possible.''This country of galvorinia is a wonderful country for the wo world to admire now. It has the fiercest and bloodiest battle fields the world ever heard of. and the rebel generals do not only persue little girls and boys but kill thousands of children as fast as they can lay hold of them.''

''There what did we say.''Cried violet'' And then she turned to the soldier and asked in an eager tone;

''Doyou know the results of that great battle . Sallar?''''''

''No I do not, but I have heard a great deal about it.''Said the soldier nursing his wounded soldier.''But the state of OsOsma is only seperated from the state of Angeline vine by the broad Erminie gun iver.''

Jennie clapped her hands together in a delighted manner.

''I'm glad of that.''she exclaimed knowing she was in that same state.''It makes me quite happy to me so near my near my soldier and other christian friends.The general we were speaking of or we told you of(speaking to the boy) is one of the wo wicked est of landolinian ge erals.''

''Pardon me is nois not thw worse now?''Said the wounded soldier.''

''He was as long as we knew or heard of him.''peclared violet.

''I know''he said, but he is not now. He left his former armies to take charge of one of manleysgreat divisions and is moving for Albrahambra now and general jinjur smap is in his place now. unjur is s disposed to be the worse rebel general living, and has under him a fierce and bloody rebel officer by the name of Osmanna who was claimed to be the rightful heir t o the infernal regions as thd the expression sis j used, and now he commands the worse of all the landolinian armies.''

''That's surprising news to us.''said Joice, thoughtfully.''ut I suppose lots of things happen since I left that region.I wonder what has become of general Galmannia shoemupnia, and of the fierce and famous but friendly general Leonia mellonia ickuall, and Adele po Carbo. And I wonder who this general Osmannia is for I never heard of him before!''''''

But the soldier did not think it wise just now to reply to this. He had turned around again to resume his thinking. The little girls were already packing up the rest of the food and putting them back into the horses, so as not to be wasteful of the good things, as the rations were scarce, and the boy and girl almost forgot their own diginitiion and were or had been picking up all of the scattered remains which they are rather greedily but the Vivian Girls did notobject. By this time the wounded soldier and the other man approached them with their bow.

''Be kind enough little girls to follow us'' the soldier said'' or we will both lead you and ourselves even away from here and make our ways to the christian lines for I know the way and where we will be more comfortable, and also we can with our pistols protect ourselves from the wheelers .If we can get their horses all the better.''

''All right '' answered the little girls promptly.''We are all ready.''

They walked slowly and carefully down the peculiar path, between the rocky ledges of the hill, Violet and her sisters and the two other children following the two men, the boy and girl trotting along last of all. At the foot of the strange blocked up path, the man and some of the little girls manigeate tons aside with ease the rocks which barred the way. Then the man who had saved the little girls ashore said to the Vivian Girls.

''Let me be in the lead, but everybody who has one use a pistol please use it and prompt ly.''

The little girls had their own pistols in their hands already, and the man s fingers closed firmly over the trigger of the one he had in his hand. Then the brave little procession marched out upon the level ground.

''As soon as the number of wheeler Landelinians who were guarding the parts of the hill saw them escaping, they began to shout to them to halt in the name of the law of Landelinia, and quickly many of them mounting their horses rode swiftly towards the little groups as if to capture them or bar their way let at least. But when the foremost horseman had approached near enough, the man who saw the quickest this time fired two shots. The first shot missed but the second one struck the rebels horse right between its eyes. The horse was instantly killed and in falling threw the Landelinian like a football. Perhaps the rebel despite the violence of his fall was not hurt but very much at that, but he rose madess great noise with his cursing and impo imprecations, and getting to his feet the wheeler uttered a howl of rage and drew his own pistol and fired. The shot missed the Angelinian fugitives by a narrow margin and buried itself in the tree trunk near by. The next minute the rebel attempted to fire again and the two children boy and girl screaching with fright started to scramble up the hill. Before he had time to fire the man brought him down with another shot and he lay still.

''I told you they were dangerous.'' began violet but before she had time to say any more the other wheeler Landelinians were upon them. Crack, crack went the pistols of the little girls this in time. One rebel was hit in the knee, and fell from his horse,, another was dismounted, and a bullet carried away the hat and hood of a third sailing it a hundred feet away together, and a fourth recieved a ball between the heart and left lung and fell but his leg was caught in the stirrups and he was dragged along by the dashing horse. The horses were however so empty and would have joined the others had not the man himself quickly run out and capture them and bring them rattly to the rest. The little girls seeing the success of the fray so far gave cries of delight and the lad recovering his nerve came closer to his pretty defenders and said;

''Bravely done little girls. And nicely thought of too.Now we are free from those ugly Gargoylies.''

''But just then a large band of Wheeler Landelinians came racing from the forest in a long line firing as they came and relying upon their numbers to conquer the fugitives and advanced fiercely upon them but silently. Violet and her sisters retreated a few feet and retired behind rocks and stones, the two men and the other children doing like wise. Their father grabbed the little daughter of his in his arms and held her tight, and the lad forgetting himself in his excitement embraced the form of little brave Jennie with his arms. Then the Wheeler horsemen s yelling suddenly their''Devil Yell'' wewere upon them like a cyclone. One man rode quickly over them but was shot down horse and all and all had a narrow escape from them at that. Ratt lety, bang, bang,bang,bang'' went the pistols for every shot from the little girls and the man and the shots made so much c,atter and the rebel guns sosuch a roar that the little boy and girl were frightened. Ten of the fourty rebels fell, two with horses and the remainder for a moment surprised by such a reception were seized with a panic and retired a safe distance. Crawling forward under the cover of the fire from the brave Vivian girls the man secured the horses, and when a rebel rushed forward to seize him and prevent the capture of the horses the soldier or man who was very strong disarmed him in a moment and using him for a sheild brought him and the horses to the hiding place. By the time they got to the rocks he had fastened his fin gers into the neck of the gorgeous regalia robe of his rebel foe and held him fast !

''We are going to use you as a sheild in our retreat from this place.''

He hissed in the ear of the Angelinian rebel.At first the rebel hesitated to yeld to this means so the man shook him violently as a terrior dog does a rat, unhooded or unmasked him and shook him untill his teeth rattled together with a noise like hailrstones on a wooden woodenside walk. Then as soon as the rebel could get his breath, it he shouted to his comrades to fire or come to his assistance, which they immediately started to do but got checked by the pistol fire of the others.

''Not''Said Phillipa Gauter''You shall come with us you dedgenated rebel and traitor, and by pleadding us enable us to escape.''

''You will be sorry for treating me in this way you treacherous Federal.''Roared the ugly Gargoylian in a rage.

''He is a terribly fierce person and I'm afraid of him ''said Gauter a little girl.

''I for that answered her father who had brought the horses forward''I'm only a plain citizen and cannot know how the fates of war go,I can go on no matter whathappens.

''But you are wrong to be afraid of the Gargoylians.They are no worse than the others.!''

''Why no!''Asked violet as she and her sisters out of range of the foes musketry mounted the great fiery steeds steeds.

''Because no one else can think of them as we do.We can at least just make this prisoner of ours helpless to injure us or any one. or he has no weapons now to do anything with or even a sabre or knife for we took everything away from him. All he can do now is yell or shout, but he better not try that unless he wants to be riddled by pistol shots.''

His little girl and boy however being afraid of the enemys presence burst into a flood of tears, to the surprise of violet and her sisters .

''Now we will shall surely be captured and even ruined forever.'' sobbed.''

''Never mind that''Said Violet''Nothingwill happen and it will only enable us to get away.''

''Our Nationals are trying to ruin our nation Landelinians forever at that.''The Gargoylian captive said in a surly manner.''Our cause being so just our only hope is to conquer all you dirty christian dogs and by pretending to be very fierce and terrible you are all trying to take from us our secrets, endeavrite all kinds of warn ings to our generals. But not evennow have any of you Nationals or christian dogs succeeded and not even now have you frightened any on us even thoughyou may have discovered many of our secrets, and if we ever get the better of you christian hellgounds we will fall upon you all like a cyclone dosnupon storm and rain you all very miserable and unhappy.''

''Oh no you cannot do that.''Exclaimed Violet herself''However then was almost sorry to see the Landelinian captive not a or be so wicked.'' We know all secrets of you Landelinians and so you cannot conquer the Angelinians now. You cannot under any conditionsfrighten us children any more, and we would dare come near your enem encampments any time we would like.''

''You won't indeed you won't'' parled the rebel while the same little girl also began to cry, though the boy was beginning more cheerful.''We Landelinians are not really so bad as you Nationals think we are, but just the same it will take morethan the world to lik us now. You christian dogsonly pretend to be terrible in order to prevent us from attacking you too openingly.''

''That is not exactly true.'' aid the wounded soldier defiantly, started with the whole party toward a path through a dense forest out of sight of the other Landelinians and still covering his prisoner with a pistol who rode slowly along beside him.

''You and your comrades are full of mischief and other wickedness, and like to massacre children and do all wicked things possible and we charge you guilty of near rebellion against God at that . And even now you speak in great impudence and are disagreeable too. If you cannot try to cure these faults I will report to the general when we take you before him that you attempted to shoot the Vivian girls down in cold blood thinking they were helpless.''

''I'll try of course to defy you from fear.''Rep/t replied the rebel, with a sniff.''And thank you my christian dogs for the compliment.''

''We are not christian dogs.''said Sauler.''We may be ordinary Angelinians or Federals but we are only doing our own duty and shall do so.''

''Is it your duty to tore tots christian doggie children around to sneak among our lines, or scout and spy and give information to the christian Federal Chiefs?'' demanded the Wheeler sanicuely.

''Yes it is properait to fate in war, but do not say any more to us as we are not wishing for conversation with rebels like you.

''Tell me'' ked violet of the other man''What general do you think is in charge of the Landelinian encampment younder.''

''I do not know who it is.''answered Gauter''Because the rebels are always even careful to keep the names of every general and their members as secret as possible. But I have believe the general may be Home Langwidere grolio and his army if he is in command is immense. That is I believe the right wing of Manleys army really or at least a portion of the army because don't you see little girls Julio Callio is not far off.The rebel general called Langwidere is not exactly the main r general in command of that division because he did not yet recieve any commission but he is the nearest approach to a general we can know of at preasant and one to be avoided too.''

''I do not remember ever hearing of him at all.''said Hett is.''What does he look like.''

''That I cannot say''Replied Sauler''But he has a great crafty spy that your father has been looking out for these past days, although I believe I may have seen him over thirty times. I saw him at many places and tried to capture him but to no avail. He seemed to have been a different person every time I seen him or persued him sometimes a man and sometimes a wo,an, and sometimes was wearing the garb of a wild beast or tiger, and the only way most of us who have seen him can recognise him at all is by means of a peculiar ruby colored chain and medal he always wears attatched to his left side. Then we saw the medal we knr knew we were beholding the most dangerous spy the Landelinians have to sent into our midst.''

''that is very exceedingly strange.''Said Violet in great astonishment and embrassment''Do you really mean to say that so many persons are one and the same person. I cannotbelieve it.''

''I did not say that.''Answered Mr Gaular.''He is only one person but has appeared to us Angelinians especially in my dis i division in may forms or disguises, which are all the more or less handsome and some less hedious and fierce.''

''He must be a male witch or a wizard like ''The Wizard of Oz''Exclaimed Angeline with a worried look.

''I do not think so''Solared Gaular.''But he is a crafty and most dangerous spy, and there is some most strange mystery connected with him nevertheless which no one can explain. It was he whocommandthe defent of the christians at Juli Julio Gallio. He is also a very wicked and vain person and lives mostly in a tent surrounded by guards and the like to protecthim from christian Geminism spies and others who may be within the rebel lines to attempt to kidnap him, and so I think he is safe no matter which way he turns.''

No one answered to this strange speech because they had just passed out of the forest , and their attention was fixed upon the strange scene rightbefore them-a beautiful vale not yet touched by the grim reaper of war, in which a great teeming sea of fruit trees of all descriptions and green fields and pretty farm and other hours houses scattered here and there and broad smooth roadsthat led in every direction but all around in this vinicity nothing was also seen but vast encampments which were really Manleys lines but no signs of Julio gallio or any other portion of vivian Vickey.

In the centre of the lovely vale or glens whatever it may be about a mile or so from where lut fir friends and other christians were with their prisoner, rose the tall spires of a an immense building almost in the form of an palace, which in the midst of the centre of the vast Landelinian encampment strat bed right before them glttlittered brightly against the bla background of blue skies. The building which they believed without doubt was used by general Manley and his chafff staff as headquarters was indeed surrounded by most charming grounds, full of flowers of all kinds and even beautiful shrubbery. A number of beautiful fountians even could be seen, and also there seemed to be many pleasant walks bordered by rows of white marble and even granuite and golden statuesy. All these details Violet and her sisters were of course unable to notice or admire until they had advanced along the roads to a position quite near the building, and they were still looking at the pretty sights when h their party entered the grounds without being stopped or challenged by guards and approached the big front door of what they believed to be the generals own apartments. To their disappointment they found the the entrance closely guarded. Of course the children and the two men were not in disguise this time and they had to be very careful for no Landelinians had as yet seen them enter the lines as most of the tents in this loyality happened to be cav vacant.

''Now''said Gaular who fel a little nervious at being within the christian christian rebel lines I mean''we must find a way to be ushered into the building. ''If we could only gaine some rebels and a couple of boyscouts and secure their uniforms we would be all right.''

''We will have to take the chances as it is.''Agreed Violet also feeling nervious but quite collected.''The best way to enter thebuilding is around its left wing.''

''How can we get into the building at the right wing.''Demanded Catherine who feared the Landelinians may have every entrance guarded.

''Because we can find some way. The building is in three wings and so the one at the right is theonly easiest way. If you little girls can play some trick you can make Manley or some of his rebel officers believe that you are boyscouts disguising themselthemselves as the vivian Girls.I have heard they do it.It is a trick of the Landelinians used you know to annoy you little girls.''

''We can try it at any rate.''Said Violet .

Then having secured their captives into a hiding place and tied him hand and foot Stillwithout being detected as no other rebels appeared the whole party went around to the wing mentioned. they counted a l the all the guarded doors in the the wing and then sh wing the guards a fake paper which was made out introducing them as boyscouts disguised as the vivian Girls the guards admitted them pat past to the doorway.

''Who do you wish to see?''Demanded the guard at the door.

''We wish to see general Langwidere on some important mission. Is he in.''Asked Jennie trying to imitate the voice of a boy and succeeding much more than she expe t expected.''

''No Master disguised boyscout, he is not here, you are in the wrong section of the camp.''Replied the guard.

''Well may we see his Excellency general Manley please then?''

They showed him a card which read;

To your excellency. seven Landelinian boyscouts accompanied by two men and two kids to be admitted in disguise as forthcoming;

The boys as vivian Girls.

One man to appear as wounded.

Another to appear as a citizen.to be accompanied by boy and girl.

Order of general Home Juggidee.''

WAA ''All right masters I will tell his supreme excellency you are here y to see him and ask him to grant you an audience with him.''Said the guard.'' Step inside ringe, and take a seat in his reception room.''

Violet and her sisters and the others of thparty walked in followed closly by the boy and girl who however looked frightened. But as the wounded man tried to enter after them, the guard presented his musket and cried;

''You are not permitted to pass untill recieved.''

''Go on with yourself.''Retorted the soldier drawing back in anger and fingering his pistol with the army not in the slingready for action.''Have you not any better manerathan that. Does not the card say I am admitted too.''

''Oh but I did not remember that. And are you really wounded or pplaying wounded?'' enquired the guard who to tell the truth was really suspicious of the whole party.

''Can't you see for yourself without asking foolish questions.'' snapped the soldier.

''Drop that rifle and get out of the doorway so that I may enter with my friends.KI'm to go on that mission too.''

''The general won't like it the way you appear.''Said the guard hesitating.

''I don't care whether he likes it or not in I go.''Replied the soldier, and drawing his pistol he aimed it at the guard with a wicked look in his eyes. The soldier guard at once ducked ax aside and the soldier reached Violet and her sisters in safty.

''Very well''Sighed the guard mournfully''If you are ll in serious trouble because of this obstinate soldier don't blame me for it. I know who you are, and do not favor harm coming to you but you are spying on general Manley and if he recognizes you good day. It is not safe to anny his excenne excele en excellency with your spying trips.''

''Tell his excellency we are waiting if you will please!''Violet requested with utmost diginity.'' The wo wounded man in our friend and will go wherever we go.''

Without more words the guard led them to a richly furnished reception room with a big wide window lighted with subdued rainbow tints that came through veautiful stained glass windows and he said;

''If anything happens jump out of that big open windowand I will do what I can wise without being seen to help you. But remain here now. What names shall I give the general in disguise.''

''Any names you can make up.''Replied the children seeing the guard was really a good Landelinian and would be their their real friend .

The guard bowed and slowly withdrew with an anxious look on his face and going through several passages andmounting two wooden stairways before he came to the room occupied by the great rebel general.General Manleys room which he had selected in the building was completely panaled with small doors o which reached from the ceiling to the floor, also the ceiling was composed only of heavy good, and the floor was brilliantly varnished that reflected nearly every object upon it.General Manley at the time the party of christians entered his headquarters had sat in his chair near a large obl ng table, and was looking over and st udying a certain geography, while he also had large maps, plans and important papers on the tab table, and which over may he turned his head it looks looked as if he was expecting someone whom he feared to trust. He had an orderly in the room with him who was playing soft melodies upon a large mandolin, for for his master he loved to do and just as the guard entered the general was looking over an important map and saying to himself;

''This map of Galvordnia is quite the right thing to make everything in success very attractive to me.I must study it over more often than I have done of late although it may not be the best collections of my maps. But nevertheless it will help me to beat the Christian armies and defeat the Federal Governments.''

''You have strange company, tyour excellency.''Pnounced the orderly bowing and then standing at attention.

''Who is it?''Asked the general looking worried call of a sudden.

Seven boyscouts from general Morgwid oreo army or encampment , with two soldiers in disguise as christian dogs, and a boy scout, with a little girl.''Answered the guard.

''What a queer lot of persons for spies. Did they give any names.''Murmured the general beginning to be both interested and yet suspicious. What are the boys like. Are the boys pretty. And what are the men, and boy and girl like?''

''They are al l all good looking.''The guard replied.

''Are the men strong and and of good built?''Continued the general looking still more anxious and suspicious as he knew he did not send or ask for any one.

''That I cannot say your Excellency. Excellency. But they all seem to be very bright. Will your Gran Gracious Excellency see them now?''

''Oh I may as well Callmama. But I do not trust the visitors and if the visitors have any claim to being real christians in disguise.I must take care that they don'T se ure any of my important papers, maps and plans. So we will go to the cabinets and place everything inside of them and lock the door. Then 't you think it is awise plan. You know I dread the vivian Girls most of all.''

''Your idea may be exceedingly excellent but no one ha can defeat them.''Answered the guard with another low bow.

''Again Manley looked anxious and hesitated for a moment.then he said;

Help me to put everything away. and quick before we admit them.''

So the guard assisted Manley to collect everything together on the table, and then theh they slowly walked across the polished floor to the cabinet.Now I must explain

to the reader if he don't mind that general Manley had besides the maps, plans and important papers thirty seven geographies of all sizes. put of course that da/ he had been lo king through only one of them, because he had nothing so very important to do that time. These books and letters, maps ,aand impo important papers were kept in his cabinet, which main what had been a beautiful libary that lay just between a dining room and a bedroom. To make things more carefully arrangee he had placed each bookand other articles in a seperate cabinet lined with velvet. he cabinets ran entirely all along the sidi side wall and had elaborately carved doors with golden numbers on the outside and jewelled d orknobs on them. He hasmade a grand capture for his victory at Julic Callio battle indeed.

when the general had gotten out of her bed his bed that same morning after captur ing the place the day before he had went to the cabinets, i opened one of the velvet lined cupboards and finding how they were had placed his most important papers and so on in them. hen by the aid of some of his officers he had put in all the geographies he had also captured and afterwards called all his generals for a council that day.Despite his highest commission he always wore almost a r privates uniform with only his decorations and shoulder straps to show who he was. Despite hi his highest com ission and being the chief general of all, and desp ite his cruelty and wickedness there was no pride in general M n Manley, he was as good toall his soldiers as if theywere himself but he had no use for christians or those n who p opposed him, and he had no interest in wearing r rich generals uniforms as many of his lo west officers even had one. Of course the thirty four or five geographies were in great variety no two alike but all being of exceedingly value and loveliness. here were geographies so simple that children could study them, there were others more like school geographies , and of other kinds which gave everything the world has in detail and pictures and maps.The maps many of them were of golden co,or or rich auburn hue, gray, hazel, and red but there were no small maps among ang na any of the books, and all the illustrations were bright and handsome in colors representing all tr types of co color and beauty and the landscapes in the maps were all of assorted sizes and shapes.

He had found one kat key that unlocked all of the cupboards, containing all his treasures which he intended to use here as long as he remained, a curious key carved from a blood colored rubie or stone—and this was fastened to i his key ring which he always carried with him. hen his orderly and the guard had helpled the general to the cabinet he unlocked the door of one of them with his key and after handing the plans and maps to the orderly he put in the geography in to it and then the rest w re place placed on top. here was only one trouble with general Manley that made any one really dread him, the temper that he had, which when he was aroused, was fiery, harsh harsh and haughty in the extreme and wicked as he really was it often even led him to do and co cognit things and deeds which he heartilly regretted when he came to realize it. ut he did not remember any of his uglieness this day and when to meet his guests in the reception room with a feeling of certainity that he would sp surprise them with his st lye of uniform. However he was greatly disappointed to really find that his visitors were merely small girls in long dresses, a wounded man with arm in sling, anda civilianwith a boy and girl.

''Oh''Said the general slightly lifting his noise like a young woman for he had the face of a sissy.''I thought someone of great importance had c lled to see me. You are not but the base spies the vivian girls who have dared to defy me by entering my domains because there are nosoldiers in this part of the encampment. And because of this you think you havewas at yourpower.''

''Then you were right general Manley.''Declaired violet.''we are a good deal of importance indeed, and when we have you at our mercy some day we will let you know how it is to make us suffer as you did for all the praying we did for your conversion. As for the rest f of it;;--''

''Stop--st op.''Demanded the general with an angry flash of his fierce eyes.'' How dare you annoy me with such senseless chatter. Get out of my lines at once or I'll place you under arrest.''.''

''Why you horrid insurgent.''Said Joice who was not accustomed to being streated so rudely.'' o you think you can frighten us after all we have goin gone through.''

the general looked at her more closely and realized what they really were.

''Tell me''He resumed angrily but with an anxious tone.''Are you going to try and force me to give up my plans to you?''

''Better thanthat Insurgent Manley.''Said Joice.''I came to make you prisoner.''

''Huh ''cried the general scornfully.''you vivian girls are foolish children to try such a thing and yet I cannot understand how you have the nerve to try it. Run away you little geese and bot her some one else. Mean as I am I'll let you go this time since there are no soldiers to oppose you.''

Violet and her sisters were so indignant that for a moment none of the little girls could find a single word to reply. But ths they rose from their chairs and were about to draw their guns when the general scanning their faces and percieving such a move about to be made stopped her by quickly drawing his own gun and saying fiercely;

''Come over hear nearer to me you dodgasted Federal spies.''

violet and her sisters seeing themselves covered by the rebel general, saw that being sus surprised as they were it was useless to resist just now so without a thought of fear they obeyed and stood before the haughty and angry Glandelinian general, while with a fierce s i smile he examined their own weapons with careful attention.

''Your weapons are rather attractive to me and I would like to have them for my own.''He said presently.''Your weapons of course are not at all beautiful, you federals may understand but they have a certain sy l style of appearance that predict they are better guns than the one I have. so I believe I'll relieve you of your weapons.''

''Well I believe you will not.''Exclaimed violet.''You have us covered but that will not make us give up anything even though you may shoot us onthe spot.''

''It will do you no good whatever to refuse my request.''Continued the general''for I need your weapons for my onw use, and no no matter where I be my word is law whether my army is near or not. I never have cared for old weapons and the one I have here in my hand is little worn. If you will excu exchange weapons with me . will do as I said before allow you all to go without being molested.''

''I don't know anything about your old weapons and other guns and neither do we want to either.''Said Catherine firmly.''We are not used to giving up our weapons to inx insurgents so we will just keep our own weapons.''

''you refuse me you fools.'' ried the general with a fierce frown.''

''Og Of course we do.''was the sudden reply.

''hen ''said general Manley''I shall have you locked up in one of my private rooms untill I decide to have you turned over to the proper surthorities to be held for investigation as spies. he then turning to his orderly he said;

''call twenty men.''

the orderly obeyed and at once a captian and twenty men in bright gray uniforms entered the room and saluted the general in a very grave fashion.

''Seize those spies and christian dogs and carry them to my private room andlock them up immediately.''cried the general pointing to violet and her sisters.

''To hear the command is to obey it your excellency.''answered the big op spait captian, and av advanced forward to seize the little girls by the arms but the little girls suddenly opened fire wounding six of them while the citizen at the same moment raised a chair and pounded it so forcibly against t 3 the captians head that the i big officer sat down upon the hard floor with a sudden bump with a fractured skull while the surviving soldiers looked both dazed, and fully astonished especially as they saw a number of their comrades wounded.

''Help''the others shouted, and some of them sprang to assist their comrades. here was now great excitement for the moment and the man had knocked down eight more of them who were sprawling in every direction upon the floor, when suddenly one of the rebels managed to jump in behind and suddenly seized his arms with the chair upraised for another blow and help him perfeclty motions motionless.

'' hoot him quick.''he called to violet.'' hoot him quick.''

he drew her gun again to obey but then to avoid being captured by the landelinians she and her sisters and the two other children managed to dash into another room and at the moment other rebels had grabbed hold of the wounded man and he also was helpless to follow them to escape.

''This is too bad.''Said the wounded man.''The poor vivian girls ought to have kept on shooting untill all were down.''.

''Well it on can't be helpled now''Said violet with a sigh.''We are out of ammunition and could not do it.''

''will you exchange weapons with me now you fools?''Demanded the general.

''No indeed we will not.''Cried the little girls.''then I'll lock you in the room

''He said and closing the door shut he put in a key and locked them securely within before they could make a rush for the door. he soldiers in the meantime took the two man elsewhere.

''the other generals wil think I have some body of importance now''Said the general with a sne sneer.''so it won t matter in the least, and as my army is moving already I'll leave them there t o try and escape of their own accord, and desert them and the house entirely. the christian armies are coming under some general and I must take my important books, papers and geographies and get out quick.''

''hat shall we do with the two man prisoners.''Asked the captian, who had just thought of them.''

''Put them in another rok room as we cannot be bothered with them in our retreat.'' answered the general.''It is concentinian Aronburgs army coming and with my army dwindled badly by my losses in the recent battle I cannot meet him now.'

''he situation looks rather tough your excellency.''said the op op captian rather doubtfully.''

''The situation is a base slander for us indeed.''Said Manley.''But the christian dogs will find that the breed of men I came from are exceedingly dangerous when aroused.''

''hen ''Said the a captian I will order my troops to move on, and we may as well leave the prisoners here to either be rescued or escaped as they will. I'll leave one man to guard them though so if they escape they will not attempt to follow me and get into my lines again.''

The guard himself who was left behind brought somet hing to eat to violet and her othersisters and the other prisoners the most they had to eat however being bread and black coffee on d a little milk and all the poor prisoners had to sleep upon in the morning or night following I mean was the hard stone floor with a single pillow for each and only thin coverlets. n the morning the little girls werethe first to be up and violet herself leaned out of thewindow of her prison in the tower to see if there was any certain way to escape from the prison. he room of their prison was not so very high as usually but nevertheless it was nearly two hundred feet from above above the ground nearly compared with the height of the highest buili building in chicago and it gave them a g d vie view of the surr surrounding country. o the west and even eastand also north they saw something like a distant forest, with a great expanse of shining silvery like river of water beyond it, (Probably the orma un) and other landscapes br beyond that if you please. here was even a dark speck upon the shore of the river that they thought might be the old wagon bottom in which they had arived in the silgular fashion to the nearest portion of julio gallio or vivian vickey. hen she looked first to the straight north, and saw a deep but narrow ravine lying between two hilly sections of the country and a third hill much higher than the others th that shut off the ra i ravine from there. In that location dense masses of smoke rolled but th the little girl did not pay any attention to thatat all.

straight westward the virtile land of Evna state of Galverinia suddenly ended a little way from the building like palace and the pretty little vivian girgirl who was Jennie could see miles and miles lf of seemingly familiar encampments mist ly all of gray, white, red, purple and blue tents of all sis sizes, with huts and rows of black tents which stretched further than her eyes could reach. she thought sure she had never seen it there before. It mis must be that this encampment, she thought with much interest that alone can seperate her andher sisters from the wonderful christian encampments, and she then remembered sorrowfully that she had been once told already that no one who are christians or galverinians siding with Anfel Angelinia again t the Rebellion had been ever able to cross the dangerous section of julio gallio or vivian vickey, not even themselves now. he rad once of the woo books called the Oz Book or volumes and had reach much About little orothy Gale and her adventures and als almost wished she was her instead of herself for porothys experiences and adventures were tame compared to hers and her sisters. and the region she and her sisters were now in was entirely worse than the big pangerous desert in the Oz books, or more mysterious than the worse or most peculiar lands in t he country of Oz or elsewhere in the Oz books, worse than even the Hones Homes or the Flatheads them slves. he read that in the first book a cyclone had carried little porothy across the deadly sands of Oz, and a mi magical pair of silver slippers had carried little porothy back again. she almost now wished that she and her sisters had either a cyclone or apair of such slippers for each to assist them escape the dangerous region of vivian vickey. for to her she believed just now the condition of her and her sisterswas and indeed. he knew only the rebel enemies have tents ofall various colors. he Angelinian tents are Kaki Kahki color.

The little girl realised h she he and her sisters had beel lockedu p in this l pl ce by the most disa disagreeable general of all the landelinians who insisted she and her sisters should give up their pretty little revolvers for the ones Hanley had which the li tle girls had no use of, and which might not be any good at all.

Really just now there seemed no hope of help for the little girls or their friends for there was no c ristian army in sight, and to escape out of the place was impossible. thoughtfully and sadly she gazed ac t most wistfully from the narrow window On all the l ndscapes not a living thing was stirring, and the distant encampments which probably was Hanleys no one could be seen except moving objects and it looked as if the tents were now going down with the greatest haste whatever and the volumes of smoke clouds was growing long larger andnearer every moment.

''Wait though please dearreader. Surely something was stirring on the far eastwr eastern landscal landscape--something her eyes had not observed at first.

At first it seemed like along and large cloud of dust, and at t imes seemed like a stream of something glittering and moving forward, also like spots of silver, and then then lo like a mysterous mass of rainbow co, colors that moved swiftly trard the pala e and trard the distant encampment which was fast disappearing from view.

''Wh what in t he world could it be?'' he wondered.

hen gradually but in a brief space of time, nevertheless, the vision drew near enough to the little girl to make out what it really was.

A broad column of horsemen monter monsterilously long seemed like something unrolling itself over the ground, while simultaneously advancing across the fields and ot her landscapes was a wonderful and seemingly never endless procession of men, in purple, infantry, artillery and other horsemen, long seemingly endless trains of ba ggage wagons, automol automobiles, trun rtruks, and other things that made the little girl open her eyes in amasement as she gazed . first came the magnificent cavarly, while elsewhere crossing other vales or through came same long processions of monsteriously great guns drawn by great teams of horses, shoulder to shoulder and trotting along as gracefully as a well matched team pulling a wafon. nd right riding in front of the whole vast column was a beautiful little girl, clothed in purple robes, and wearing a beautiful purple bonnet upon her dainty head. she held inone hand the reins that guarded her horse and in the other a small banner which a small design which seperated at t he top into something like two prongs, the prongs being completely t tipped by the strange letters

''O'' and E'' made of bright red color. She realized she had a captured rebel flag which signified the rebel states with the two letters, Georgia, a and Tennessee. The girl who was very beautiful both in form and features seemed only a trifle older than her elder sister, Jenie but was no more larger than violet herself and at once the little prisoner and vivian girl in the strange tower guessed that the lovely gr girl riding the horse far in advance of the immense advancing christian army must be her friend. Jennie urner of whom she and her sisters had so lately become acquainted with. he best friend of her nd her sisters and Gertrude Angelina. following close behind the little girl Jennie saw her old friend general Jack Evans himself riding calmly astride his own grand and magnificent black horse which prac pranced and trotted as naturally as the best race c horse could have done. nd then to her joy and surprise, c me general ick chopper, Hanson vivian her uncle and also general robert vivian her father, and another christian general with a funny funnel shaped hat tipped carelessly ver his left ear, his gleaming sabre over his right shouder shoulder, and his chest full of religious medals sparkling as brightly as it had ever done in the old days when she first knew him for it was general Jacob Baldwin himself. e and all the generals were on horseback it being a company of thirteen hundred generals and other officers at the front, of whom some were lean, stout and fat, some short and tall but all were dressed in handsome uniforms in various designs, and of p purple or lavendar color but the horses were decore decorated in clothing of various designs and colors no two being alike in any respect. o on wed wonder the rebel encampments were undid. he enemy saw the advance of the christian army and was rer retreating for better ground as it was general Hansons advance and attempt again to help capture julio Gallio and other sections of Vivian vickey. hind the generals came a perfect rolling tid tidal wave of infantry and yet long as the procession was there seemed between them ground enough for other columns to pass through and walk upon. Jennie knew at once it was the advance of general Hansons army and her heart beat high with hope and joy as shecrealized she and her sisters were soon to be rescued and allowed once more to greet her dearly beloved friends of the Angelinian armies, and Gertrude Angelino and her other girl and also boyscout friends, the generals and her father and uncle and Evans.

Indeed she felt as good as rescued as soon as she rego recognized all those in theprocession, for she well knew the courage and loyalty of all the her good old friends and girl comrades and also believed that any others who came from this marvelious christian army, ''the flower of Angelinia(('' would prove to be pleasant and reliable acquanitiences. Jennie at once awoke her friends and notified her sisters and all were soon crowded by theother windows looking at the scene below them.

As soon as the are nearest column had crossed the Evna landscape and all the procession from the beautifully and dainty Gertrude Angelino and Jennie urner to the whole column of soldiers had changed direction a little, and the foremost had reached the grassy m meadwoo meadows of the Galverinian country of the palan palace there was heard sharp orders and the whole column was graudll gradually halting. the foremost column mostly the many christian generals turned tward the handsome building, and rode haughtily andin a most dignified manner u ionto the broadroad broad roadway leading up tp the pl palace, while all the prisoners still gazed from their tower windows in eager joy and excitement.

While the rest not changing their direction of movement had halted, the column of generals cale quite close to the front door of the palace, and then halted, the leading general being Hanson himself dismounting to approach the door, that he might demand entrance.

As he was not admitted, he ordered some of the soldiers to break it down. hey succeeded and many went in besides some of the officers. he little girls just above his could keep silent no longer.

''here we are friends. here we are uncle.'' the little girls shouted in a chorus and as loudly as they could. ''Here'n violet, and my sisters.''

''Violet Who!'' Asked general Hanson vivian looking upward .

''Violet vivian and yo my sisters, your neices of course.''

Yetthe distance was to far up that the general could not make any out anything the little girls were saying and managed by means of making signs to tell them to drop a paper wrapped in a stone down so they could understand what the little girls were hollering about.

As soon as one of the little girls obeyed there was great excitement, and general Hanson shouted through a large trumpet which made a gr great noise heard way-up there.

''Why hello my little neices. Tell me what in th e whole name of Goodness Gracious are you vivian girls doing up there? Do you own the palace or did you capture it from the landelinians?'''' nothing b just now.'' Violet herself called down as lodu loudly as she could'' Because there is nothing whatever for us to do. Save usuncle save us please.''

''Save you. From whom. here are no enemies in the buil building and you are quite safe now.'' Replied the general. Two rebel guards were the only ones found in the buildingcandthey are prisoners.''

''But we are prisoners in a room. We are all locked in with our friends so that we can't get out of the tower itself.'' She pleaded.''

''That's all right.'' Said the general.'' You might have been worse off little girls if we had not come in time. Just consider the matter of our prompt arival. You are safe now and can't get sho shot, or cut up or trodden down by a wheeler. But don't lean too far out or you will fall out. some folks would think themselves lucky to be up h herehaving such a big building a ll to themselves.''

''As long as you are here we don't mind it at all but we don't like the idea of being /o looked up in this tower without anything to eat.''Declared the little girls real ixi g that Hanson was teasing them.''And we want to get down from up here immediately and see you and our friends and the two little girls with you.''

''Very well you will.''Said the v great generalnodding.''It shall be just as my little neices say my brave little ivian irls.''Who was it that locked u you up so far up there?''''''

''The general in chief of the landelinian armies. who is a horrid general.'' she answered. t

At this Jennie urner who had been listening carefully to the conversation, called tow iolet and her sisters from her horse sa asking;

''Hy did the general in chief lock you up, my dear. Did you try to capture him and have the tabl tables turned on you.''

''It is that in one way but because I or my sisters would not allow him to take our guns from us.''Exclaimed Jennie''It was out own fault in one way for during out our excitement we ran in the room, and he slammed the door in our face and locked it, and then left us all alone in the building and went for hisown command.''''''

''I don't blame you for refusing.''Exclaimed Jennie urner promptly.''We will find our way to the room at once and oblige your freedom immediately.''

''Oh thank you very much.''Cried Catherine who as soon as she heard the sweet voice of the girlish scout knew that she and her sisters would soon love to learn to love her dear y dearly.The little girl followed by Gertrude Angeline and a group of armed soldiers drove around to the third doorway of the wing, upon which the soldiers boldly proceeded to break down. As soon as the door w gave way the two girlscouts stepped into the hall, and made their way at once to the hallway followed by eighteen soldiers. he soldiers made a great noise and clatter which brought the other soldiers who had broke in front the front to the scene bearing two prisoners with them. he rebel prisoners were roused to great anger b this sudden turn of events and though captured and armed stood before them all, and seeing the slight and delicate form of the two little girls cried out;

''How dare you and your dirty christian dogs enter general Manleys headquarters unbidden just because our army retreated. If I or my comrade was not capture you two litt le devils I'd make you leave this palace at once, or bind you and all you your soldiers in chains and irons and throw you into the pits of lime.''

''What a dangerous man indeed.''Murmured Gertrude Angeline wit h a laugh.

''He seems to be a little nervious.''Replied one of his captors.

ut Jennie urner only smiled at the angry rebel prisoner.

''Sit down please mister.''he said very calmly.''The christian armies have traveled a long way to see ivian ickey once more, and now we being hear you must listen to what we have to say.''

''Must listen to what you have to say you little guttersnipe.''Bersamed the other opt capt ive his blue eyes flashing with the zimmermannian fury that was in him.

''You say must to me again and prisoner though I am I'll strike you to the floor.''

''To be sure.''Said Jennie urner.''I am chief girlscout of the Boyscouts companies of Angelinia and you just try itand you will find out that I myself am powerful ebough to order your immediate execution at any time I wish to do so. I need only to speak the word. Yet I or my companion did not come here to do you landelinian guards any harm but rather to free the ivian irls from the tower your general had locked them in, the news having reached us that Manley had locked hem in the highest port ion of the palace tower. you have got to show us to the room or you will be shot down where you are, the both of you.''

er eyes flashed fire, and she pouted and stamped her little foot at the same time but just the same the rebels were not cowed and answered;

''You can shoot us down right now if you want to but you m will have to find the rooms as under no conditions will we show the place to you.''

''Hearing t hese words the little girl grew furious, but a reproachful look from Gertrude stopped her just the moment when she was going to utter the grim command.

''If they were your ch ildren who were locked up there I suppose you woulf would wish us to rescue them.''Said she indignantly.John.''he said to a soldier near her.''March these two prisoners before general Hanson ivian and tell them he insulted me and Gertrude Angeline.We willourselves find the room where the ivian irls are locked in. And if they are not found or restored to the christian army within an hour come what may the two rebel dogs will be shot..At pressant athere are at least ten minutes every day that we try our best to do a good thing and so will never stand for v being insulted by any enemy of od whatever, a traitor to his country and od himself combined.

so if we fail to find the room in which they are locked in, I must and shall devote my time to see to their immediate execution, and I would like to be able to have ordered the command on the instant but by one looked look my companionhere (Pointing to Gertrude Angeline)begged me not to and so I won't.''

he soldier obeyed and the men were led outside, and then many more came in so help search the place.

''we must try to find a way to the rooms the quickest way possible so we can liber ate the ivian irls.''he said as the men started the sear ch.

''But first we must find the room where the little girls have been locked up in the tower above.

''Of course we will.''nswered one of the officers readily.''But we have forgotten all about mentioning mentioning it, Jennie.''There are others with them in the tower which we did not notice before. hat was just a moment ago before we entered to help and we did not expect to see any one else with them. here are several men we seen with some other soldiers and a boy and girl.''hen turning to the e men he said;

''ome follow me and the other officers, and search every hall way and room. some of you others make for the t ower and we will soon release the prisoners.

Gertrude Ge gertrude and ennie turner followed the searchers, and those going for the towerway passed jpthe stairs that led to the rooms in theupp er sections of the t ower. hile the were gone none of the Angelinian soldiers if you please to mention remained in the reception roo m near the towerroom n and the officer in command wa was leaning against a form th t was supposed to be a copper statue when one of the Angelinians walking past accidentally walked on his feet and he hollred in a harsh almost angry voice;

''et off my feet please and look where you are going. what are you trying to do crunch my toes in so I can't march.''

''Oh excuse me please.''the other replied, hastily drawing back.''Di d I step on you your foot.''

''Yes you did and spoiled my polish too.''Said the private.''ut I can believe and so think it was accidentall so don't mention it again or have no hard feelings babout it. you missed the fun just now and our comrades are searching for the ivian irls.''

''hat's all right.''replied the soldier.''iolet and her sisters and the others with them will soon be free, and then we can take possession of this palace for the christian generals. But it must be a great misfortune to see that Manleys army has moved away so suddenly before we could catch him and prevent him from confrnting us near julio Gallio.I'm sorry but I feel general Hansons plans will be frustrated.''

''Why?''Asked the soldier who was still feeling his hurting foor.''

''Because general Manley by getting away has outwitted us, and I can say y so because I know he has!''

''Oh yes I believe it is true too.''Returned the soldier''I wish general Manley had an outfit of mith and inkers Improved Combination steel brains like orothys Tiktok had and maybe he could not be so confounded wise.''Said another soldier joining in the conversation.. hat sort of generals have we got that t hey allow themselves to be outwitted this way!''

''I don't know admittedthe first spoke man.''It is not general Hansons fault though fir for he did not get a chance t o get after Manley after being checked in the pas pawt battle. ut in our advance our armies worked wonderfully this time and splendidly too and my conscience tells me that even if we don't worst Manley in this conflict we can at least let him now we are notafraid to move on ivian ickey when commanded to do so.''

''No I think you are right.''Said he man whose foot had been stepped upon. My Name is rank Shirter.

''You don't think we will meet defeat in our attempt here do so suppose!''Added another soldier who had been listening with great interest to this conversation.''

''o I don't think so but I fear it.''

''Then''continued the same spokesman.''I regret to say that we would be looked upon or our generals at least would be looked upon as greatly inferior to general Manley and his Gens confederate officers. or we have many times been already outgeneralsed by less higher and better commanders than Manley himself, but that is because he and so many of his commanders know all the country, are in possession of all Geographies that they know or learn by heart, and can find anything on the map at a moments notice while it takes some of our generals nearly ten minutes to find a secluded spot.''

''I congratulate you for this wise speech.''Replied the soldier.''ome of our generals can help being inferior in knowledge to revel generals when they st eal all our geographies, spelling books, readers and histories to use against us for information they wish to know. ut nevertheless our generals and we ourselves try our best to do all our duties we perform. ut you have no idea how great they themselves would be if children at school would have the interest for all schoolbooks, artimatics, histories and geographies that the rebel generalx have. hey usually don't know the value of school untill they find out to late. he rebels know and take advant ge of it alright. That's the reason why I think we have so much trouble worsting any of the Insurgent generals.''

''I can guess.''said the commanding officer with them also joining in and looking

at a small geography he pulled out ofhis pocket''That some day I hope to look general Manley in the face and say to him that all his st udies did him no good. ''
''Do not be overconfident too soon, I beg of you.''said a lieutenant''for you could not and can never tell what will happen in the future. Our cause for all you know may be worsted and even destroyed. Only Our Lord knows the future.If he wills it we will come out in victory if not we will lose.''
''Oh are you very sure of that?''Asked the captian looking surprised.
''Very''said the lieutenant.
''In that case''said the captian.''I won't be overconfident but shall pray always that my hopes will come true in the long run. For I am a poor commander K, I'm afraid and had many times made poor mixups.''
''Thank you for the confession.''said the lieutenant.
Just then to their surprise and relief Gertrude.Angeline and Jennie Turner, and the other soldiers re-entered the hallway, with Violet and her sisters, followed closely by the wounded soldier, the boatman and his two children.
The first thing in turn Violet and her sisters did when they got outside the building was to rush into the embrace of their father and uncle and other generals whose handsome faces beamed with delight as they pressed their forms one after another to their bosoms bosoms. When general Jack Evans embraced them --very gently in their strong arms and Baldwins and some of the others also---very gently though, for they knew their strong robust arms might hurt the little girl heroines if they squeezed too roughly.Thesegreetings haveing been exg exchanged, Violet took the lot from her pocket which she secretly took from Manly during the argument with him and led the followers to the cabinents and unlocked them all with the purpose of intor introducing the books and maps and papers Manley had concealed there, but while doing this they were greatly disappointed for Manley had taken everything with them. Nevertheless it was useless to cry over spilt milk and so while the other generals were seeing to it the armies would be intrenched right where they were the little girls told of their experience and why they got locked up in the room. Then they shook hands with some of the other generals and officers and thanked them all for helping in their rescue.
ThenViolet herself asked;
''Where did general Jack Evans go?'
''I don't know ''answered one of the soldiers.''Who are the two man and strange beautiful boy and girl with you?''
''They are other friends of ours.''answered the little girl in an anxious tone.
''But I wonder where general Evans went ?''
''He went to the other side of the house near the back yard of the palaxe to see if there are any stables for the horses ofthe generals.''said an officer who was a lieutenant.''He declared that herust find a place for the horses.''''''''
Without waiting to hear any more violet and her little sisters ran to find general Jack Evans, and just outside the door theycame upon the leader of the boyscouts who was still riding his mount and beside him was general Nick Chopper.
Nick Chopper still had the big bow of blue ribbon One ofthe Vivian Girls had given him during their adventure with him and it was fastened to the hilt of his sabre in a pleasa ppleasing way and also he wore a red bow of ribbon around his hat given to him to by Jennie herselff.In an instant the general had dismounted his no horse and was hugging each little girl joyfully.
''Oh general Nick We are so glad to see you again.''the little girls cried happily.
''I'm glad to see you the dear little Vivian girls,,.''said the general.''We have had fine adventures together lately have' haven't we?????''
''''Yes indeed ''Violet replied....''How areyou?''''!
''As healthy as ever.''The general answered in a very meek voice.''But I have a friend of mine and he tells me that every little thing scares him and makes his heart heart beat fast.But let me introduce you little Ie goils to a new friend of mine, the boy scout leader of Company L. James Pinnier.''
''Oh are you the new leader now ?''She asked turning to the other soldier or young boy who was just then examinaing two large pistols which displayed large bull bullet chambers big enough to startle any one who were not used to guns and revolvers.
''I'm dreadfully glad to say I'm the knew boyscout leader.''
the lad answered snapping the two triggers together with a fierce click .....
''''''''Thenwhere is the former boyscout leader.''Jennie asked.
''It was of no use for him to command the boyscouts.'' aid the boy sadly.''He had tried that but szd to say he failed to accomplish it long.''
''Why it is the same with me and my sisters.''Said Violet.''Yet we keep a trying.''
''But you and youtyour sisters escape dangerous encounters without dying so it surely does not matter.''Replied the boy.''For my part I was obliged by your uncles orders. to take hisplace. He waskilled by the Landelinians duringthe savahe battle of Forma Catherine.''
''''How dreadful indeed.''Said Voice alarmed?
''Isn't it though.''Returned the boyscout leader.''Battling Landelinians and lose your life.Don't it sound terrible. But I have never encounteredcany rebels and I don't like to even thoughmy conscience tells me it is wrong to be afraid. If I had no conscien ce I would probably be reckless like many others have been, and then be killed or wounded mhself, which would mean that I have sacrificed my own life for nothing. Ic a fighting lad I was born and fighting I shall die. But I'll not have any reckless deeds on my conscience to be sorry for.''''''

''''''I think you are and will be a very good boyscout anyway.''said Violet , patting the lad on the head.
''''Inthat you are mistaken .''Was his reply..''I am a verygood boy perhaps, but disgracefuly disgracefully bad in my desciplinne as I have not learned enough yet. and as I fear it is the wicked nature of the Landelinians to be vfierce and cruel I dread to meet them and in such state I am acting as no good brave lad would have or has ever done or acted before. That is why I left the ra r n ranks and become leader instead of a private boyscout.''
''But I really hope you are notreally cowardly as you say.''said Angeline.''I have seen many boys like you, who spoke the same way as you have done, and afterwards have sene seen them act as bravely as xan be.''
''''All a mistke my dear girl friend.''Protested the boyscout leader very gravely.
''To others and you tn they may have seened seemed to be brave especially at times but I have never been in any kind of danger nomatterwhat it is that I have not been afraid.''
''For I or my sisters.''said Hettie truthfully.''But I must go and see lu our friend general Jack Evans, and then if you remain I will see you andgeneral Nick Chopper agi again.
Violet and her sisters now ran around to the back yard of the place, and soon found alarge stable being guided to it by a l ud loud volumes of voices and a distrat d strayting hu hubbub of sounds such as men and soldiers make when angry.or excited. Something seemed to be wrong in the place palace barns and when Violet and her sisters arived to the scene and looked through the opening of one of the doorways, they saw a group of soldiers and one officer huddled closely together and watching what appeared to be in the distance an immense column of smoke(the same fire violet and her sisters had seen from the tower window). The column of smoke rose high and of three different colors white, black and cream, and peculiar flashing lights like explosions bounded here and there about the cloud, and at first violet or her sisters could not tell what it was, while the thundering of some explosions in the direction of the fire nearly deafening them. But suddenly the flashes stopped whirling or appeari ntn and then to their utter amazement the little girls saw coming up the coun yard on horseback general Evans himself followed by a number of officers. For an instant the little girls remained utterly motionless, and then seeing them the general hastened his horse at a swifter trot and with a strut of proud defiance of the enemy, while his officers followed closley behind, and having in thdrm idst a number of rebel prisoners.''
''Why Evans''Grieg Violet in a shocked and surprised voice''Have you been fighting again, encountered a party of the enemy so soon /.''
''I really think I have''Retored the general in a tone that showed for some reason or other he was not a in a very good mood that day .''Do you little girls think that I would let a column of Landelinian horsemen try to lord it over me about a crossroad, and claim to run this region as long as I am able t o shoot or use my sabre. Not if my name is General Evans'.''
''It is not general Evans to us it is Jack Evans and you are talking in a tone that shows you are angry, which is very undignified.''Said Violet reprovingly.''
Evans rode up and dismounted and Jennie called to Gertrude and her compainion;
''Come here Gertrude and Jennie and show us our way to the front again for general Evans is here with a group of Landelinians as prisoners.''
The two other girl heroines, came into the yard, and the soldiers who were not buisy just then silently watched the nine beautiful children, without however offering to approach or say anything. Violet took Gertrude her friend by her hand, and suddenly exclaimed;
''Ho Oh Gertrude How dreadfull you look. You have lost a part of your dress, and one of your ribbons is nearly pulled off from your hair, and the side of your neck is be bleeding.''
''That is nothing.''SaidGertrude.''Just look at the Landelinian guard. He tried to attack me and I did him up.''
Violet and her sisters sadly shook their heads.
''I don't approave of this dangerous buisness at all.''She said on helping Gertrude along tward the plampalace for she limped a little.''It is not a good and safe thing for you Angelinia to get too close among the wicked Landelinians for they hate you and even Jennie Turner worse than we. They would soon destroy you if they could lay their hands on you.''
''I don't thinkthey are so dangerous when you know how to manage them.''Replied Jennie Turner herself.''It is some of the Angelinians who are to blame. They did not watch the prisoner as closely as they should have. But I was born and raised in Abbisannia.before I was stolen and made a child slave and being one of general Concentinian Cronburgs neices I won't allow any Angelinian Insurgent to run over me and put on airs as long as I can fight in self defense.''
''Very wellAngelinia''said Voice.''We won't talk about it any more.''

Soon they came to the bovacut leader and general Nick Chopper to whom the little girls introduced the two other girls.

"Glad to meet any of the best friends of the Vivian Girls,," Said the general politely. "To judge by your presence appearance you are not as good in nature as the Vivian Girls are."

"Your present appearance makes us feel glad as we heard much of your adventures." said Gertrude Angeline loking at the general proudly. "M

"My my, how good it would be if you was onlymy father." Said pretó Jennie Turner with a laugh.

"And my my, what Iwould give if I could only dare to exc enclose you in my strong arms in an embrace."

"Don't worry." Answered Jennie Turner. "You are only too strong at that but just now as there are't oo many present to see it it would not be worth while for us to make that performance."

"Thank you" said the general, as he rode closer to some of the Vivian Girls.

"Besides it would not be rightto do it now." Contimed Jennie Turner looking steadily at the many soldiers and officers around and also at Violet and her sisters.

"Of course not" said Violet herself hastily. "Jennie Turner is my friend and so are you but it would not be polite to embrace any of us in the presence of too many persons under any circumstances."

"K'I'lltry to remember that." Said the general "But you know I'm a litt le absent minded at times and liable to do anything when loves drives one so."

As general Hanson Vivian and his brother was intending to encamp their immense armies here forva while and take possessi possession of the building for a headquarters Violet and her sisters and the two girl friends secl selected the drawing room for their own abiding place, and soon tward evening as they were all prepared, they came in just in time to see a strange sight. They were invited into the main chamber and were invited to sit at the longtable with a hundred generals and other high officers. Gertrude Angeline and Jennie Turner seated themselves between the two generals Evans and Nick Chopper. Opposite to them sat general Hanson Vivian himself and hisbrother Robert Vivian and besides them where the vacant seats for Violet and her sisters themselves. Around this important group of high generals and other grand officers was ranged lower officers and soldiers and seargents as witnesses and as Violet and her sisters lookedcat thehandsome uniforms of the officers and generals she said Violet said

"Why all of you seem to be officers generals, colonels and the like."

"We are nearly all generals and other officers." Answered her father pleasantly, and smiling his old old fashioned way. "I have in my own army one hundred and eight generals, six hundred colonels,, seventy five majors, and nearly five hundred captians, besides lieutenants and so on. I'd like to promote general Nick Chopper for I believe he should recieve a higher commission for guarding you litt le girlsthrough danger during your adventures with him, and I have noticed that most officersand generals like him usually fight better andaremore reliable than common officers of lower t ypes. Besides the officers and generals like him are more important in manners, and lend dignity to our armies."

"No doubt you are right papa." Said Jennie seating herself beside Violet.

"And now." Announced general Hanson Vivian, the chief commander of the armies of Angelinia; "We will all hold a colemn conference to decide the best manner of moving our many armies to help overthrow the rebellion. The main section I wish is to send general Hansonia's christian army to move against general Handonia Federal who is moving again t me. THThat will leave me free to resume our movements against general Manley."

General Robert Vivian himself was the first to address the great meeting of generals.

"To begin with" Said he. "Word came to our noble and illustrous general, Hanson Vivian my brother, and loyal companion in this war, that generals Manley and his followers have made attempts to send various armies throughout all parts of Calverinia, and had asked general Handonia Federal to move against me so as to prevent my following him as needed. We all know that all sextions of Vivian Vickey is under a terrific seige, that general Mis Allister Stanck has resigned his command and that Furragatorian had been placed in his stead and are is making millions of prisoners built new fortifications to help him resist and maintain his desperate tug of war against the seige. Also that general Manley had recieved orders from the Landelinian government, the Confederacy of Abbi eannia to sent big forces forward to seize Angelinia Agatha, and Gor Glorianna and that also to move big rebel armies into the middle western section of Calverinia, and that just now are there are no christian armies powerful enough inthose sections of Calverinia to oppose Manleys plans.

Naturally our superior and great general Hanson Vivian, my loyal brother wishes to undertake a campaign or adventure to move his armies and mine against Manley and make what may be called the wars biggest campaign. This campaign will probably we hope liberate a a part of the Calverinian country from the horrors of worse battles than we already have and may also cause thecapture of Manley and his Cond Confederates and end the inn insurrection. But for a long time we could find no way whatever to cross the region between the two states of Ossania and Angeline Vine. Finally one of our generals went on a long scouting tour and his name was general Olinda Greatheart, who having explored the reg o region even at the risk of capture at once returned and presented my brother with a big and very important map, which we all could examine and so make a comfortable turn in events for us if we undertake it it properly. As soon as he had recieved the map we saw by it the only way to complete our movements is to see to the capture of Inland Twenty five on Vicky Collector Run River, and Frunish. We have since the occurance at Norma Catherine assembled a mightier army which we now have. you all can behold inthe brave assemblance of generals here the pick of all the finest soldiers of Angelinia or Abbisannia, and if we are obliged to meet fierce opposition in our plans every general as well as the whole army and others to follow our orders, will battle fiercely unto death even untill our purpose is accomplished."

Then another general spoke, and it was general Nick Chopper himself "Why should we allow general Hansonia to fight general Handonia Federal?" He asked. "He is a dangerous rebel and it would be best for one os us to oppose him."

"TT T oo dangerous." Cried Violet herself. "Why all the others are just as bad. And itis not wrong for general Hanson our Uncle to choose whom he pleases. Is it wrong for him to choose him when he intends himself to follow after general Manley so that he cannot recieve force the rebel armies near Julio Callio and threaten general Mansion?"

"I was not opposing any of general Hanson Vivians views." said general Nick Chopper. "I merely think it was oris not safe to do such a thing as Hansonia could not oppose so mighty an insurgent general as Handonia Federal who has an army nearly one hundredmillion strong. He intends to oppose us or even any other general with the pur purpose of covering Manleys intentions so that we may not know it. It was I'm sure general Manleys intentions knowing we intend to put Hansonia to opose Federal, to move his own armies away from general Hanson in a pretense of retreat when in reality he intends to only retreat to a secure position and fall upon us unawares and crush us and drive us back tward Julio Callio itself. These Landelinian generals are so desperate that I suppose if they were surrounded on a high rock with the precipice side of it ending into the sea they would jump down into the water and drown themselves rather than be defeated or surrender."

"This is news to me indeed." Said general Vivian, thoughtfully. "I had supposed general Manley to be intending to make a general retreat and leave Hansonia alone with me and Federal. I suppose someone probably spies afare to be blame for the whole matter. But in any case we must be on our guard and not allow any of our armies to be surprised. I will remain here for the present then and if anything happens or if Hanso ia is threatened with defeat, I'll leave Manley to himself and strike Federal."

"General Raymond Richardson Federal is one of the most wicked of all the Landelinian generals." Declared general Baldwin himself. "If he had been here instead of Handonia Federal something terrible would have happened, but it seemed with only Handonia Federal in the way no one cared about him or his army. But he is dangerous too a great fighter nd is apt to destroy Hansonia or defeat him if we leave him unprotected."

"then" said general Hanson again. "We did not get the idea of the information as was needed before and both we and Hansonia are in peril. I must at once if possible sent a messenger to general Hansonia Federal and warn him. Where do you think general Hansonias army is just now."

"No one knows exactly." Replied general Jack Evans. "For general Roquat has confronted Hansonia also on the east side with another rebel army and he isI believe at the northern end of the region of Vivian Vickey, and he has advised Manley as my spies told me to watch out for any intentions of our own generals"

"I would like to know" Said Angeline. "Who this general Hansonia is."

"I will r tell you now." Replied her uncle general Hanson Vivian. "He is said to be a new y commissionedgeneral and commands an immense army of Angelinians and Abyssinkilians, and has a great cavarly force to his own. Also under his command are many thousands of the Geminian members who as you know in spying on the enemy wear black hood and regalia and who are members of spies who belo g to a powerful and st o strong secret service body, that outside of wars labor at other detecting works, capturing culprits, finding lost persons and causing the arrest of criminans criminals and can catchor find any one or antanything that are even concealed in the crevices of rocks even. They are the cleverest spies of the christian armies the "Gemin Gemini and the Landelinians if persueing them can only find them with the greatest difficulty. Also they make great plans and plotsof their own in spying on the insurgent general and their encampments, which they hide among their person with great suces success, and so the Gemini are wonderfully clever, and all we have of the informations and plans of our own, is what we get from the Gemini."

"I understand." said Violet, while she and her sisters nodded their little heads wisely.

"For the reason that he is opposed to have many persons who not know come into his limes general Francis Ha Hansonia is not fond of those who come too near his limes without the proper permission." continued Hanson "and never allows any one whether he is a messenger or not to enter his limes unless he can produce a written order or document by me alone. He refuses from any one else. If any one i-i wis es to go and see general Hansonia and warn him of his peril, they must go and visit his limes, where he is supposed to be a llpowerpowerful, and as so many enemies are between me and mys my own armies it would be for the persons going a extremely dangerous undertaking. 8"

"But for the sake of our Cause and for the sake of the poor child slaves" Said Joice "e ourselves ought to do it."

"You" Demanded Hanson severely. "Nothing doing. I'm going to send some men." What do you little girls want me do to do. Sent you to your deaths and be responsible for it. Never. and don't mention it again."

''We shall do it under any do conditions whatver whatever.''''''Replied Joice Vivian
''Although it may require a lot of courage for me or my sisters to defy the refusal just given to us. So we are only doing our duty for our country's cause, and if we do not try it we are sure he will fail as no man will be able to reach his army.It is more dangerous for the men to go than for us.''
''We could make attempts to avoid the rebel armies and prowlers.''said Angeline.''
''But just the same we are going.''
''But I can't bear to let my own dan daughters go on such a sucidal mission.''
Remarked general Robert Vivian himself with a startled look.''If you refuse to obey Hansons warning and commandI shall stay here and so will he and abandon the undertaking against Mr Manley untill youbreturn. But if you cannot be persauded to change your minds we will wish you great success in your undertakings, so for I do know it seems almost impossible to send men on such a mission. But nevertheless we would advise you ,little girls to take along with you a hundred of the most crefty of your boyscout spies.''
''We do not need them father.''said Violet''For if with the aid of my sisters and some of our brave followers we may select we could not accomplish the purpose on time, if not atall, then it would be useless for the boyscouts to undertake the dangerous j journey with us.''
''Quite true indeed''sighed general Hanson himself.
''If you will excuse me I wkl will now retire to my own co and.''said Jack Evans.
''I have been here for quite awhile, and as Violet and her sisters wish to go on the adventure themselves I must see to it that their selectio ns will be safe nes.''
When he had left them Violet said to Gertrude Angeline;
''Will you joinour party on this adventure.?''
''You and I are the best of friends.''Replied Gertrude.''Where you and your sisters go I will go.''
''Oh and I'm going with them too, with my little girl friends of course.''Said Jennie Turner also not lokn likn liking to be left out.''I would not miss the fun and expitement for anything.Will you go to Richee(To her friend Angeline Richee)
''To be sure ''Said Angeline Richee. inalmost a careless tone. he was looking over a large geography and not paying much attention.
''Heroine actions are just in her line ot that.' 'Remarked one of the lieutenants.
''If she becomes as great a heroine as Violet and her sisters are, she will be better than ever.''
'''Then ''Said Violet herself''We will arrange to start for the army under general Francis Hansonin at daybreak tomorrow And in the meantime we will now rest ourselves and prepare ourselves for the long journey.'''
Although for some reason or other general Jan Jack Evans did not again appear to the many generals, the ore orderlies and some boyscouts waited upon the little girls and their three girl companions and indeed both the orderlies and the boyscouts and even others did all in their power to make them comfortable. There were found in the big palace or building many vacant buildi rooms at their disposal, and the brave little girls besides all of the highest christian generals and some of the under officers were easily provided for and even liberally feasted if you fon't mention.
The horses of the baggage wagons of the armies trains of privions were all that time unharnessed and even allowed to roam at will among the quickly erecting encampment horse pens, and durig the time the once pments were being erected, many strangers came in tosee the christian lines, and many were nearly frightened to fits by theight of the enormous lines of cannon being brought up to be placed into position as was custom. The Angelinians however did no harm-at all but nevertheless the o r curious persons were not admitted within the lines.At one time during that same evening Violet and her sisters even found some little maids who had gotten within the lines somehow crouching in terror in a corner of a large tent, with several armed guards standing before the entrance. The soldiers of courseid not know there was any children in the tent.
''You little girls certainly look beautiful to night.''One of the guards said as they approached the tent.
''Maybe so.'' Answered Violet''But will you kindly allow the little girls withinthe tent to go out. They are afraid of you and your long gun.''
''No,non no,.''Cried one of the children in the tent in reply.''I saw some bad men in the street looking for me and my companions and we are hiding.''
''Then''said Violet looking suspiciously up and down the company street of the new encampment''Joice warn the general you see first that there must be something wrong in the lines. The children are hiding in the tent and are afraid to come out. They say there must be Landelinians within our lines looking for them.I'll see to it the maidens are attended to myself.''
''I'll do the best I can.''Said Joice, and she ran away as fast as she could to warn the officers.
The little maidens who were in the tent seeing that prettier children were kind th to them lost their fear and as they were brought to the building the lit le girls cried for food.
''Are you so very humfry.''?Asse asked Violet in wonder and sympthy.
As soon as the little maids were properly properly taken care of Violet and her sisters went about to see if they could get some boyscouts to come with them, and once they heard a soldier say to acomrade as they passed them ;
''You can hardly imagine the size of general Hansonin's army of Angelinians.
''His army is so large it seemes to me it could fill two great cities to overflowing ; and if put in a thick line would stretch from the town of Dorothy Gale, to Angelinin Agathia a distance of thirty miles. I am very sure he is not in as much danger as it is feared he is for his army is too large to be beaten or anything else by general Hansonin Federal...some day if I can I'm going to have a chance to go and see his army, and see what it is like.Maybe I would like to be init better than this one.''
''What army do you like better than this oraft Demanded Violet stepping in front of him curiously.
''General Hansonin's.''Answered the soldier..
The little girls had spent most of the afternoon of that day talking with general Nick Chopper himself, and also some of the boyscouts they had managed to select to accompany them on their mission, and Nick Chopper related to the little girls all that had taken place in his army or General Hansons army since the little girls had left it for t he few months. Violet and her sisters were much interested in the story of the heroism of Gertrude Angeline and her two girl companions, who had before the battle of Palmanrinia saved a little child from being stolen by a rebel scouts company on horseback. Gertrude Angeline did not know that she had really accomplished a grave act untill she had been informed of it by manyof the officers. Then it was also found that since the death of her parents and sister Annie Aronburg before the late part of the war that she was the only noice of general Constentinian Aronburg, the general who was proving himself a perfect Napoleon of Angelinin and who was entitled to even command in a higher commission but who did not want it. Gertrude Angeline and her companions had had many adventures, before she or they had regained general Vivians armies, and in these they had been accosts accompanied by soldiers of all kinds, and had once secured a wonderful squadron of splendid horses single handed and got away with them. In the otheradventures boyscouts and even Walter Starring, and some others had assisted assisted the little heroines, but John Evans who commanded a division of Artillery men knew nothing of Gertrudes experiences untill after she became the highest girl scout leader of the girlscouts. Then he journeyed from Constentinian Aronburgs army under which he had been serving to general Hansons army to see them, and succeeded though he encountered a countless number of perils on hiway, and on hearing that general Hanson Vivian was intending to make another expedition against the besieged at Julio Gallio of or Vivian Vickers and force the fall of that important point in Galverinia he decided to join general Vivians army and brought along his brother General Jack Evans as well. Having heard this story Violet and her sisters rel related to them all their own adventures since the beginning of the war, and then went out with their friends and so of the boyscouts to find John Evans, which general Hanson had caused to gain the commission of Capt ian General.
They came upon general John Eva s sanding motionless beside the garden gate of the place yards, but when Gertrude Angeline and the little girls drew his attention and intorduced the boyscouts to him he bowed politely, and shook hands with them all.''
''What a remarkable adventure to see you little girls again.''Exclaimed the general as he held Violet in his arms.
''I quite agree with you that it is.''Replied Violet in a happy and pleasant voice.
''Little creatures like us have no buis buisness to have so many friends like thi this I guess as we all know but we cannot help it I suppose when we are so good and lob loving. But nevertheless it was our heroism that did it, so we cannot be justly blamed.''
''Of course not.'' aid the general.''And you little girls seem to be bent on another adventure, and I hope your boyscouts who are going to accompany you areof some use.''
''Oh yes we will make them of some use alright.''Returned Jennie also nestlinb in his arms.''And we never tire of adventure, never have to beafraid of anything, or care what we do as long as it f is for the good of our own cause and country.''
''Are your companions or boyscouts intellengent?''Askes the general.''
''I'm afraid they are not.''Said AAngeline.'' ut it would be foolish just now to waste much itellengence on the boys, when so many deeds need to be performed. But I gues they know enough to obey us when we ask. So we will be pretty well satisfied.''
That night Violet and her sisters slept in pleasant beds in the chamber next to that occupied by geber general Hanson Vivian himself, and Gertrude Angeline and Jennie Turner and even Angeline Richee choosed their own single rooms and slept as soundly in that position as did Violet and her sisters who slept in twos in a single bed. But before daybreak every one of the little girls including the whole army was all awake and stirring, and soon the adventurers were eating with the generals a good but hasty breakfast in the great dining room of the generals new headquarters at the head of a longtable, on something that looked like a raised platform, with the Vivian Girls on the right hand,and their companions on the left.Violet sat next to general Jack Eva schimself so that she might have the chance to ask his advise advise about the proposed journey while she and her sisters ate.
Lower down the long table were twenty sight of the boyscouts, and at the end of the room was a solitary officer eating his soup while pacing up and down and doing some thinking.It did not take them long to finish the breakfast meal, and then the whole p party were mounted on the horses brought u brought up for them, and the party was soon ready to start for the christian army under general Francis Hansonin.

First rode Gertrude Angeline and her two companions, with violet and her sisters behind them. Then came the boyscouts re riding side by side in a good ran of form. After these tr rode a number of soldiers looking very brave and yet more handsome in their splendid l v lavander uniforms. he whole party m rode with an air of most importance. And so the magnificent pro procession left the company street and started along the road leading out of the camp just as the sun was starting to rise, and by the time the sun literally came out they had made good progress tward the valley that lead them away from general Hansons army.

the roadway they went upon lead for a long time through a pretty country country scene, and the past a long stretch of farm lands and even large picnic groves and grounds that was very inviting to the whole party. ut the procession continued to steadily advance for a mile or so untill Gertrude Angeline cried out in an abrupt and al most commanding manner that surprised them all:

''Halt. Halt.''

Violet and her sisters stopped their horses so suddenly that the horses of those riding on behind nearly ran into them, and if they had not immediately stopped their horses they would have either been dismounted and tumbled over one another. Immediately the little girls and the rest of the party saw some one who appeared to be a strange a child or boy, struggle from a clumb of st black berry bushes, run across the road and disappear into a clump of bushes. and w at what startled them all was that he was a b y boyscout of the Landelinians, and it looked as if he was Gerald Starring.

''What was the matter.''called Angeline Richeswho alonehad not seen him.

'''Why we have seen a rebe, rebel boyscout, that's all.''Replied Violet.

''A lone rebel bo sboyscout.''Repeated Angeline Riches, in great astonishment.

''Yves we saw him leap from the bla black berry patch younder and leap into the bushes across the road, and it looks quite suspicious.''

''But do you think a foolish Landelinian boyscout is going to cause this entire cavaleade which is bound to general Hansons'a army is going to stand stillland cower like like frightened furry kittens before a puppy dog.''Enquired Jennie Turner earnest ly.

''What else can we do!''Asked Angelinia Arensburg.''This I believe dangerous to proceed in that direction for there may be Landelinians or more rebel boyscouts hiding im ambish, and it would only mean capture to proceed.''

''Then it certainly must be something peculiar.''said Jennie Turner impatiently ''We are going to proceed.''

''No, no.''Exclaimed one of the boyscouts who had or who was accompanying the party.''If we go on just now we might be shot down or captured as she says.''

''What's nonsense.''said Angeline Riches.''If we are to be kept back for a mere Landelinian boyscout then I'm going to go back.Iwon't go along with a lot of fraidy cats , I'm sure.''

So they proceeded onward slowly but cautiously all having their guns drawn, but the looks in the faces of the boys and even some of the soldiers showed they were afraid of a very serious adventure indeed.All of them even the little girls were restless, but nevertheless the girls alone were anxious to proceed at any cost. In a few inutes they had passed the so called bushes where they had seen the boy pass and encountered no one.

suddenly they heard a strange noise something like a hen makes.. ''Kut,kut,kut , ka-daw-kutt.''This was repeated five times.

''What is bthat hen doing ? singing her lay or something!''Asked one of the sco soldiers.''

'''Forward every one of you and never mind the noise.''Shouted Jennie Turner waving her arm and he procession started just as Violet had drew her own revolvers and looked carefully in the direction of the hens sound.

''Is not any one going to get that hens egg.''Cried one of the boys in great excitement.

''If you go after that egg you will get something else.''said Angeline Riches tossing her golden har with an anxious face.''It is not a hen but the rebel boyscout making the call of one to summon his assistance. We are being watched by hidden enemies. Keep your guns ready w for we may have excitement.''

The strangecavaleade having moved onward rapidly and cautiously, was then far in advance of Violet and her sisters but it did not take them long to catch up with the rest of them and present ly the boyscouts themselves wr were riding in their accustomed place behind the Vivia Vivien Girls.

''What shall we do if the Landelinian boyscouts foolow us!''He One of the boys asked Angeline Riches.

''I do not know as yet.''the girl heroine answered.''Perhaps we may let them try it, and surprise them when they do not thn think we are being followed. Then we'll make them prisoners and bring them to the christian lines..''

''It would not be worth the time to waste to take them insurgent lads to the christian lines under Hansonia.''Remarked Violet.''And to have with us ,those boys are more dangerous than ten bushels of bum bumble bees set upon us. If they follow us all we need to do is to trick them and get off that's all.''

''No they would not even be worth our company.''said Angeline Riches tossing up her nose.''That lad Gerald Starring have been very mean to you little Vivian Girls of latd, late, and they should know there is no reason to it that I know of. If they follow us I would for one like t o let them know how good a shot I am though a little girl. I have a good derringer in my skirt belt.''

They had now reached a large and beautiful valley a v valley of many miles in width that lay between two beautifully tree covered range of hills which Violet and her sisters had seen from the window of the tower. At the far end of the valley they could see so ething like a beautiful lake which blocked the valley in that direction and was believed to be the northern edge of the boundary of the State of Ozmana.They believed it must be beyond this range of beautiful hills that general Hansonia's army was said to be but it surely would be some long time before they could reach that army as the valley they saw was nearly thirty eight miles broad. one pl ces the path had become a little rocky, and was diffi cult for the horses to trod upon, and at one side they saw a small crevice crevice , but which to their surpruse surprise was too wide for their horses to leap over.

So some of the soldiers quickly made a small bridge out of a fallen tree which they dragged to the crevice and another was placed as close as possible, and leaving their horses behind as they had to do so in the care of one man they proceed across on foot and all passed over in safty.

''That was indeed easy enough for us.''said Angeline Riches looking at Violet with her piercing yet friendly eyes.''I wonder what will happen next to imped their our progress.''?

They were not long in making the discovery, for they had already crossed only one hale of the path and suddenly they heard a noise. ''Crumph. Crumph. Crup crumph.'' The noise echoed throughout the valley and seemed to grow louder as they advanced.

They looked in the direction of the sound, and they saw before them but far off in the distance huge forms of white smoke rising in the air, and geysers of earth and smoke from the ground, and puffy clouds from the distant hilltops , theclouds of smoke rising from the valley floor towering for more than a hundred feet and then spreading out in a thick wreathe. The noise at that distance sounded like as if the gigantic man in the book of O Ozma of Oz built of out of plats of cast iron striking the ground with his iron mallet as quick as thirty blows a minute. It just sounded like so many blows having poud pounded the earth, but these resounding blows or thumpswere the echoes they had heard, and the flashes that produced the smoke clouds were much bigger than usually seen in shell explosions and even one explosion occured between the rocky sides of the path and filled the region with a small avalanch of stones and gravels.''Of course seeing this horrible scene so suddenly confronting them on the once beautiful and quiet valley they at once halted, a safe distance away from the terrible clouds of smoke and crouched behind high ledges of rocks. Thier rifles would do no good for them in this case, for it could not be the means of reaching the cannoneers on the hills above, and for the time being the rocky ledges were the only means to protect them from the dangers of those explo exploding shells and shrapnell, but not from dangers of explosis explosions that would liable to appear in the i air above them.

''Wow.''said Gertrude Angeline with a shudder.''It makes me dreadfully nervious to see those big explosions so suddenly appear right in our front. One of theese those shells would kill or wipe outall of us at once.''

''There must be a Landelinian position on top of those hills or at least a rebel battery, and are working against us as steadily as a clock.''Said one of the soldiers.''Probably seeing us coming they must have mistaken us for an attacking part y and opened fire but had the range forun fortunately too shot short. I knew those hillswere occupied by general Hemns battery of artillery or had been but I thought theyhad been withdrawn before now. It is my duty to have inform you of this this long ago for it did not come to my mind untill now. It seems the only way we could be safe from rebel cannons lately or even from rebel soldiers and cavarly and the like, we would have to be crawling underground. Is it not the the dangers of the re ellion becoming great.''?

''Cannot we think of something to do.''Asked Oggy Violet''Regarding the scene before her with wondering eyes. For the moment since they had gone before t or hidden behind the rocks the artillery had ceased firing but the smoke still hovered over the scene.''No

''No I don't think we could do it.''Replied Angeline Riches.''The rebels would see us if we vwmu ventured out again and would pound the valley again withshells and probably hit us this time for sure and then it would be the end of us. There is nothing wise or good to think of this time as far as I know and yet we must proceed at any cost whatever.....But nevertheless there is some place.''

''The enemy may know of our intentions or see us too well or something.'' Observed Violet.''With their cannons the insurgents are keeping us from going further.Is there no way to stop the men from firi ng the batteries.''?

''Only by having long range rifles, and than only can dothat!'' said Angeline Vivian.

''then''said Jennie Turner, anxiously''What shall we do.!!! ?''

''Excuse me for a few minutes.''Said one of the boyscouts and I'll go out younder and look things over. Then I may think of some plan to accomplise.''

He slowly and carefuoly left the the rocky ledge, and then retired to a pos position i in front, where he looked cautiously from bh behind a clump of trees to whi which he had crept behin d.Meantime the rebel gunners had seen the boy going from the rocks to the tree and some of the guns suddenly fired and two shells exploded near by and the explosions sounded like something striking the earth near the trees terrible blows, and the explosions coming simultaneously echoed through the valleys like the roar of two canno s cannons.Again and again the explosions of shells came dangerously nea the tree near the tree , but Violet and her sisters saw that for some reason or other tha there had been a moments pause between the other gunners, and perhaps the others had also

noticed that the gunners for some reason had paused to fire, and then the lad having come back said;

''he fired upon us but the matter is very simple after all for I looked at t e hill ps with my one ey glass. If we can managed it right we can run between shell explosions, but we must be unseparated one by one at long distances apart , and when we hear the guns boom, we must throw u ourselves down. and the shel s or balls will pass over us and explode beyond us. It is the only way for to make a retreat would be doubly dangerous.''

''It willrequire very quick work if we escape between b shells.''said Joice ivian with a shake of his head.''but it really seems the only thing for us to do. As the distance is only short now, I wonder who will make the first atrempt.?''

Every one looked at one another hesitatingly for a moment or two. then the soldiers themselves who were trembling like leaves in the wind from fear, said to the little girls;

''Isuppose we being men and should head the procession, must go first and that will mean us. But I must tell the truth we are terribly afraid of the shells as we do not know how to dodge them in time like the little girls do.''

''what will become os us little girls?''asked Hettie ivian.''

you soldiers might rush safely past the exp exploding shell storm safly but the rebels may know of it intins and change their tatics too and we would surely be crushed or mangled.''

''We must all go at once.''Said Angeline ichse nervously. but every one of uus including you girls can seperate yourselves and watchfor the explosions. hen we know how the rebels air and what to do as we go on.''

o this was finally decided upon. Suddenly violet said looking at high bushes growing close by;

''we must get across somehow. See the thick shrubbery before us. Let's cut down enough thick branches to hide all of us apiece and we could advance slowly under their coverand the enemy thinking we are shrubbery will not fire upon us.''

This was din done as soon as possible, the bushes were cut down, and soon each party started to creep forward as slowly as possible.

''ling fast to the trees and don't any of you drop a bush.''Advised Jennie urmer.''I used to dothis trick myself and that's the way I got my experience. To do this it takes great patience and it is a trial too.''

so each one clung fast to the bushes that sheiled them, and they crouched in a long line and eyed the distant cannons carefully untill they knew just the instant a volley of shots might be fired. hen before anyone thought she was ready Jennie urmer made a sudden leap forward, and before any one among the gunners saw the mom motion the party had gaineda few steps forward and no cannishot was fired.

he ivian irls were in advance of this movement, the others had not yet moved forward but they went next. violet and her sisters kept a tight grip on the bushes they held or clung t o as they slowly advanced and made the leap forward like the others straight and true as an arrow from a bow, and ere before they realised it the landelinians had seen the motion and though no guns roared there was signs of some being loaded. now came the soldiers behind r in a line even with violet and her sisters, and while they moved forward cautiously and slowly but in safty they were within hairs breadth of being caught by some shells for two exploded close to them but did no harm though it caused excitement.

Joice who was in the lead edged forward to the very edge of the spot where the first explosions had appeared, and then all remained motionless for nearly ten minutes. hen as no cannons boomed forth they calmly moved forward again. gain and again they ma n made the the quuer movements and they made this in safty. some of them however were always within a hair's breadth of being caught by exploding shells, for the rebels could observe that the bushes had never been seen in the valleys before, and also observed that the bushes moved.

One of the Angelinian soldiers who accompanied the party recklessly walked or moved forward to the very pi point where the enemy would have the best range, and just as a number of shells came hurltling tward them they all calmly threw themselves flat and the missles passed harmlessly over them and they escap escaped the fragments when they exploded. hat was a good idea for the others to follow, and they all began to have hopes of crossing in safty for they knew if they once got too near the rebels could not depress the guns sufficiently enough to blow them up and from shells they would be safe. hey had already went for about a mile across in safty w e w but when the whole party came to a small stream their knees were so weak from their continual crouching position, that they could not hardly walk another step and some of them fell exhausted to the ground near the edge of the stream.

'In bbat'le anybone of us could have more courage than is considered very wonderful.'' aid one of the little girls trembling in spite of herself.''

'' nd i in any other conditions our foes and rebel enemies usually find us very terrible to face. ut real war is one thing for us and this is another. hen it comes to being pounded to death by enemy shells in such a helpless condition and not know ing where the shells will come from next any one i of us can naturally object .''

''Let's make a desperate run for it.'' rged violet.

''we are already so worn out with this exertion, the that only one or two of us am able to run ,and that is I and Gertrude. ''Answered Jennie urmer.' nd if we should try it all of us would be ground up by the exploding shells.''

''Well, well.''sighed violet.''I see friends that we all have placed u ourselves in the greatest danger in our efforts to reach general Hensonia's army. we might as well stay here stationarly like if we were trees and shrubbery untill night fall and then make a run for it down the stream. t least we can do the best we can.''

''I seems to be our only hope.'' aid Joice.

I really must inform my readers that it certainly was without telling a lie under any conditions whatever, that it was one of the most trying times of their lives to remain behind the bushes beside the river waiting nearly seven hours more fo night to come on. ne worse of all when the twilight became to wan the little girls who had been watching saw a horde of graycoats moving down from the hills and swarming the valley with the purpose to look for them, and head of their escape whatever they may turn. o when night time came violet and her sisters having alrea y already told their comrades and followers to retain their bushs bushes started slowly and cautiously down the stream banks, and many times they encountered rebels searching for them, but just in time to stop moving, and the rebels really took the bushes for real ones and did not even look to see if any one was hiding behind just then. hey repeated this daring kind of movements over twenty five times,, when all the fugitives had carried themselves beyond the first swarm of rebel searchers, and managed to reach a bend on the stream, and swam saftly on to the other side. y h this time the fugiti es were very tired again from their second effort s, and some of them even the little girls panted so hard, as the day and following evening had been so warm and sultry, that their tongues were almost sticking out.

''ow will we know how to get away yet?''Asked violet.''ow shall we find out if the persuers have found our tracks and are following us with blood hounds?''

''Oh leave one of the boyscouts behind for a while to act as guard and watch and see if any one is following us.''said the captian of the soldiers.''We are all tired out, and cannot go another step for a while. We can only hide under the thick shade of these big oak trees where in the darkness the enemy won't see us.''

violet andher sisters knowing the danger at once protested that they must have every oe one of their company with them under any conditions, else there would not be any of them when they got to the generals army and they did not want to lose one. But neither the men or the other boys would accompany them further unless one was sent to watch out for the enemy, and so Violet with great reluctance sent the eldest boy behind to watch for signs of the persuers.

he boys name he happened to be a lad by the name of Frank Ormston. ither the boyscout was a sqeaw at somewhat careless,, reckless, overginfident, or he failed to properly time the distance of the persuing or following landelinian soldierg, for there were a number of landelinians not far from where he was, and some of the landelinians seeing his approaching opened fire. he bullets missed him but one of the rebels rushed upon the lad and struke struck ablow withhis musket butt, and the mighty weapon caught him squarely upon the side of the head, and thumped him upon the ground so powerfully, that for a moment he lay stun ed and bleeding. he rebel stood glowering above him but the lad recovered almost promptly and succeeded in drawing his little pistol too quick quickly for the rebel to realize what he was doing ,and he shot the landelinian soldier dead. hen wounded as the lad was, and with blood streaming down his a face he crawled tward a tall oak tree, and here he clung desperately to the roots behind it, while rebel soldiers pounded and trampled the ground in search of him. One oft he other boyscouts seeing the danger of his comrade dashed in to his rescue, and had his left foot mashed by the fury of a spent bullet, before he could pull the wounded lad out of danger. ne howevhowever covered by the sudden fire of his comrades succeeded, and they found that the wounded lad had been badly dazed by the blow of the rebels musket butt, for while the hard wooden butt of which the gun was forred had not actually crushed or marred his head his left ear had been almost torn off and he was so dazed and suffered so much pain that he was not hardly able to hear a no single sound. Also his right knee was cracked and pained him, and violet and her sisters horrifed as they were volunteered to assist him in any way and soon had him as comfortable as possible. iolet having torn off a piece of cloth from her inside dress bound up the wounds on his head, her heart fluttering with fear and excitement, and now it only remained to rescue the other lad who had his foot injured. this they managed to do with great difficulty, and four boys accomplished it though many guns flashed at them from the hidden rebels rebels or landelinians who were bent on prevtn preventing the r rescue. he boys however accomplished the feat without any one of the four being shot, and when they returned t with the wounded lad they declared they were not hurt in the least.

herefore the two wounded lads being attended to the entire party proceeded on their a way, the wounded lads being helpled along as under no conditions would their friends leave them behind in the power of the rebels who were stiri striving to annihilate them all.

By and by when they managed to draw near to a small hill mounting from the edge of the stream the night began to grow dark and gloomy for the reason that the sky was becoming overcast with storm clouds, which shut out the light of the rising moon. nd the air was very silent too in thatvalley, and there was no birds singing or squrrals chattering now, and also no trees of any great number grew here, only the bare grassy and m ossing grv ground being the only object to admire. violet and her sisters, and even all in the party were a little awed by the silence, fearing one of the well known cyclonic storms was approaching, and all the others had become verygrave and quiet also, except the two wounded lads who groaned and moaned with pain for every step they made. It was hard for the lad whose foot was wounded, but he had to choose to walk on it than share a worse fate by being taken by thr landelinians.

o o e o one on account of the danger to the rest had any chance just now to pay any attention to this because they were now close to a strange lo, looking encampment and they believed that the splendid chriat christian armies under general ensonia could not be very far away.

sSuddenly they all heard a shout andn storm of jeering yells, and stopped short in fear and amazement. they found also they would have had to stop in another moment anyway for a huge stream of water, a abrupt bend i in the river barred thour further progress for the path they were following in the dark ran up close to thorivers beach and ended.

''Who was that laughing, jeering, and yelling?''Asked Gertrude Angeline.

There was no reply from any one but in the gloom they could see all around them, as well as on the heights above strange forms flitting this way and that, some having with them lanthrens, and others had b, bloodhounds. Whoever the prowlo pprowling men might be just now they seemed very much like the color of the rocks and grassy ground themselves, for they who had lantrens had the uniforms of the colors of grass or gray rocks, and in the dark, and strange lights their forms or shapes were rough and rugged like shadows also. They e kept close in a perfect swarm as thick as bees, some facing our friends, and seemed to glide tward them like black or dark gray or green colored c ghosts, some others mov g moving this way and that, with a lack of regularity that wasquite confusing. And so peculiar di did they move that they did not seem to need any place to rest their feet either, but seemed to move like spirits, or cling to a surface of distant rocks like a fly would a window pane , yet all of them were neverstill for a moment and seemed to be coming nearer and nearer every moment.

''We will have to hide behn behind those bushes.''Said one of the boys as the little girls shrank back.''They are the Landelinian Gargoylies.''

''And what are the Landelinian Gargoylies.? Gargylians?''Asked Jennie half frightened out of her wits by the strange scene.

''They are the ''Hooded Terror'' or the Ku Klux Klans of the rebels and serve under any rebel general.''Replied the boy.''But they willdo us no harm if we keep well hidden from themWe are in disguise you know. You must pretend to call for one of the rebel guards like the corpor coporal of the guards do, because without that trick we could never worm our way out of the trap we are now in.''

''You can make the call yourselve.''Said violet to Angeline Riches.

Just then the terrible sound of laughing, yelling, and cursing came again with redoubled viol violence and indeed so weird and disheartening was the sound that nearly all of the soldiers who were with the little girls made a ''Right about face ''movement and all started to run as fast as it was in their power.

Two of the little girls at once pursued the men, and violet cried'' Halt you cowards.'' Andwhen the soldiers stopped their flight, she al asked with a very reproachful look indeed;

''Where were you soldiers going without our permission!'

''We are all surrounded by enemies and it is almost impossible to escape now.''

a said one of the soldiers trembling like a leaf with great fear.''So we are going back o to our own lines where we came from.''

''That is impossible''Replied violet reproachfully.''For you have us as enemies as well and we and out bo scouts would kill you for deset s desertion on the spot. So you had better take the chances with the enemy and not us. ''

''Oh I forgot that we were deserting.''said the officer who was a captian his face turning pale.''

''You seem to forget a good many things.''Remarked violet.''I hope you won't forget that you are not acting like brave men and deserting seb seven little Princesses Princesses of Angelinia, and what the penalty would be if we happenedto report it to our father or general Hanson Vivian our uncle.''

''Nv Never.''Cried cried''the captian, slapping his medal covered chest and forgett ing his fear.

''Never, never, never.''Cried all the other soldiers and officers, indignantly all slapping their chests also like their captian did.''

''For our part alone.''said the privates themselves in a meek manner''We must obey our officers, so when we are told to run, we run under any conditions, and when we are told to fight, we always fight.''

''It did not appear to be that way just now.'' Answered violet kn inna voice of scorn.''and now you must all come to the rest and to my sisters and obey our orders and requests. And remember if you try to make the leas least attempt to run away from us again like you did I will have to order our boyscout companions to open fire upon you. And s as soon as we get back to camp I will see to it that every one of you officers shall be reduced to privates for this behavior.''

This terrible threat and punishment now coming later on so frightened the soldiers that they had once returned to where violets s s sisters and the boyscouts were standing,the boyscouts looking mean and dangerous to the deserters in the dark.

Then Joice who was in the group cried out in her loudest voice;

''I demand that the leader of the Landelinians who are searching for Christian prowlers or so called ''Christian dogs come out and see us and give an account of why they swarm the plains of the valley.'

There was no reply, except that the searchers in the distance laughed in derision and followed by the baying of a number of bloodhounds.

''We must not command the rebels.''Said one of the boyscouts''For though we are the Nationals, and they the Insurgents or rebels we do not generally rule them, as we do our onw selves.''

''So Joice called again saying;

''I request the rebel leader to appear to us and tell us why he is searching for christian prowlers.''

Still the only sane sounds of derision, laughter, and yells, and also the baying of the bloodhounds replied to her, and the men who were searching for them continued to flit here and there, al always nearer and nearer.

''If we do not wish to be fired upon by perhaps a hundred men at close range we will have to try entreaty or give ourselves up.''Said the boyscout leader to Joice.''If the rebel leader will not come at your request, then the insurgent commander of the searchers may listen to your pleading and only make us prisoners and not shoot us down for escape now is impossible just now.''

Joice looked around her proudly.

''Do you wish I and my sisters proud Princesses of Angelinia, to plead with the wicked Landelinians, who are enemies of Our dear pleased Lord?'' he asked severely. ''Shall I and my sisters, who are all known the world over as the worlds greatest and bravest Child heroines, now go down into timidness and cowardice and humble ourselves to wicked creatures of the earth who lives in nothing but revilness, and who are fighting not only Angelinia but all of the christian world by action, wars fury, and devastation beyond comprehension. We will die by their bullets first.''

''No''shouted all the other boyscouts, and the other girl children with as loud as voices as possible, and one of the soldiers hearing more encouraged by the defiance of the little girls added;

''If the rebel leader will not come and allow us to give terms we will not allow ourselves to be captured under any conditions, and tocapture usthey will have to dig us out of holes like foxes or rabbits. but just the same our sweet little Divian Girl Heroines must always maintain their diginity, in just as we maintain ours.''

''I'm not afraid to take the chances in pleading with a rebel leader as long as I have the intention of only tricking him.''Said Angeline Ichoe.''I'm only a little girl from the country of Abbisaunia and we have more diginity at home or elsewhere than we usually know what to do no with.''I'll try and call the insurgent leader to parley with us and allow us through the valley if possible.''

''No''said one of the boy scouts.'',nd if the rebels makes hash of you some wild beast will eat you for breakfast to morrow morning I'm sure.''

Angeline Ichoe therefore stepped forward and said;;;

''Please mr leader of the Landelinians in the valley please come and hold a parley with us if you will it.''Just at that moment the low growl of a dog near them was heard, and there suddenly flared a number of lanthrens, and a voice fried from one of the party:

''Come forth you people and show yourselves.''

''Isn't it some trick or something or other?''asked one of the soldiers.

''Never mind if it is.''Replied Joice sadly.''We come into this valley to find our way to general Hanscoin's army and it seems possible we will have to run some risks to do so. But as long as we have to avoid evidence ofbeing spies about us the Landelinians I'm sure cannot do anyt anything to us.''

''Some of the Landelinian generals though wicked, and an insurgent, are usually honest and even good natured.''Said Gertrude Ann Angeline.''If it one of them we can trust them to do what is right.'

So violet led the way from their hiding place and soon found themselves surrounded by soldiers armed with long guns and bayonets, and they and the prisoners passed through a long yet narrow lane, and from the lane entered a large passage way, and from that into a glen, and to then up the sides of one of the hills, which was now lighted up by the full moon coming out again. There was no one now but only six soldiers to escort the pre prisoners who were disarmed by their captors, but nevertheless all the party pressed on up the hill for about nearly three quarters of an hour, until they came to the summit, and then were ushered in front of a large domed shaped tent or tabour, that was grandly furnished inside. On to o top of the hill were rifle pits, batteries, and breastwordk,. A little beyond were encamp ments and barricks and other military stores and houses.

They were shown inside the tent. In the centre of the big tent was a large table rude and round in shak shape, and lit littered with all kinds of paper, g and maps, whl while on the back of the table and on two sides, were books mostly geographies , geographies, spellers and histories.Upon a big swivel chair sat a Landelinian general. This Landelinian general, was about five feet six inches in height, clothed in a brownish gray uniform that were the exact color of the soft covering of a walnut shell, and he was sitting in ease in the chair in which we hwas was seated.He had thick bushy hair, and a short but flowing beard, which were snow white in color, and his face was as brightly hued and with such glowing cheeks that it looked as if he had fairly paintesand powdered his face.

He wore a great round hat like a little girls sailor hat, but with a thick plume covering the top of it, and he had a jw jewl jeweled studded pistol belt encircling his fat body, and on each side were a bra was a brace of very ugly looking pistols or revolver. As for his features, they seemed kindly and good natured enough and his eyes were turned merrily upon his visitors as violet and her sisters stood before him with their followers close behind them.

''Why goodness me he seems to me to be just like Santa Claus,'' whispered violet eagerly to her sister Joice. But the old general happened to hear the speech and indeed it made him laugh around.

'Santa Clauus must be my personater.''quit qu qouted the general in a very pleasant voice, and they all could see indeed that he really did look like Santa Clu Clauss when he laughed.

Violet and her sisters andthest o others were very much relieved to find the old general indeed so jolly, and in a minute he had issued some or o orders, and to their surprise some soldiers in purple uniforms came in and brought stools and chairs for them all ti s to sit upon.

''Sit down my dear friends.''Said the general'', nd tell me why you had all come all this way to see me, General Francis Hanonia, and what I c n do to make you all happy.''

While the adventurers seated themselves the general picked up a pipe and lighting a match placed the fire into the bowl of the pipe a nd began puffing out clouds of tabaco smoke that curled in rings above his head. Violet and her sisters thought this made the great general look more like santa Claus than ever, but now voice began speaking, and every one listened intently to her words.

''Your Excellency''Said she realizing that he really was general Hansonia as the soldiers she saw come and go wore purple or red uniforms.''I and my sisters here are the d u daughters of general Angelic Vivian and we have come here to warn you to look out for general Handonia federal who is going to frustrate you in covering papis advance upon Manley, and we have come here to request you to release your vast army from this dangerous position, whom you have placed on thishill, and which you hold for your si positions.''

''Oh no I'm afraid you aravery mistaken about that.''Replied the general.''These are not my original positions, but my encampments which I seized from a rebel army not long ago without even a battle.''

''ut that was wrong to do that , as it is danferous and general Hansons Geminian spies have discovered the danger.''Said violet grieved to realize general Hansonia was presumptious and reckless.

''Accordingly to the laws of war, the general can do no wron in seizing a strong temporary position on high steep hiso hills.''Answered the general eyeing a ring of blue smoke he had just suddenly blown from his mouth''So that he has a perfect right to hold a all positions he has seized unless notified by his superior to move to another another. My positions are very strong.''

''You are cheating yourself though.''Declared Jennie.''For you have not a very strong or verysecure position, nor a long line of hills to defend. If you wantto be as reckless as this it would be better for you and your army to jump into the sea and drown yourselves.''

''It is not so dan erous as to charge w e with attempting sucide.''Said the general crossing his legs and smiling contentedly.''I give you my word that any Handelinian army that attacks my positions would only risk destruction. It would be the rebel general who would destroy himself.''

''Then how could it be possible that the enemy would risk destruction by assaulting your positions when he could have positions equally strong and one that could command your own with artillery that would infilade yours?''Asked Angeline.

''Easily enough .''Was the reply.''Now suppose my dear girl that I at your fathers or uncles command, gave you a small position for a large company of boyscouts for a chance of your own safty, and that after t he enemy had made an assault on all directions and I had lots of art illery, and with the help of my art illery my gunners to save you and your company of boys smashed the Handelinian columns into pieces and either destroyed it or drove it back. Could you say then that I had not secured a good strongposition, and saved your as well?''

''No''Answered violet.

''nd could you in fairness, ask me to return to you the plans you gave to me for exchange of the position just because after your argument I succeeded in smashing the rebel column?''

''No''said violet again.

''Of course not.''The Angelinian general returned.''Nor will I give up my own positions or the hills because general Handonia Federal is advancing against me with a force superior to my own. these positions belong to me and I will keep them at any risk.''

''But are making a great and serious mistake just the same, and are just the same as if you were treating yourself and your army of troops cruelly.''Said Angelinia Aronburg who was much distressed by t he generals refusal to listen to reason.

''In what way do you mean?''He asked.

''By holding a position that is insecure.''Said she.

''Holding a position that is not secure, and you call it cruelty?''Remarked the general puffing our wreaths of smoke and watching them floating into the air''Is a thing I cannot abide or understand.''I have known that positions on steep hills are the strongest kind so as positions are secured here, and my positions were at first thought to be delicate and tender, I transformed the breastworks into batteries and small sailent fortific ations, and have ravine positions and others scattered around various sections of the sides of the hills also. So instead of being obliged to hold a weak position against the foe, they merely hold an unassailable position and I really think, I have treated myself and my whole army with great kindness.''

''But you do not know the situation.''Said Jennie. W''Wehave been experienced with such t hings as we saw them ourselves. What a dreadful fate would be for your army if it happened what we fear. The enemy would know it is too strong to assail by infantry so they would mass artillery against you that would be unass ailable, and their fire concentrated against you would make your positions untenable. And the whole region of besieged Vivian Wickey is in great need of strong christian armies to govern it and hold that no enemy comes to the rescue of general Purga torian, and strikes Mansions army a blow that would break the long seige. If you will listen to reason and liberate these hills from your armies, and restore your

armies to a better and strong position, I and my sisters will give you the o ment you did it ten kisses for reward.''

The general looked grave for a moment.

''Suppose I refuse to do so?''He asked.

''Then''Said Angeline Riches''General Handonia willsoon come here with his mighty Insurgent Handelinian army and conquer your strong position, and oblige you to retreat in the most disgraceful fashion. We warned you at the request of our father and uncle and if you refuse to do so, they will in case you suffer a disaster relieve you of your command.''

The general laughed and then grew grave again.

''You are as brave as Vivian Girls can be my dears.''e said to Angeline Riches''

''And so are your girl com companions.''But you little girls have t no idea of the exten of the task general Handonia and his army would have to undertake to drive me from my position. Come with me to my lines for a moment and see for yourself.''

He arose and took two of the little girls by their hands, and led them and the others outside of the tent, and out into the encampments a little beyond the positions. Then he he mounted a high rock above the encampments from whence the litt le girls and their companions obtained a wonderful view indeed of the whole hills and their christian positions. They also realized that it was the Angelinians who had fired upon them from above thinking they were the advance guard of rebels as they still wore their own disguises and some of the Angelinians looked upon the party with si suspicion but said nothing. That positions with artillery and rifle pits, teeming also with machine guns exe extended for miles and miles from east to west and in every direction beyond on the darkness there were so many camp fires that they seemed to be furnaces and forges glowing brightly, and here and there could be seen guards and sentires moving back and forth. On one of the strongest positions were thousands of big cannons, mostly brass pieces behind strong lines of high breastworks, or positionscout of solid rocks and stones, and these extended in rows far away into the distance as far as their eyes could follow them in the nights darkness.

While the little maidens heriones of Angelinia gazed wonderingly upon this strange and imposing scene the general uttered a shrill whistle and in a few minutes from rifle pits, and breastworks solid ranks of Angelinian soldiers marched out. So great indeed were their numbers that they quickly covered the hill top w ere they stood like immense swarms of black bees as their purple uniforms looked ba black at night, and they also quickly filled the company streets of some vast camps. Although this tremendous army consisted of the fierce Abyssinkiliand and Angelinians they had had weapons of bayonets that looked like glittering material of polished steel, inlaid with something that looked like beautiful gems that gleamed bright ly in the night. Upon each brow of the soldiers they wore large hats like those seen of college professors but , more large. It was e ident they were as perfectly trained as other christian soldiers are for they quickly assembled in long straight lines, rank after rank with their weapons held erect and true as if awaiting but the word and so ound to lovetheir bayonets and rush upon a charging foe.

''This ''said the Angelinian general''Is but a very small part of my army indeed. ''I'msure no wicked Handelinian general upon earth has yet ever even dared to fight me, for I have moved against my rebel armies and they only ran from me or retreated, and I bet you little girls your locks of beautiful hair, and ribbons and a thousand kisses and hugs that no rebel general ever will, for I and my army is too powerful to even the Manleys to attack and oppose.''

''He then gave a signal with his pistol and in a few moments the martial array filed through the company streets and soon disp disappeared either in their tents or in the r dugouts and works or w a sailent p ositions, after which the sentries and guards who had been for the moment forced to abadon their own tasks resumed their work once more. Then sad and discouraged, v violet and her sisters and the oths others turned to their friends, and rentering the tent the general caml calmly resented himself on his big swivel chair.

''Maybe after all it would be foolish for t he rebel to fight him.''Voice said to her sister Hettie. ''For general Handonia's brave army ofinsurgents would be quickly destroyed. I am sure the enemy also would not do know what to do or how to act in this emergency. I guess the general is right.''

''Ask the general where his Kitchen police are?''Suggested one of the boyscouts.

''I fell as hungry as a starved tiger.''

''I belieb believe general Handonia could surprise general Hansonia some way and pouc pounce upon him and his positions and ta tear his army to pieces or something.''Remarked one of the Angelinian soldiers who had accompanied violet and her sisters on this mission.

''Let Let him try it.''Said the general with a sneer, relighting his pipe.''The Angelinians themselves have t too many guards on the hill sides and if the enemy was seen approaching my infantry would crouch low and spring upon the rebel columns like a tiger springs upon its prey, and would drive the rebels back down again, and chase them t o their own position without the rebels being able to approach my position within five hundred feet.''

''It seems to me.''Said Joice thoughtfully''That our best plan to return to our own army would be to ask the general to allow us to have a strong body guard, since after all I believe he really has too strong a position to be assaulted, and too strong an army to be oppose shoulf he att ack himself.''

''This is one of the most sel sensible things any of you have ever suggested.''Do
clared the general.''You now know it is foo folly for any rebel general to even
threaten me, and I am so kind hearted especially t o you little girls who are
the daughters of general ivian that I will not refuse any request of yours, and
you would not need to coax or even wheedle.. If you really wish to get back to your
lines without encountering too much stirring adventure or danger and acc omplish
anything good by your long journey, you may have the strong escort you wish for.
But remember I made a bet with you little girls, and what you owe me if your
advise is wrong.''

''Very well.''Said Violet more cheerfully.''Let us be still bett er friends than
ever we were before, and talk over my pla ns to return in a nice manner.''

''To be sure.''Agreed the general, his eyes twinkling merrily.

''I am very anxious''she continued''to reach our own army or lines which we left to
come to yours without any serious adventure whatever is possible. To roads to
Punchkin town, and Gillikin, and Eve are susp suspicious to us as we fear the enemy
have already come by that way and in that direction we are cut off from general
Pansons army. So tell me sir, how we may accomplish our return without too much
excitement and danger as we wish to return without a single loss among ourselves.''

The general remained thoughtful for a moment, after which he asked;

''''''Are you little girls, and your followers willing to take at least a
few chances and risks in order to get t o your own lines. As to escape perils
just now of any kind is utterly impossible.''?

''Yes indeed we are.''Answered Joice firmly and bravely.''We don't mind a little
excitement as long as one of us or any one of our followers are not killed or
seriously wounded like the two you just brought to your hospital tent.''

''Then ''Said the general''I will make you this offer for your own good;

''You little girls, shall with your strong escort go, but not alone, and must not
be unattended to, into my secret pass I have selected in case I really would be
worsted in battle, and as you leave my lines I have given your or wi ll give your
strong escort leaders instructions to examine carefully every road, and woodland
and find what they contain. Listen to me. Do no traveling by day, only at night. It
is safest. You shall have permis ion to command any one of your followers I will
give you, but avoid the roadways you mentioned, in pat particular the Ev Road,
for if any one of them or more than one proves to be guarded by rebels of some army
to mentioned so near, the Glandolinians will instantly move upon you and your escort
and if you are captured you may never leave their lines again. You must not have
any objections to my advise whatever. It is possible for all of you in this way way
to remain free from even persuit, but if you do not observe my advise correctly,
and if you run into danger and each one of you are captured or slain then I hope
to say if you refused to follow my directions I cannot be to blame. Very few would
ever rec eve the privileges I grant you.''

''Oh thank you general, Oh thank you general for this kind offer.''Said Jennie
eagerly.''And

''And remember if none of you do not do as I advise , and if any roadways of or fields
or w ods prove to be full of hiding rebels and you run into them then you all will
be taken prisoners of sh or shot down by ambuscades and so I warn you to be careful,
as careful as can be.''

They all thanked him and then he added with his eyes twinkling;

''I make but one condition?''

''What is it?''Inquired violet.

''That each one of you little girls allow me to embrace you and give you each one
little kiss. This is fair and just, and I am saving you from the risks you are unwill
ing to undertake.''

CHAPTER

Learning this peculiar and yet nervy condition imposed by the Angelinian general
Pansonia Violet, and her sisters became silent, and thoughtful for a few moments,
and all their friends and companions, looked at the Vivian girls uneasily.

''Don't you do it.''Exclaimed one of theboyscouts.''If we take such chances, we
will all run into great peril. May as well stay here in his own lines and await
the coming of better devolpments.''

''But we shall have any amount of chances to get through if we travel by night.''
Answered Angelina Aronburg or Gertrude Angelino.''Surely as we do it beforewe all
ought to get through any perilois adventure without mishap and if we do, we shall
be able to return to our fathers or uncles army, abd be safe from the rebels. If
you don't wish to go with us boys you may remain here, but we will go. But if the
rest of you arewilling to attempt it w they may and we shall soon be free from the
region of the enemy.''

''What if we meet fai, failure though?''Qu Inquired one of the soldiers.''We'd
look nice as prisoners in the e hands of the enemies of Our blessed saviour, would'nt
we indeed?''

''We must not under any condition meet failure.''Cried Violet encouragingly.
''We having come allthis distance to warn general Pansonia of his own peril, which
he refuses to believe it would now be weak and very cowardly in all of us to abandon
the adventure. And we who had shown so much bravery would be laughed at if we
failed this time of back out. Therefore I and my sisters shall accept the generals
officer, and reward him as he wished, and then go at once on our way as he
directed.''

After he therefore had the reward of one kiss and their embrace he said;

''Come a long then my dears, and I&ll get the escort and show you the way so you
won't make a mistake.''

And he arose from his swivel chair.''I'll show you the way.''

They all let left the tent and after going son some distance through an encampment
they approached a high wall of rocks, and making a turn they observed a large
passageway or lane descending t he hill tward the rear of the e a small ridge.
The escort was given to them all, about three hundred and fifty mounted soldiers,,
they themselves and their other comrades also recieving horses and after a sweet
smiling farewell to the general and the cheering soldiers they boldly proceeded on
heir way.

''Remember'' hooted the general.''Do not do any traveling by day . Hide at
daytime in any possible secure place and travel by night only. You only now have
seven hours more of darkness. Get your sleep if possiblein the daytime.Your fathers
and uncles army is nearly fiv fifty miles away from us now.''

The little girls and all their followers found themselves in a very splied
splendid passageway, beautifuly formed and colored by nature and looking more
grand and yet weird than anything they had ever beheld in the moonlight.The walls
of thepassage way was high, and above at certain points were great arches of stone
covered with green foliage, these being over thirty feet above their heads, and all
the walls of rocks and even the ground itself were of granite and other stone,
andeven as shown by moonlight were strangely tinted w exquisitlvey in many beautiful
colors, almost like the scenery of the Grand canyon itself. Thick velvet like grass
we was growning on the floor of the passage way, and heavy hanging foliage of all
kinds protruded downward from some of the strange arches or natural bridges above
and at many places the material of the rocks seemed to be of very rare stones
covered with delicate moss thatlooked like delicate green satins, and
the coloring of the rocks ,and elsewhere with the moonlight shining bright ly made
the entire region seemed to be lighted by a mysterious glow of strange colors, that
seemed tocome from no particular place but nevertheless flooded the entire region
with its very soft and pleasing radiance.

Violet and her sisters and their strong escort of boy and men followers
passed under one arch way after another, greatly delighted indeed at what they a
all saw. Strangely the lovely region had no other occupants but themselves, for
the general had left them at the entrance and had allowed no one tofollow after
them so that in front of them there appeared no other person nor either any enemy.

Upon the top of the pre precipice walls of the long passage ways, and on
many trees themselves, were clustered so thick as stars flowers and blossoms
of every best description, and some rocks seemed to have all sorts of metals in
them. The passage was indeed quite a museum of flowers and foliage, flowers indeed als
also of rare and curious kinds. After an hour and a half however they soon found
themselves leaving the beautiful passage ways and came upon a plain, below which
to their surprise was thickly wooded. After a hasty examination from a hiding place
of the region before the, all of them began to wonder which of all the numerious
sights before them in the dense woods contained any hidden enemies, for they knew
they were not far from the road of E e Ev as the general had av advised them when
they got out of the passage way to be careful which way they went into the woods.
There seemed nothing whatever to guide any of our adventures, and yet all parts of
the woods seemed without a spark of human or animal life. So they all felt they must
go on blindly as it were, and for the first time Violet and her sisters alone
came to realize how dangerous was their task and how likely they and their companions
were likely to loos their freedom or even lives in striving to get o their own lines,
if they did not follow his directions. No wonder the cunning christian general
gave them such a strong escort of cavarly soldiers, and did not laugh or smile
but looked grave at their departure, when he may knew know or fear how easily
the whole party might be easily trapped by hidden enemies. But now since t hey had
undertaken the strange adventure would not abandon it. They looked at thewooded
scene before them, and observed not far from them a roadway running into the woods,
and near it a mighty big tree with ten large branches and thought;

''This may be the Road of Ev for we can tell by the tree with ten branches.''

So they looked at it closely and then advised every one of their followers
to have their weapons at a ready, to dismount and to all move forward very cautiously.

To make sure there were no enemies near the little girl Jrennie fired
a few shots tward the woods knowing if there were foes near by the shots would
be promptly answered. But the woods remained as silent as before. They
soon were by the t rees and looked around cautiously.

Then they slowly and cautiously wandered forward to
another large thick group of t rees, and then thinking they saw moving objects
coming tward them, and thinking it might be some rebels swarming forward to open
fire they all every one quickly went behind a single tree and waited breathlessly.
But again they were unsuccessful to see any one approach ,and believed it was only
Imagination.Three minutes, four minutes, five , six, seven ,eight, nine and ten,

minutes they waited almost impatiently, and still no one came in sight, though the little girls themselves who could hear almost as good as a cat thought they observed strange sounds as if some one were talking to another in whispers far beyond. The little girls shivered a little and grew pale even under the white light of the moon, for surely they believed enemies were in hiding like themselves, and their own fate depended upon some result! One of the little girls decided upon the others to fire in the direct ion they saw the objects moving but Jennie advised Angeline not to be hasty and as noise from guns may arouse all the enemies who may be encampmened near by and then all would be lost. So they all resolved not to be hasty, but to work themselves from tree to tree cauticusly and carefully, and so they did so, darting from one tree to another, noiselessly and quickly, gazing earnestly and anxiously in the dird direction of the deeper recesses of the woods and;;

"Halt who goes there."

They were startled by the sudden challenge from the distance, and were almost panic stricken and at once each person had different things to decide on what to do. Finally they all decided but almost in despair to leave it entirely alone to chance, and to remain still and not utter a sound.

"If any one makes a sound, or even sneezes I'll shoot him."warned the officer in command of the escort in a loud whisper"So be ;;

" I SAY WHO WENT THERE. AP' APPEAR FROM YOUR HIDING PLACES OR GOD GAST YOU WE'LL OPEN FIRE."Rang out a loud voice and then followed by a curse and blashphemy. There was no answer. The little girls themselves faced the direction of the sound and all shut their eyes tightly expecting to see a storm of flashes, and then one of the boyscouts thrusting aside the heavy bushes near the tree he was behind saw a object advancing blindly toward him with a musket and bayonet leveled toward him. Not far away were other objects moving forward. Softly, and slowly he crept forward changing the direction toard the tree which hid Angeline Richee, and she also saw him and immediately she drew her pistol, and holding it by the muzzle decided to give the prowl prowler a tap on the head that would make him go to sleep. She did not know whether it was a comrade of hers lost in or going in the wrong direct ion to his hide, or whether it was a foe but she did not intend to take chances, but she uttered a low whisper to violet that some one was prowl prowling toward her, and then seeing the object close by struck with all her might.

There was a sound of some one falling to the ground, andeverything seemed quiet and empty after that. Then slowly the adventurescers managed without danger to get to some other trees a little further off. They all had gained a new position just in time for within the part where the moonlight shone plainlty upon an opening in the woods came slowly forward a number of gray men or uniformed men. One of the men in advance wore a peculiar rounded black hat with an image of a pretty green gra grasshopper on top or in front. It was indeed rebels.

Violet just beyond the scene itself suddenly looked up and almost smiled great as their peril was. Then she fired.The rebel dropped.

"Who has the nerve to fire next."She asked in a pleas pleasant voice just as a number of flashes came from the rebels who quickly retreated behind trees themselves.

Jennie Violet, and a boyscout nearest them who had been at aiing behind trees in most anxious silence each gave a start of dismay as she had fired, and then stared into one anothers eyes.

"Has she failed to hit the man?"Asked Jessie.

"No it seems."Answered Jennie Rumor. Rah"The man who dropped arose and ran off behind a tree with his comrades."Put th

"But there is no reason why we should all fail to succeed if necessary."Said Violet."I did not want to wound the man. Just fired to scare him. The next time they appear and charge us though I want every one of you to open fire at once, for are are only twelve enemies I think to our two hundred and fourty. Well, well. What will our hidden enemies do next?"

"I'll go forward a few steps and investigate?"Said Catherine Vivian.

"Not so."Replied Angeline Richee sternly."As the boyscouts are under your command and as adviser and commander of our band of men and boys it is the privilege of one of the boys to do so."

"Away you go then."Said the boy scout leader to one of his boys John Simoni by name."But be careful old friend and do not let the traitors in hiding snip you."

"I will be careful indeed."Promished the boy, and then he moved forward toard the hiding foes tree to tree, but keeping carefully concealed in the dark, and as the others watched him he soon disappeared as the darkness closed around themall as a scurrying cloud went over the moon.A few minutes of waiting and the light of the moon returned to lighen the scene and the rest of the band of adventurers stee settled themselves for another long wait, for the ex e expected return of the boy. All of them, inc u including Violet and her sisters also were greatly disheartened by the failure of geting out of the region without encountering the enemy, and the knowledge that they were now hard pressed by hidden foes---in a dreadful greey creepy looking woods filled them with dread in spite of all its magnificence. Anxious for the boy who went into the dangerous quest, and without his return they did not know what to do next, and each one even down to the tr v trembling soldiers and to even the private of the escort, began to fear the little boy would never return. They expected to hear so e shots and hear him cry out but nothing happened.

Suddenly the boy who had gone off returned, and despite the peril of his ow situation he was laughing.

"What's happened?"Asked Violet anxiously.

"By the help of the moonlight I saw one of the Landelinians uniformed or dressed in the funniest looking clothes you ever can imagine."Replied the boy, wiping the tears of merriment from his eyes."Who one could ever believe that the Landelinians could dress so funny and make of himself such an amusing sight. What shall we do next. We are all surrounded."?

At this they all gazed at each other with sinking hearts. One of the other boyscouts more timid than the others began to weep dolefully.

"What are you crying for Ju Jim?"Asked Angeline Richee very indignant, at such display of weak weakness from some of the boyscouts who had accompanied her and her companions.

"I wish to get out of these dangerous dangerous woods."said the lad."But I hate to lost any of you friends."

"Then you shall go and lead the way out for us."Declared Angeline Richee firmly.

"Me do it."? Cried the boy greatly alarmed.

"Certainly jim. It is your duty indeed to follow theadvises and orders of your commanders. Come Come comrades. Let's get out somehow if we have tofight our way through with pistol and swords."

"I won't lead the way."Said the boy trembling like a leaf."I would like to though, of course, but for some reason I cannot explain I just simply won'TT."

Violet and her sisters looked enquiringly at Angeline Richee.

"Never mind said little brave Richee."If he does not care to lead the way for us and take the chances as well as we do, We' ll abandon him to the enemy by going ourselves and leaving him behind in the woods."""""

"All, right, all right . I'll go------of course I am going to lead the way."almost yelled the boy as quickly as sent."which way do we d go. Let me lead the way at once."

So he was compelled to take the lead, and he carefully edged his way forward, escorting the others who moved from tree to tree, keeping as sharp a lookout as a cat would for mice, and every one as they went on , always wondered what the result would be. What the rebels were doing nowno one could tell, but it was not long, before there was six flashes suddenly in front of them, and to their horror the boy behind Violet fell and lay still with a shot in his brain. Shots had flew past the others but no one else wad hit. They feared however it would not be long before some other one of them would be the next victim, and so they answered the fie in a bunch but without effect, and rebels only fired again from another quarter and to the fright of the little girls six of their soldier escorts fell shot dead, and Violet herself felt a sudden sp pain in the arm. It was evident enemies were closing on them in every direction, and thus one after another had to seek better protection than trees, for while the trees sheltered them in front they were fired upon from behind and the danger was greater now than they supposed it was. The lad who took the lead had also been killed sai and to say and some other boy was forced to try his fortune. Thus one after another of the company, all of the men and boys nowcrowding about the girls to protect them filed carefully from tree to tree, and made their attempt to bring down a foe, but though now both sides fired occasionally neither side lost any one.

Meantime during such a trying ordeal some of the officers ordered a new supply of ammunition to be served to some running out of ammunition, and to take care of the girls who were waiting for a chance to get to better safty, and at their commands this wad being done. One of the officers was not unlike the other Angelinians in gaucoonis army that Violet and her sisters had seen, but he wore heavy gold embroiderment on his uniform o coat to show that he was a sort of con colonel and he also assumed an air of much importance, and even told his own superior officer who was a lieutenant colonel not to be too reckless or he would be also shot by the hiding rebels who were surrounding them all and sniping them. Despite the peril they were in, and despite the excitement of it all Violet and her sisters having eaten no supper we were hungry and even sleepy, and they were not now even afraid of being wounded or ill, and so ate freely of the rations they carried with them on their quest eating also several good cakes ,and finding them very good, and also drank a bottl of cold black coffee and also found it most refressing.

Of all the large party which had started upon this second adventure, the Vivian Girls and the three girl companions and the soldiers were now more further Kprt apart, the little girls being almost left alone. Of course every one except the four who had been killed were still all there, but they also having eaten a little to quiet their nerves had gone behind double trees, and rocks, also, some had even climbed the trees nearest them unseen by their enemies, while upon the other side stood the boyscouts behind trees and high rocks with guns drawn, all motionless and silent as if they were mere things of wood or stone. Gertrude Angeline herself h had quietly walked around from tree to tree for a cestain distance, and now being far apart from Violet and her sisters and her two companions she tried desperately to find her way back to them again without encountering foes who would sho t her down in the darkness. Every one felt sleepy but to dare sleep meant death for them all all.Presently Gertrude Angeline in going froward from a tree, and rushing to another one tent feet apart spied a hollow underneath a large oak tree, and seeing Violet and her sisters close by, crept into the hollow unoti unnoticed by either them or the foe. She could still hear the chattering of the rebels around her, but it was again intensely dark as the mok moon went behind another cloud, so that soon she almost fell asleep.

Violet who missed Gertrude Angeline was bound tore and find her and sho she so shook hands with the others near her and her sisters also and bade them a sorrowful good bye, and then passed off into the darkness. The others waited in silenos for a long time, for no doubt they knew violet was in no hurry whatever to be shot or taken pr soner by the hidden enemies and made her search very slowly and carefully. The others however especially her sisters and the boyscouts who seemed to know by some reason or other, all that was taking place in the woods a little beyond, grew anxious and impatent impatient finally, and declared that they would not wait any longer.

''We ly e our sister violet more than any one else we know.''Said Joice''And we cannot wait untill to morrow for her to return so as soon as allof you are ready to follow my advice, we will all make a dash for in the direction she went, even if it does cost us lossos. But we got to get out of the woods by morning.''

''Is it so very late as that?'' asked violet suddenly appearing to their astonishment with Gertrude Angeline behind her.

''Why we were thinking thinking you were lost.''Said Joice feeling relieved.''And it's after midnight too''And that strikes us as being late enough when the general warned us it is dangerous in these trees to travel by day. Neither day and night though seems safe here for any of us, because we are hard pressed by Glandelinians. But we have to sleep some what way, just the same as any one else do as we did not sleep much at all last night and so for my part we are going to try and hide more safely and securely by climbing the trees around us, and expect every one else to do so in a very few minutes. It's the only way, wor otherwise we will all be killed before to morrow morning.''

Indeed it was not long after before they all had did the deed of getting high up to the very top of the trees unknown by those hard pressing them below. Of course they gue sned wrongly if they thought they really very were very safe among the tree tops because the enemy at their sudden disappearance at once realized the reason of it, and some began firing in a perfect fury at the tree tops nearest theme however no one was hit, as the enemy uncertain where their fugitives hid did not aim in the right places, and so the fugitives thinking themselves secure felt greatly relieved, and some of the little girls felt like clapping their hands in glee but prudently remained silent .

Some one among the men was going to strike a match ti to light a cigarette but violet who was near him said;

''That's right mr. ghos the enemy below our hiding places up here, and see hog how quick we will be tumbling down with shots in us. We are sleepy indeed but do not like to sleep forever just now when we have some important thing to do. So if you light your cigarette I'll shake you out of your branch.''

''I don't see where you have any business to sit up so high and light a cigar ette here.''Said another girl who was Gertrude Angeline looking at the foliage of the tree carefully.''If that lighted match touched one branch we wouldcbe engulfed in a mass of flame we could not escape from and be burned to death. This is a pine and evergreen forest. So don't start a forest fire while we are up here please.''

''We have no business to get into this mess in the first place.''Replied the man gruffly.''We will all be as cross as griffins in the morning. And probably be tired all day long too.''

None of the little girls made any answer to this remark, and fearing the enemy may come with torches and purposely light up the trees with fire to rout them from their hiding places they all started to work from one branch of a tree to another as carefully as possible. The little girls were like monkeys. They also were giventhe first chance to start, and the boyscouts and the soldiers who were privates the next, although they were not so good at such motions among branch after branch,, and the officers camenext. The trees were close together here. and they found the m motion safe and easier than supposed, but each motion however was a perfect bore for the clumsy men but they learned from experience not to let one brand branch sway too much as it would attract their enemies who could see it in the moonlight, and so after every atempt they rested for a minute and passed the time very quietly, since they all realized they were only made of oflesh and were not empty air and did not like the idea of having the rebels fire a sudden volley into their shelter.

Then it seemed that they had gone to some distance and when they had to rest for a few minutes joice remarked in a sad tone;;;

''I am in great sorrow over the loss of about four of or comrades.''We have ourselves, that ix is I and my sisters have had many dangerous adventures together, even with soldiers helping us, and mostly escaped them all withoit any losses whatever, and now it grieves me to know thatwe have met with this tragedy and that they are lost to us for all the life time.''

''Our lord said that those who seek danger shall find it.''Said Gertrude Angeline.

''True! but now the glandelinians can laugh at us and probably will call us the funniest fugitivr fi fugitives in all the world. It hurts my pride to be laughed at.''Continued joice, sadly.

''We will make rather absurd prisoners ourselves to morrow if we are taken.'' Observed Jennie, in an anxious voice.

Just then violet managed to work herself from a branch over to joice and Jennie, her face showing she was in a state of anxiety and she cried out almost loudly;

''There is my sister Angeline. Have you seen Angeline. It Is she here in this tree.!'''

''No!''Answered Gertrude Angeline looking shocked and surprised.

''Not for heavens sake that has become of her?''Asked the poor girl.

''Why I surely e thought she was in the tree with you.''Said Joice feeling scared and worried.''Yet I do not remember seeing Angeline since we started climbing the trees.''

''We must have left her behind in some other treetop, nearer where the rebels may be'' added Angeline. Joice and at once some of them began working cautiously toward the direction they had come. But no lights were appearing from below they could not dare go any further, and they also found that beyond the nearest tree top were also filled with rebels looking for the fugitives, and the numbers of rebels among the tree tops appeared so thick that no one could dare show themselves for fear of being shot down by the rebel workmen. So the little girls were forced to return cautiously back to the t rees they had left. They were even compelled to resume the r flight on the tree tops and some of the boys and soldiers tried to console the little Avian girls for the seeming loss of their sister Angeline.

''Your sister Angeline is well able to take care h of herself I'm sure.'' said Jennie Turner''So don't worry about her but try to get all the efforts to escape you can. It has been a long weary day and night, and so need rest.''

''We will probably get lots of rest to morrow when we get shot dos down and killed.'' said Jennie cautiously not thinking of being sleepy at all now.

But she and her sisters and the others following continuedto work their way like monkeys from branch to branch, and it was meanthe foe above and below were following them just as cleverly but more quietly.

However in spite of al/ their worries they felt they could be safe enough for the per Has were were exposed tothair own pistols than they were to the enemys rifles.

Jennie one of the Angelinian officers had worked his way close to an officer where he said to his superior;

''We were fools to make so much time trying to get away from the rebels. They will surely overtake us now.''

''But''Whispered the officer in so surprised a voice and so loud that it drew the attention of the others.''How do you know that we cannot escape the enemy yet?''

''Because I like to speak the plain truth and nothing else.''Said the lieutenant to the captain.''Why did not we all fire at our persues at once at the moment they first appeared instead of allowing ourselves to be either shot down one by one, or be surrounded and hard pressed. We ourselves are fully responsible for the danger violet and her sisters are in and also their companions.''''''

''Why you poor stupid, here look, it is more fun this way in ply playing the game with the enemy in his own way.''Returned the captain''And it serves to keep us amused for a long ti e time. We will escape never fear.''

''Suppose the rebels finds us and open a general fire, and suppose some of the Avian girls are killed and others badly wounded.''Exclaimed the lieutenant,'' or suppose the rebels guess our positions aright, then we all would be captured or killed, and general robert Avian would lost his beautiful daughters too.''

''If there is no chance whatever of the enemy guessing aright where we are now.'' replied the captian with a mocking laugh.''How could they know that violet and her sisters and our comp companions are all in the highest tree tops, while they them selves are among branches of trees but much lower than we are yet.''?

''But there is no chance of our being able to outwitt the rebels.''Said the lieuts lieutenant.''

''There are many other ways to outwit the enemy than one and we are all scattered far apart among the tree tops while the foe are close together on the brah branches below us and at a good range. Take my word for it lieutenant they will never think w of looking for us so high up as this.''

However unknown to t be both of them some of the rebel officers below the tree had li heard this and listened to all this talk and now chuck chuckled softly to themselves as they heard the two Angelinians discuss the secret of the fugitives. They would have fired at the two but knowing they may hear more information they changed their minds.

''It ill we are all acting foolish by running this foolish chance.'' continued the lieutenant roughly''And it is still more foolish for us to have entered these woods.''

''We did that because the passage way led us into it''Replied the captian''And we hadno idea we had ran into the road of Wr untill now.Ithink it will look very pretty if we do succeed in outwitting the foe. Don't you.''

The lieutenant only gave a grunt.

''Have your own way since you arethe captian.''He growled.''But if we allcome to grief, through our own carelessness, and the Avian girls perish, remember that I told you so.If I had been the leader I am sure I would have made a much wiser movement from that passage than we did.''

''Oh cease your tiresome chatter or the enemy will overhear us.''Commanded the captian almost gettingangry and impatient.''Because we are not in the lines now you have an idea you can scold about our situation as much as you please. But the very next time you become impudent, we will break our friendship, and I will have you lose your commission as lieutenant. Now follow me from this tree to another one for we must proceed on our way. And see that no one is following us too closely behind. In I swant to enjoy the fun of the persuit but donot wish to be made a selve for the rebels.''

''I heard Angeline Jones, one of the vivian girls is missing. what color disguise did she have on?''Asked the lieutenant.

''Green I think.''said the captain, the ''in other vivian girls were boyscout suits, but Angeline wore a girls dress and blouse of gray color.''

''And ? Their three companions, Gertrude Angeline, Jones, and Turner.''?

''Oh they were their own control clothing, because they did not have time to disguise themselves.''

When the rebels being heard the b not can slowly die away, and knew that the fugitives were nearly fifty feet above their ,ccmrades, and signaled a warning by means of a whistle. A few minutes later violet and her sisters were given cooping by Gertrude Angeline that the enemy were signalling among themselves with strangely colored flashlights. Jennie complained bitterly that she was half strangled but too sleepy to proceed any further, and begged her sisters to climb higher into the stoutest branches and see if there was no sleeping in which they could escape their question not get to some shelter before daybreak where they could get some hing more to eat and sleep, so they would no longer suffer the pangs of hunger, and in sleeplessness..

''Weren't we bad something to eat just before we climbed the trees.'' asked Angeline Jones.

''Oh we just had only a bite and nothing else as our ration rations were out.'' replied the girl,''but what good is a bite when we are hungry, and we did not have a drink of sleep.''

''All we had among ourselves was one'' rations.''Said one of the nearest soldiers bitterly.''We all ought to have among ourselves about two hundred and fourty barls of porridge, a platter of fried sausages, loaves of bread, and as many mince or other pies.''

'' nything more do you want?''responded the captain.

''Anything we could get. I for one would like a good dish of pork chops.''Replied a private. T' Two nice plump juicy, tender, fat pieces of pork chs s, but of course I I have had only that but the others nothing at all my good conscience would surely not allow me to eat it. so we will have to remain here and starve or be captured or shot down or something, or unless christian soldiers come to our rescue.''''

'''Impossible to allow this to happen to us.''Exclaimed Angeline Jones almost indignantly.''I'll never allow a single rebel dog take m me prisoner, or ruin my reputation by their manners and ways. even if they don't kill girls they will rape them small or big, and also do imp imodest things to them in the barglans if we are in peril of being captured the rebels can for all they want take us dead but not alive.''

''As for that we have no business to allow the the rebels totake us prisoners''Said violet. ''Several of our friends are i already gone to their deaths, so we do not care what becomes of us now, if we cannot escape,but we will not be prisoners under any conditions.''

violet made nimo t reckless by the seeming loss of her her sister Angeline, begged her sisters to allow her to take the chances of going down to the ground, or toretr ce her steps and look for Angeline, but her sisters and even her friends and some of the soldiers firmly maintained that each one should be allowed to go and face the danger instead of her. or a time there was a sort of argument, but finally one of the boyscouts agreed with her that he could do it, and so he started forward from branco to branch cautiously to probably meet his fate. One of the soldiers had secretly lighted a cigarette and though he and all his friends or followers are were in great peril puffed it contentedly, so contentedly that a small cloud of smoke formed above his head and A Angeline Jones who was close to him saw the light of the cigarette, and though a little girl she promptly grabbed it out of his mouth, and told him if he smoked again up where they were she and her friends for punishment would desert him.Bye and by she said o to violet and her sisters;

''I'm sorry thatiwe are so far scattered, and that there are so few of us left in this tree. Very soon now I'm afraid all our amusement will be over, and then for amusement the rebels will have nothing to do but look over our dead bodies.''

''It seems to be''said violet sadly'',what general Hansonia was not so honest as he pretended to be. He may have caused us to get into this trap.''

''Howcould that be?''Asked Gertrude Angeline just remembering something which she had not thought of before. We did not after all follow his advise as he told us to?.''

''How is that?''Asked Jennie.

''Why we thought it would be easy to get through the woods, and besides we took too much time admiring the beauty of that passge way.''

''Why what made you think it would get easy to go through those woods without encounter ing the rebels.''

''It was easy in one way.''Declared Angeline Jones''If one would have kept out of our foolishness and had been a good careful observer and a good guess guessers but it appears that we all forgot the generals advise and so it was all our own fault and not the generals.''''

''''''What are the glandelinians doing now I wonder?''Asked Hettie in an n an uneasy tone.''

''Nothing''Replied the little girl Jennie Turner with a pretty frown.''They still are all about us but are perfectly still and are not in motions There are some rebels right under out tree standing perfectly still.''

(('')) Oh I expect they will soon run us down.''Said violet''I forgot for the moment all about the glandelinians. yes very glandelinians are there under our tree?''

''About thirty min I counted ''Said Angeline Jones.

''Do you think it would be wise if we fired upon them and caused them sudden panic or something.''

''All that could be done a except one thing.''Answered the girl.''Suppose you and we would fire upon those below. It would be like winding up a big rolling machine for the rebels on the low tree tops around us would see our flashes and manner in a perfect storm of shots and down to the ground we would go. It is better to stay here or keep working our way until we see a chance to escape. I would thank and if a large cloud would cross that old moon and make it good and dark for us.''

''Suppose you pray for a cloud and perhaps god will manner it and make one hide the moon a good long time for us.''suggested Jennie turner..

''All right.''Said Angeline Jones and she did so.

Suddenly in the interupt her the boy came back and declared that Angeline and Catherine were in the tree opposite the one violet was in but higher up and safe.

''Why then did you want to go away like that and leave us all alone?''Asked Angeline Jones.

''That is how I found them.'' answered the boy.''Bulloug we should all pressed on our way again so that we can get away from the rebels. Staying here like this will not take us anywere anywhere.''

''Very well then.''Said violet in ling relieved at the boys good news but heaving a sigha ''Now go and climb along little boy and lead the way for us, and may good luck go with you on the route.''

So the girls party of girls and soldiers and boyscouts trying hard to be brave in spite of their fears, continued to pass from branch to branch without making much noise, and soon came to a gap where trees were far off. Here they were stalled against the stillness of the forest owal than at first, and Jennie alone drew short breathe and pressed her hand to her heart, and looked all around her with wondering eyes

'' Yes it was a peculiar forest indeed, but perils seemed to lurk in every direction, and even violet and her sisters had not yet grown accustomed to the almost wierdsidion of this wooded country, so different from the quiet and sensible orchard places of their own region where the christian series were supposed to be. Slowly all of them began to change their direction, passing from branch to branch, branch and taking care not to fall, and climbed from tree to tree in another direction untill they came to a tall beechuk tree, with a large branch protruding from it but being continuous, the soldiers had gone on ahead and were on some other trees. If one the trees would continue to remain close to other they had hopes of escape for fortunately a great cloud had blotted out the moon suddenly and all was pitch dark. It now really seemed than, that they had found a friend in and in this mysterious woods, so they hastened to climber up the trees which were thicker, and then feel their way still more carefully, and climb from branc to branch choosing by way of feeling the branches that were strong and big enough to hold even a man manes weight. violet was helped to a branch which was almost t too far for her to reach.

''Thank you Jennie Thompsonia.''Were her first words.''I have only one more big branch to take.''

''Oh girls be very careful that you don't miss a branch in the darkness and fall to your deaths. Be careful won't you.''Cried the boys.''You are nearly a hundred feet from the grounds.''

''yes we surely will. But I am afraid the glandelinians are still following us and will have us in their power for they have set a trap forus. I fear we are all lost this time.''Violet answered.

'I fear so t oo''Said Daisy Avian , sadly.

''If general Hansonia had given us some other dire directions than such gus guessing clock work advise''continued Daisy''We mighthave a easily defied all of the Glandelinians.''but the advise seemed plain and simple and were r are not of any use in this case.''

''We will have to do the best we can now.''Said violet encouragingly''And if we fail to escape we will only have heaven for a reward for our own conduct.''

Just then there was a flare of lanthrens and torches below and it was seen that the reb rebels were starting plans no doubt to set the trees on fire to route the fugitives from them. This seemed an increase in their peril, and some of the Angelinians soldiers in the furthest tree tops forgot themselves and opened fire shooting down two dozen of rebels with torches and without causing confusion at once. Some dropped torches and ran, and there was a great storm of cursing and blasphemings ,whatever were suddenly answered in a pr perfect perfect volume from the opposite tree tops, and bullets whistled uncomfortablely close to where the little girls were and im flash one of the boyscouts climbing up to violet let go his h id without a sound and dropped to the ground, and two other boys with a cry I'm hit'' also had disappeared, and although the terrified little girls looked in every direction, they could not tell which of the boys were hit, nor which of the trees so close so dangerously close had contained or did cont in the rebels who had answered the fire of the soldiers. At first they were paralized with amusement and dread and could not help but pray to the Blessed mother for aid and succors so now all the little girls could do was to [illegible] back before them, ou and make their attempt to route nothing [illegible] of falling, put trusting god, and slide by

''It won't hurt much if we get killed suddenly.''she thought''for those who were shot and killed instantly I haven't heard any of them groans crary out---not even the poor boyscouts. Dear me. I wonder if paper and Uncle Hanson in Hanson will ever know that we met our deaths in this f t fatal woods or become a corpse and must lay for ages and ages hereafter under the ground in one place, and be in heaven flitting about on wings and be happy and look pretty. It is not the way I or even my sisters thought this adventure would turn out but I suppose it can't be helpled.Here the Glandelinians come again with torches and lanthrans.''

She and her sisters clambered through all of the tree tops as far as they could think of going without falling to the ground, and as they went on, the moon having come out ag in again, the little girls examined all the branches they managed to grab hold of but there were so many of all sizes that they bewildered the little girls, and they decided after all, as some of the others had done, that to grab a good strong branch would be guess work after all, and that the chances were much against their guessing right, and fall to the ground and to their deaths below, or be seen by rebels in tree tops and be fired upon andkilled.

Idily they clung to the nearest branches, and Jennie almost went under but Violet who was on a stout branch grabbed her in time and got her safely on to another and stronger branch.

''This is one failure to keep our distance from the enemy anyhow.''Thought Catherine.''But how are we to know what todo when daylight begins when the rebels will surely see us. then we are goners sure. I wonder in what direction the great worms run river is. If we could work our wy to it from tree to tree and then when near the bangs give a good swing and dive into the water.''

Next Joice grabbed a large branch from another i pine tree, and suddenly it gave a cracking noise fell and disappeared, and a pretty fair haired boyscout grabbed her in time or she would have fallen from her own perch. The rotten branch fell upon the rebels below and caused a great deal of confusion. One fired up at the tre s, muskets crashed from tree tops and bullets whistled at the fugitives from nearly every direction but fortunately this time no one was hit. At the same time strange bells tinkled in the distance somewhere, there was shouts, commands, and a confusion of curses and imprecations, and as Joice started back, partly in surprise, and p'r partly in joy at her rescue the little boy exclaimed;

''Here are we now Joice? And who are the rebels firing at us. And what has happened to the big branch?''

''Well I declare''Said Joice.''you have really done it.''

''Done what?''Asked the boy.

''Saved me from falling to the ground below andbeing s'ot to death or impaled upon the bayonets of the rebels below.''Replied the vivian girls with a laugh''And also saved you by the confusion caused by the falling bench from being hit by the traitors bullets.''

''Traitors bullets.''He repeated.''They are not firing at us now.''

''I know ''She answered.''But they was only a moment ago.Don't you remember the storm of shots from every direction almost the time the branch fell.''?

''Of course not as a boyscout however and my name is James Everinger.''The little boy announced proudly.''But my father who is a real Glandelinian and who hated me and my sisters sold us and even my mother to the cruel child a,n slave trade in Calvertuin and after t hat we runway and became boyscouts but my mother was killed. Just now I was too excited to remember ever hearing any shots.''

An excited boy cannot be expected to remember everything Everinger''Said Joice.''But now you are yourself again and now I am going to be more careful this time and follow my sisters who are on the opposite tree waiting for me,and some day if we survive this night I hope to see your brothers and sisters a. some if you are one of my boyscouts come with me and I'll help you to another tree.''

She seized the boys hand and eagerly both hurried ly clambered from branch to another untill they were upon the biggest branch of the tree her sisters were on. The attempt to gain their way to this branch for the moment was somewhat a failure, and no was the fourth and fifth, and some rebels happening to see them started firing, but hit no one and then the fugitives remained still for a few minutes. The little boyscout Everinger could not imagine what the rebels were really doing,and could not imagine how they could be so cruel but he followed Joice very willingly for he liked her and her sisters. Joice further attempt to reach her sisters proved unsuccessful and she could not attempt it again for fear of drawing the enemys fire upon them as well as herself. After her first disappointment was over, the little girl was filled with joy and thankfulness to see that actually the shining silvery water of the river was in view about a fifty and fifty [illegible], and no she was glad to think that after all she and her sisters and their companions were being able to slowly save themselves from capture or destruction, and could soon restore themselves to their proper commands. Now she and her sisters might with Gertrude Angeline and the two other girls return to general Hansons lines in safty, carry ing with them the boyscout column that had so bravely accompanied them and also the prize she had won in the person of the fair haired boyscout.

No signalling to her sisters that the river yonder was their own escape she started with the boy to retrace their bare a climbing motion to another tree toward the direction of the river before rebels could clamber to it and her sisters did like wise, and as they approached the tree, a massive swarm of rebels who strove with might and main to clamber from other trees and t reach the other

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